

quired to purchase an equal number of indigenously constructed fishing vessels. As the number of applications received for import are far in excess of the number available for import, it is not precisely known at this stage as to how many would be allotted for the parties which have applied from West Bengal. The Government of India would provide the necessary infrastructural facilities for the operation of deep sea fishing vessels. A deep sea fishing harbour at Raichawk capable of handling 15 deep sea fishing vessels was sanctioned in January 1971 at a cost of Rs. 151 lakhs. A revised sanction for an expenditure of Rs. 241.50 lakhs has been issued in November 1973. The capacity of the harbour may be raised to 50 and 110 deep sea fishing vessels in the second and third stage of Development, which will be considered on successful operation of the 15 vessels for which facilities will be available on completion of the first phase, already sanctioned. The first phase of the harbour would be completed by the end of 1975.

A request from the Government of West Bengal for the provision of other shore facilities like ice and cold storage fishmeal plant etc. is being processed.

Gap between Demand and Supply of Fertilisers

5027. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO:

SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the gap between the demand and supply of fertilisers has increased by 20 per cent in 1972-73; and

(b) if so the State-wise, demand and supply of fertilisers during the

last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE): (a) There was no gap between the demand and availability of fertilisers in 1970-71 and 1971-72. However, for the year 1972-73 as a whole there was a gap of about 4 per cent between the requirements of fertilisers and the total supplies made from indigenous manufacturers and from imports.

(b) A statement showing the state-wise demand and supply of fertilisers since 1970-71, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6033/73].

Preservation Assistants in National Archives of India

5028. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2172 on 6th August, 1973 regarding the Preservation Assistants working in the National Archives of India, New Delhi and state whether in view of the technical nature of the work being carried on by them they are being treated as technical or skilled workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): Having regard to the recruitment rules prescribed for Preservation Assistants working in the National Archives of India, and the Government instructions issued from time to time on the subject of categorisation of posts as "Technical" the posts of Preservation Assistants have not been classified as "Technical". Such categorisations as "Skilled", "Semi-skilled" etc. are normally applied to workshop/industrial staff, and have not been applicable in the case of these posts.