

(c) It is likely that there will be some shortfalls in supply by foreign suppliers. However, Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation and Department of Supply have been alerted to keep a close watch on the shipment position which is also being reviewed frequently in this Department.

Government have also taken a number of steps to ensure that the available quantities of fertilisers are put to the most productive use. The steps taken include (a) take over of 30% of the domestic production of Ammonium Sulphate to be distributed by the Central Fertiliser Pool, (b) promulgation of orders under the Essential Commodities Act making it legally obligatory for the manufacturers to supply the committed quantities of fertilisers to the States and (c) plans by State Governments to use fertilisers for priority crops in the interests of maximising production.

Stoppage of grant of Loans by Neemuch Central Cooperative Bank for irrigation purposes

2021. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has stopped Neemuch Central Cooperative Bank, Mandasaur (Madhya Pradesh) from granting loans for irrigation purposes ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) and (b). The Neemuch Central Cooperative Bank's programme for financing the sinking of wells was studied by an officer of the Reserve Bank. The study revealed that the Bank's medium-term loans policy for this purpose was defective in certain important aspects. Although there were 36,000 existing irrigation wells in the District, the bank had programmed to finance another 1,000 new wells in 71-72. The land development bank had a separate scheme for financing 4,000 new dug wells. Certain technical studies by the Director of tube-wells were considered necessary to ensure that a large increase in the number of wells would not adversely affect the availability of water in the existing wells due to over-exploitation of ground water resources. The Reserve Bank, therefore, restrained the Neemuch Central Cooperative Bank from issuing fresh loans for construction of wells for the present till the defects noticed by the

study were removed. However, the Reserve Bank released a further limit of Rs. 10 lakhs to enable the bank to issue the remaining instalments of the loans in respect of wells already financed partially and under construction so that they could be completed quickly. The whole effort is to ensure that the bank follows a rational and scientific policy in financing the construction of wells.

Addiction to drinks among Delhi University Students

2023. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether addiction to drinks is increasing amongst the students of Delhi University ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to prevent this evil ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : (a) The Delhi University has intimated that there are no reports to show that addiction to drinks is increasing among the students of the University.

(b) Does not arise

Setting up of Rural Road Commissions

2024. SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI : SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken for setting up of Rural Road Commissions at the Centre and in the States ; and

(b) if so, the outlines of the decision taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Multi-Lingual Figures on Number Plates of Vehicles

2025. SHRI VEKARIA : SHRI AMAR NATH CHAWLA :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided