

(b) if so, the names of the countries from where these are to be purchased and the number of vessels to be purchased?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Ships are acquired by shipping companies and not by Government directly. The number of vessels at present on order with different countries is as follows:

Name of country	No. of ships
1. Belgium	3
2. Federal Republic of Germany	2
3. German Democratic Republic	5
4. Japan	5
5. Poland	1
6. Rumania	8
7. Spain	6
8. Sweden	2
9. U. K.	5
10. U.S.S.R.	3
11. Yugoslavia	13
TOTAL	53

Target of Reclamation of Cultivable Land

2523. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:
SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether target for reclamation of cultivable waste land in the country has been achieved; and

(b) if so, the State-wise land reclaimed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b). According to the information received from the States, a total area of 1,64,803 hectares of cultivable waste land was reclaimed upto November, 1972, during the 4th Five Year Plan, under the State-Sector, against a total target of 3,24,517 hectares. The State-wise details are given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library See. No. LT-6377/74].

Balanced use of Nitrogenous Fertilisers

2526 SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the scientists have expressed the fear that peasants in Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Orissa are using an overdose of nitrogenous fertilisers, if so, the nitrogen consumption ratio in these States; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to warn the peasants against it and prevent the harmful practice in view of the fact that over-dose of nitrogenous consumption is likely to cause damage in the long run?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b) Farmers in States of Punjab, Haryana Rajasthan, Gujarat and Orissa are not using an over-dose of nitrogen for their crops. They are still using doses far below the recommended doses. There is, however, imbalance in the use of N, P₂O₅ and K₂O nutrients, but this

is getting narrowed down as can be seen from the following figures:

States	N	Consumption ratio during				
		1969-70 P 205	K 20	N	1973-74 P 206	K 20
Punjab	23.6 :	3.4 :	1.0	12.4 :	3.7 :	1.0
Haryana	26.5 :	2.8 :	1.0	22.7 :	3.7 :	1.0
Rajasthan	20.8 :	5.5 :	1.0	13.1 :	2.7 :	1.0
Gujarat	12.6 :	6.0 :	1.0	10.8 :	4.7 :	1.0
Orissa	5.9 :	1.6 :	1.0	5.8 :	1.6 :	1.0

C.B.I. Enquiry into National Agro-Industrial Corporation, Delhi

2527. SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state;

(a) whether the C.B.I. enquiry into the misappropriation of funds by the National Agro-Industrial Corporation, Delhi has been completed;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the enquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):
(a) No Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) Field investigation in this case has been completed and the questioned documents were sent to Government Examiner of Questioned Documents, Simla, for opinion on 8-10-1973. The Government Examiner of Questioned Documents wanted some more material to facilitate comparison. The required material was accordingly collected and sent to him along with some more documents on 15-12-1973. As a large number of voluminous documents need to be compared, it will take sometime to complete the examination. However, as soon as the

opinion of the Government Examiner of the questioned documents is received, the case will be finalised.

The delay in the finalisation of the case is due to the fact that the officer to whom this investigation was entrusted was admitted to hospital due to a serious illness after he had investigated the case for some months. Thus the investigation had to be transferred to another officer who took sometime to go through the records. Moreover, a large number of witnesses staying in different places had to be examined and a number of documents were required to be collected.

Demand for Higher Procurement Price of Rice by Rice Millers of West Bengal

2528. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the rice millers in West Bengal have demanded higher procurement price of rice; and

(b) if so, Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.