

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): I do not think that this is an impediment. It has already been answered that whenever we take a loan, the identity of both the lender and the borrower should continue. This is not a kind of string or anything of that description and it should not be so regarded.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether when the terms of the loan were finalised, the corporation consulted the Government?

Shri Mohiuddin: Yes, the loan was taken after approval by Government; there was not only consultation but approval.

Fertilizers

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*744. { **Shri S. C. Godsora:**
Qazi Matin:
Shri Ignace Beck:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the quantities of various fertilizers, which were indented by the various State Governments during 1958-59;

(b) the supplies available-imported and locally produced against this demand;

(c) whether there is any gap between demand and supply; and

(d) if so, how it will affect food-grain production and cultivation of cash crops?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Two statements are laid on the Table of the Sabha in respect of nitrogenous fertilisers supply of which is arranged by the Ministry [See Appendix II, annexure No 84]

(c) Yes.

(d) Larger supplies would have resulted in greater production of both foodgrains and cash crops.

Shri S. C. Godsora: From the statement I find that there is a deficit of 8,86,922 tons of fertilisers. May I know what steps have been taken to overcome this deficit?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As has been mentioned in the statement, we have arranged for the import of 4½ lakhs of tons from outside. That is the utmost we have been able to do so far. We have made every effort to increase the supply.

Shri S. C. Godsora: May I know whether there were any complaints from the State Governments about the short supply and about the kind of fertilisers not being popular in their areas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There was not so much of complaints about the kind of fertilisers supplied. But, there have been complaints from all States so far as the insufficiency of fertilisers is concerned.

Shri Venkatasubbaiah: May I know how the prices of the fertilisers produced in the country compare with the prices of those imported from outside? If there is any difference, what is the amount that has been spent on this difference?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The prices vary. It is no doubt true that we are getting imported fertilisers at prices cheaper than locally produced fertilisers; but all that is pooled together.

Shri Tangamani: From the statement I find that the States of Andhra and Madras have demanded about 1,40,000 tons of Sulphate of Ammonia each, but that they did not get the whole quantity. Because of their increasing demand, may I know whether at least next year they will be supplied what they have demanded?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We have to apportion according to some understanding. The Demands are more than the supply and we try to take into consideration the requirements of each State.

Shri Banga: Are Government aware of the fact or have they received any reports from the States that there is widespread black-marketing prevailing in these fertilisers because the demand is going up so rapidly and the supply is so short?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir, we have received complaints that the fertilisers made available to other States go down to Andhra and Madras where there is a large demand and where they are prepared to pay high prices. Complaints have also come that even in distribution there is a lot of profiteering.

Shri Dasappa: As it is clear that the import of fertilisers is going to result in increased yield of food, why is it that they have not resorted to a more liberal policy of importing fertilisers and avoiding the import of food-grains?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): We have been trying to import as much of fertilisers as our foreign exchange resources permit. But the one is not a substitute for the other as most of the foodgrains are imported under the PL 480 under which we have not to pay in foreign exchange but in Indian currency and that too spread over a period of years, whereas if we get fertilisers we have to pay in terms of foreign exchange immediately.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In view of the fact that more is given to States where there is heavy consumption of fertilisers and less to areas that are agriculturally backward, resulting in blackmarketing, which the hon. Minister accepts, may I know what is the basis on which the demands of the States are pruned?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh. By negotiations with the States on basis of past consumption etc.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know how you assess the needs of each particular State. Is it merely because the State needs so much or is it on the basis of acreage and previous demands?

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Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: All these things, the crops grown, the past performance, the popularity of the fertiliser etc.

Shri M. E. Krishna: Since the Government want to adopt the Chinese method of cultivation, may I know whether they have any idea of the additional fertiliser requirement when this is taken up?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I state Sir, that there is no Chinese method of cultivation. There are one or two items which the Chinese are practising which we want to experiment with. It is not comparable to the Japanese method at all. Deep ploughing and more seeds, I think, are the two items which the Chinese are experimenting upon. They claim high results. These experiments are going to be tried. This is not a method which can be compared with the Japanese method.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know, whatever might be the method, whether it will involve additional use of fertilisers.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It does Sir, all these methods do.

Lady Hardinge Medical College

*747 **Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a proposal to abolish the Board of Administration of the Lady Hardinge Medical College and run the college directly by the Government of India, and

(b) if so, whether the Delhi University has approved of the proposal?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The approval of the Delhi University is not required.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Does the Ministry think it advisable to run educational institutions from the Ministerial level?