

[*Translation*]

Adulteration in Fertilizers

229. SHRI RAM LAL RAHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from the States about large scale adulteration of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No complaints about the large scale adulteration of fertilizers were received by the Government of India from States. However, a few complaints of specific cases were received from the States of Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and the Union territory of Delhi during 1989-90.

(c) The complaints received from the States of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh have been referred to the State Governments for inquiry and taking appropriate action under the provisions of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985. The complaint relating to the Union Territory of Delhi was not found to be correct. In case of a complaint received from Haryana, action has been initiated against the manufacturer whose sample was found to be non-standard.

[*English*]

Improvement of National Highway Connecting Calcutta with Bangladesh Borders

230. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the improvement of the National Highway connecting Calcutta with Bangladesh borders running through the district of North 24 Parganas in West Bengal;

(b) whether there is any proposal for construction of a permanent bridge over the river Ichhamati, at Bongaon, in place of the existing Pontoon bridge; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Road link from Calcutta to Bangladesh Border falls partly on two-lane National Highway 34 upto Barasat (23 Kms.) and thereafter on single lane National Highway 35 (59.8 Kms.). National Highway 34 is in a satisfactory condition and for improving National Highway 35, in the 7th plan, there is a provision for strengthening/widening of a length of 20 Kms. Widening and strengthening work has been sanctioned for 7.3 Kms. out of which 3 Kms. have been completed. Technical data for another 12 Kms. have been approved and the estimate is awaited from the State Government. Two works for construction of culverts and miscellaneous works have been approved at a cost of about Rs. 6 lakhs and progress achieved so far is 90% and 65% respectively.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. The work has been included in the current year's programme and other steps like location of the new bridge, sanction of estimate for survey and investigation and clearance of technical proposal have also been taken.

Fall in Price of Onion in Maharashtra

231. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the onion prices have come

down from Rs. 250/- to Rs. 90/- per quintal in some districts of Maharashtra;

(b) If so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any proposals for purchase of onions under the Market Intervention Scheme to save farmers from heavy losses; and

(d) the details of the time bound programme launched in this regard?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The onion prices which were ruling in the range of Rs. 60/- Rs. 286/- per quintal depending upon the quality of onion during the first fortnight of November, 1989 came down to the level of Rs. 40/- Rs. 146/- per quintal during the first fortnight of December, 1989 in some districts of Maharashtra.

(b) The State Government has reported that there has been a bumper crop of onion on account of adequate back-up services and favourable climate.

(c) and (d). The Central Government have not received any proposal for purchases of onion under the Market Intervention Scheme. However, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) is making commercial purchases of onion in Maharashtra according to its requirements.

Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

232. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana is under review and there are proposals for restructuring the programme to achieve the objectives of employment guarantee.

Modernisation of Telegraph Office at Jajpur (Orissa)

233. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for upgradation, modernisation and addition of more TP machines as well as connections to different Stations of Telegraph Office at the Sub-Divisional Headquarters of Jajpur (Cuttack District of Orissa);

(b) if so, the details there of and steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the names of the stations to which Jajpur Telegraph Office is proposed to be connected directly in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) The existing Teleprinter circuit at Jajpur Telegraph Office is adequate to handle the present traffic. However, this Telegraph office is proposed to be connected to the electronic Store and Forward Message Systems as part of Telegraph Modernisation programme.

(b) A 32 Line Store and Forward System is planned for installation in Cuttack.

(c) Most of the important cities and towns of the country on the Store and forward Network will become available to Jajpur Telegraph Office on direct links on installation of the Store and Forward Systems.