

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the price of fertilizer per k.g. in India and in the neighbouring and developed countries;

(b) whether the price of fertilizers in India is much higher than in the neighbouring and developed countries; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps contemplated to bring down the prices of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b). As per the statistics collected by Food and Agriculture Organisation the price of fertiliser in terms of per kg. of N (1984-85) in India and in some of the neighbouring and developed countries is given in the statement given below.

(c) The prices of fertilisers are already highly subsidised.

#### STATEMENT

Price paid by Farmers in US Dollars to buy one Kg. of N in different Countries 1984-85.

<i>Country</i>	<i>Price per kg. of N in U. S. Dollar</i>
Afghanistan	0.344
Bangladesh	0.389
India	0.393
Sri Lanka	0.244
Japan	0.704
Pakistan	0.367
Canada	0.541
U. S. A.	0.520

[*Translation*]

#### National Research Centre on Coldwater Fisheries in U. P.

2112. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finally approved the setting up of a National Research Centre on Coldwater Fisheries at Champavat Bhimtal in Pithoragarh district of Uttâr Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay and the steps taken to expedite the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

#### Cooperative Societies

2113. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of co-operative societies in the country;

(b) the number of cooperative societies out of above not functioning, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to revive them?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a) There were 3.26 lakh cooperative societies of all types in the country as on 30.6.1981-for which the latest data is available.

(b) The information is given in the statement below.

(c) The strategy for development and strengthening of cooperative societies as envisaged in the Seventh Five Year Plan is