

Fertilizers Ltd., Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd. and the remaining information in respect of Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Information in respect of Oil and Natural Gas Commission and other Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Petroleum is also being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Accumulation of Nitrogen Fertiliser

1826 SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS please to state:

(a) whether a huge stock of nitrogen fertilizers has accumulated with the manufacturers;

(b) if so, the total quantity accumulated as on 30th September, 1977;

(c) the reasons for its accumulation; and

(d) whether Government are considering to lift the restrictions on the movement of fertilizers throughout the country to clear the accumulated stock and also to ease the supply of fertilizers to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The stock of nitrogenous fertilizers with the manufacturers as on 1-10-1977 was 73,000 tonnes which is not considered excessive

(d). No, Sir. The restrictions on Inter-State Movement of fertilizers imposed under the Fertilizer Movement Control Order are intended to facilitate the drawing up of a coordinated plan for allocation of fertilizers both indigenous and imported—to the

State Governments. The supply plan which is drawn up in consultation with the Railways and the manufacturers, ensures the supply of the desired quantities of fertilizers to the State Governments in a manner which would not necessitate long haulages and criss-cross movements. Thus, the framing of a coordinated plan facilitates movement of fertilizers on a 'Priority' basis over the railways and reduces expenditure on freight

Appeal from ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha for Balance Bonus

1827. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received and appeal from ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha, for justice, regarding balance bonus for the year 1975-76;

(b) if so, the justification of the demand; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the appeal received from the ONGC Employees Mazdoor Sabha, in spite of the achievements and increase in production in the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, the employees do not get the maximum bonus on account of the capital intensive character of the industry and the lower price fixed for indigenous crude oil (as compared to the international prices) which did not leave adequate allocable surplus

(c) A settlement has since been reached between the Union and the management of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in this regard.