

Shortage of Fertilizers

2381. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the country is likely to face an acute shortage of fertilizers by the turn of the century and the world fertilizer prices are also likely to turn up to an extent that would make import difficult ;

(b) the extent to which the slippages in the commissioning of three of the new gas-based plants along the HBJ pipeline have worsened the global demand-supply balance ; and

(c) Government's planning to meet this likely acute fertilizer shortage by turn of the century ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) No detailed or accurate estimates have been made about the shortfalls in availability of fertilisers in the country by the turn of the century. On the basis of the existing trends of fertiliser consumption and indigenous fertiliser production, no acute shortages are anticipated.

(b) Compared to the world fertiliser production, the production of 3 gas based plants is insignificant; therefore, their slippages is not going to make any impact on the global demand and supply balance.

(c) Question does not arise.

Working of Navodaya Vidyalayas

2382. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment of the working of the institution of Navodaya Vidyalayas has been made particularly about the uplift of the students from the rural areas and their inter-regional migration ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps being taken to make this experiment a success and one of the potent factors to ensure integration of the various regions in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI) : (a) to (c). The Navodaya Vidyalayas are still in the formative stage. It is, therefore, too early to make assessment of their working. The Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme envisages migration of 20% students from each Vidyalaya in different linguistic region at the stage of class IX. So far, only two Navodaya Vidyalayas established at Amravati (Maharashtra) and Jhajjar (Haryana) have reached this stage. The migration of the 20% students of these two Vidyalayas to different linguistic regions has been done during the current academic session.

Improvement of G.T. Road Passing Through U.P.

2383. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether many long stretches of the G.T. Road passing through Uttar Pradesh are in a very bad shape and need immediate strengthening and re-surfacing in view of the density of traffic passing through that oldest National Highway ;

(b) if so, the plan, if any, prepared to improve that National Highway during the current Plan and the amount earmarked therefor ; and

(c) whether all stretches of the Highway leading towards Allahabad are proposed to be repaired and strengthened before the ensuing Kumbh Mela in early 1989 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) No, Sir. Kanpur-Allahabad-Varanasi-Bihar Border section of National Highway 2 in Uttar Pradesh forms part of G.T. Road which is being maintained generally in a traffic worthy condition.

(b) 7th Five Year Plan provides for Rs. 31.20 crores for strengthening and improvements to this section of the road. There is also a provision of Rs. 41.60 crores for construction of Varanasi-Ramnagar-Mughal-sarai bypass including bridge across Ganga River.