

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) to (c). According to the extant instructions, the membership of unions will be that certified by the Registrar of Trade Union. If such figures are not available, the Railway Administrations may depute an officer to ascertain the membership by reference to the books of the union concerned.

Since, in terms of the provisions of the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926, every registered trade union is required to send annually to the Registrar of Trade Unions concerned a general statement covering all details concerning the trade unions, the Railway Administrations have been in a position to know the membership of the various trade unions. Physical verification of membership has therefore not been found necessary.

Over-bridge at Dahod

9681. **SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry had given any clearance regarding construction of an over-bridge at Dahod (Gujarat):

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting it so far;

(c) the time by which this over-bridge is likely to be started and completed; and

(d) if no, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b). A proposal for the construction of a road over-bridge at Dahod in replacement of existing level crossing No. 45 has already been included in the Railways Works Programme. Construction of the road over-bridge could not be taken up as the State Government have so far neither decided the type of approaches for the road over-bridge nor conveyed

ed their acceptance to the terms and conditions for its construction.

(c) Work will be taken up soon after the State Government's decision regarding type of approaches is known and their acceptance of the terms and conditions is received. The bridge will be completed in about 2 to 3 years after commencement.

(d) Does not arise.

Import of Fertilisers

9682. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item appeared in *Economic Times* of 15th April, 1970 (New Delhi Edition) under Caption "Larger imports of fertilizers likely",

(b) to what extent the mechanical break-down and power cuts have been responsible for the shortfall of fertilizers production, and

(c) what steps have Government taken or propose to take to improve the position with a view to reducing the import of this commodity, thereby saving the foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of a shortfall of 2 lakh tonnes in production against the target of 22 lakh tonnes of nitrogen fixed for the year 197-78, 137,000 tonnes accounted for by power cuts/failures and mechanical break-downs.

(c) Measures such as renovation, debottlenecking, replacements, renewals, provision of captive power generation facilities, etc. are already under implementation with a view to optimising production of operating