

1977-78 have been assessed at 37.61 lakh tonnes of nutrients. Out of this, 26.11 lakh tonnes is likely to be met through indigenous production.

(c) in order to bridge the gap, about 12.69 lakh tonnes of fertiliser nutrients are being imported during the period from January to December, 1977.

**Shortage of CAN Fertilizers in Punjab**

3441. SHRI M. A. HANNAN  
ALHAJ:  
SHRI IQBAL SINGH  
DHILLON:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was an acute shortage of CAN Fertilizer in September, 1977 at the time of sowing of potato crop in Punjab;

(b) whether this kind of fertilizer was mostly needed by farmers for sowing of potatoes and the fertilizer mixtures supplied were not meeting the ideal combination of NPK to potatoes; and

(c) if so, the reasons for such lapses and how Government propose to meet the requirements of fertilizers for the production of Potato crop in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) No, Sir. Apart from supplies of Calcium Ammonium Nitrate to Punjab by the Nangal Unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India, there were stocks of imported Calcium Ammonium Nitrate, to the tune of about 18,146 tonnes lying in the State as on 1st August 1977. It seems that there was no offtake from these stocks in Punjab during September-October, 1977.

(b) The experts do not specifically recommend the use of Calcium Ammonium Nitrate for potato crop. Urea can also be an equally effective

source of N. No report has been received from the State Government to the effect that the NPK mixtures available in Punjab are not suitable for potato crop.

(c) The question does not arise.

**उर्वरकों की मांग**

3442. श्री सुभाष ग्राहजा : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में वर्ष 1976-77 के दौरान उर्वरकों की कितनी मांग रही ?

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री (श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला) : देश में वर्ष 1976-77 के दौरान उर्वरकों की अच्छी मांग थी और देश में निम्नलिखित मात्रा में उर्वरकों (आंकड़े लाख मीटरी टनों में) की खपत हुई :—

एन०	पी०	के०	एन०	पी०	के०
24.57	6.35	3.19	34.11		

**Vehicles and Telephones provided to Central Security Force in Food Depots**

3443. SHRI S. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vehicles and telephones provided to Central Security Force in the Food Depots for security purposes; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH): (a) Central Industrial Security Force is posted at six depots of the Food Corporation of India.