

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) No. The import programmes are drawn up by the Department of Agriculture in consultation with the Ministry of Finance.

(b) The question whether instead of import of finished NPK complex fertilisers NP and Potash could be imported separately and used for granulation of NPK within the country is being examined.

(c) No. ANP was last purchased from Europe in January, 1972 at the rate of US Dollars 64.25 f.o.b. (Bagged) per M.T. DAP was last purchased from USA in March, 1972 at rates ranging from U.S. Dollars 78.17 to 85.98 (Bulk) per M.T. However, the nutrient content of ANP is about 50% lower than that of DAP.

Distribution of products by Fertilizer Plants through Private Sector Distributors

694. **SHRI MADHURYYA HALDAR:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fertilizer plants under his Ministry are distributing their products through large house private sector distributors;

(b) whether a copy of his reply given to the letter of Dr. Mathew Kurian, M.P. on this issue will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) the reasons why Hindustan Steel Limited and Neyveli Lignite Corporation are reluctant to channelise profitable distribution work through old or new public sector systems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) The Neyveli Lignite Corporation are distributing Urea (the only fertiliser produced by them) to the extent of 40% of their production subject to a minimum of 40,000 tonnes per year through M/s. Rallis India Ltd. The balance of their production is distributed through the Government of Tamil Nadu and other Co-operative bodies.

The Hindustan Steel Limited have appointed a number of distributors for the fertilizers produced by them. These include, apart from co-operatives and State Marketing Agencies, Private Sector Organisations also.

(b) A copy is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3244/72].

(c) The Neyveli Lignite Corporation tried to enter into agreements with M/s. F.F.A.C.T. and F.C.I. but no agreement could be reached. The FCI approached the Neyveli Lignite Corporation only in June, 1972 when they had already finalised their commitments for 1972-73. The Hindustan Steel Ltd. have, in fact, appointed Co-operative and State Marketing agencies as distributors. Distribution through large scale private houses accounts only for about 7% of their total sale of CAN and about 25% of their total sale of Ammonium Sulphate.

Association of National Industrial Development Corporation with Bharat Aluminium Company

695. **SHRI MADHURYYA HALDAR:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hungarian collaborations of Bharat Aluminium Company expressed reservations regarding associating National Industrial Development Corporation Ltd. as technical consultants;

(b) the grounds of dissatisfaction about the working of N.I.D.C. in the Korba first stage; and

(c) whether the Central Engineering and Design Bureau has developed expertise in non-ferrous metallurgy at the level of the National Industrial Development Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The consultancy services rendered by N.I.D.C. relating to Detailed Engineering of Korba Alumina Plant have not been to the complete satisfaction of Bharat Aluminium Company, both as regards adhering to the time-schedule and quality of work.

(c) Central Engineering and Design Bureau were appointed as Prime Consultants by Bharat Aluminium Co. for Korba Smelter & Fabrication Units in preference to NIDC, as the former have the necessary expertise, particularly on Rolling Mills which form a substantial portion of the said Project.