

(b) A statement showing the allotments of tractors imported/being imported made to various States from 1968-1969, so far, is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-445/71]. These tractors were distributed mostly through the agency of the State Agro-Industries Corporations set up in the various States. However, in certain cases tractors were sold through the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation and certain indigenous manufacturers who have imported and assembled them.

(c) A statement showing the import price of various types of tractors imported/being imported is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-455/71].

As regards the sale prices of imported tractors charged by the various State Agro-Industries Corporations and the National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation, it may be stated that there is no fixed all-India sale price of imported tractors and it differs from State to State. However, the sale price charged is fixed by the State Trading Corporation on the following basis :-

The tractors along with standard accessories and spares are not to be sold by the business associated to actual users at a price exceeding the ceiling selling price to be calculated by them as under :-

(i) c. i. f. value.

plus (ii) Handling, clearing, port and other miscellaneous charges at actuals subject to a ceiling of 3% on the c. i. f. value, cartage, packing lashing and wagon incidentals, etc. outside the port into the rail-head are allowed at actuals additionally.

(iii) Customs duty and Port Trust Charges at actuals.

(iv) A margin of 20% on c. i. f. value in the case of DT-14-B tractors and 16½% in case of all other types of tractors is allowed on c. i. f. value. This margin includes SFC's margin at 1½% on c. i. f. value.

These margins cover financial and overhead expenses and are kept at minimum possible level.

The price as calculated above is ex-godown port price and the business associates are allowed to charge additionally from customers Rs. 150/- to cover cost of check up fixing up tyres and tubes, making alignment, charging of battery, changing oils, fuel lubrications, removing dents, fitting the canopy, if any, fixing up the hydraulic lift assembly, minor painting and running testing and other jobs for making the tractors road-worthy for tractors upto 50 h.p. and at actuals for tractors where h.p. Sales tax and other local taxes are allowed at actuals. In case of Zetor s.k.d. tractors, an amount of around Rs. 500/- is allowed to be added for assembling, painting and testing, etc.

In the case of imported tractors sold by the indigenous manufacturers, the prices are fixed on the basis of the reports submitted by the Cost Accountants which are considered by an Inter-Ministerial Committee and on their recommendations accepted by Government.

Five-Year Strike-free Period to check losses in Public Sector

2485. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government are taking to put an end to losses incurred in the Public Sector by persistent strikes and labour troubles ;

(b) whether Government contemplate 5 years strike-free period for production ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Measures for improving industrial relations through appropriate changes in the existing laws and practices are under Government's consideration in consultation with the various interests concerned.

(b) and (c). Preliminary consultations in regard to the idea of a period of strike-free growth has been held with representatives of trade unions and employers' organisations at separate conferences in May, 1971. No specific conclusions have, however, been reached yet.

Setting up of Co-ordination Advisory Units on Utilisation Rate of Fertiliser

2486. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether rise in the rate of utilisation of fertilisers has been mainly due to the lack of adequate and readily available advice to farmers as the soil and irrigation conditions differed from State to State :

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the desirability of setting up co-ordination advisory units to the farmers ;

(c) whether areas have been identified where despite favourable soil and irrigation conditions, the utilisation of fertiliser has been rather low ; and

(d) if so, which are those regions and the steps proposed to be taken to augment the utilisation of fertiliser there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) It is a fact that increase in the rate of utilisation of fertilisers has co-existed with the availability of adequate advice to farmers. However, apart from the efficiency of the extension measures undertaken, increase in the rate of utilisation of fertilisers depends also on many other factors such as availability of irrigation facilities, credit for purchase of fertilisers, adequate distribution arrangements and the ratio between the produce prices and cost of inputs.

(b) The Government are considering the setting up of a Fertiliser Promotion Council as a joint venture between the Government of India, State Governments,

fertiliser industry and Agricultural Universities for intensifying promotional measures to increase the use of fertilisers. The Council, when it is formed, will have advisory committees at the district, regional and national levels.

(c) Yes, Sir. Under the scheme of the Fertiliser Promotion Council, areas with soil and irrigation facilities and high potential for fertiliser use have been identified. The scheme will cover about 80 such districts throughout the country. The districts selected are mostly co-terminous with districts where the national demonstrations programme is in operation.

(d) These districts have tentatively been selected at the rate of four districts 'as an average' for each State where the Fertiliser Promotion Council will mount an intensive fertiliser promotion programme with the objective of increasing the level of fertiliser use in general and balanced use of N, P and K in particular.

Publication of National Mineral Development Corporation

2487. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Mineral Development Corporation has published its Pads wherein it has shown that Kiriburu is in the District of Singhbhum in Bihar ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to look into this ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). There are two post offices in Kiriburu ; one at the Hill Top which falls in Keonjhar District of Orissa, whereas the other which is located in the township, is in Singhbhum district of Bihar. Earlier, when the general offices of the project were located at the Hill Top, the address given in the letter heads of the Project was "district Keonjhar, Orissa." Since the General Office of the Projects is now located in District Singhbhum, for facility of communication, the postal address given on the