

(ग) चूकि केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण विभाग की विशिष्टियों के अनुसार मानक कोटि को बिजली की फिटिंग का कार्य किया गया है और इस बारे में कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। इसलिए जांच करने या किसी अधिकारी के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई करने का कोई कारण नहीं है।

Meeting of Brahmaputra Flood Control Board

2444. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether in its meeting held recently of the Brahmaputra Flood Control Board decisions were taken to deal with the complexity and magnitude of the recurring floods in the valley and consequent problem of the North-Eastern region; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) and (b). In the 14th Meeting of the Brahmaputra Flood Control Board held on the 9th February, 1982, 51 Schemes costing around 9 crores were approved by the Board for execution by Assam Government for the current financial year 1981-82. Now, the Government of India has constituted a Brahmaputra Board, a high level Technical Body with effect from 31.12.1981. In pursuance of the Brahmaputra Board Act 1980. The Board is to prepare the Master Plan for controlling floods, erosion problems and drainage improvement keeping in regard to development and utilisation of the Water Resources of the Brahmaputra for other beneficial purposes also.

The Board will also take up the execution of multipurpose projects when approved by the Government of India.

Rise in price of pesticides

2445. SHRI NAVIN RAVANI:

SHRI DAULATSINHJI JADEJA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of pesticides have gone up recently;

(b) if so, the percentage and the reasons for it; and

(c) what are the steps being taken to check the rise of price of pesticides so that it may not affect in our agriculture output?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Increase in whole-sale prices of pesticides during 1981 was 8.8 per cent over the whole-sale prices in 1980. Major reasons for increase in prices of pesticides are:

(i) increased cost of raw material used in the process of manufacture|formulation;

(ii) packaging cost; e

(iii) transport cost; and

(iv) establishment charges.

(c) Steps being taken to check the rise in the price of pesticides include:

(a) Pesticides have been placed under the Essential Commodities Act, 1977.

(b) Import policy relating to pesticides has been liberalised by placing them under Open General Licence.

(c) Government is encouraging indigenous production of pesticides to break the monopoly and bring healthy competition in the market.

(d) State Governments have been advised to maintain buffer stocks of commonly used pesticides and improving the distribution system by ensuring their timely availability.

Chemical Fertilizers imported from Abroad

2446. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details regarding the quantum of chemical fertilizers imported from abroad during last two years;

(b) State-wise number of sole agents who have been supplied these fertilizers for distribution; and

(c) whether Government propose to import it in greater quantity this year as compared to the quantity thereof imported last year and whether keeping in view the increasing demand therefor and difficulties in its distribution, Government propose to increase the number of sole agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) The quantum of imports of chemical fertilizers during the years 1979-80 and 1980-81 was as follows:—

(Quantity in lakhs tonnes of nutrients)

	1979-80	1980-81
N	12.95	15.10
P	2.37	4.52
K	4.73	7.97
Total	20.05	27.59

(b) Imported fertilizers are presently being handled and distributed by the following Agencies:—

- (1) Food Corporation of India
- (2) Indian Potash Limited.
- (3) Southern Petrochemicals Industries Corporation.
- (4) Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.
- (5) Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd.
- (6) Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd.

(c) The quantum of imports during the current year is estimated to be lower than that in the last year. The question of induction of more Agencies will be considered as and when the need arises.

Winding up of Central Fisheries Corporation and retrenchment of its employees

2447. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER:

SHRI R. P. DAS:

DR. SARADISH ROY:

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation dated 2nd February, 1982 regarding winding up of the Central Fisheries Corporation Limited and the resultant retrenchment of the employees of that organisation;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) steps taken by Government to save these employees by absorbing them in other organisations; and

(d) if no steps taken, the reasons thereof?