

(b) if so, whether other areas would be looked after by the normal flow of trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE) (a) and (b) With the improvement in the availability of foodgrains in the market the offtake from the public distribution system is expected to be on a reduced scale

Shipping Industry facing Crisis

8546 SHRI N SHIVAPPA
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHARIA

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Shipping Industry is facing crisis and

(b) if so reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Wheat Cultivation dependent upon availability of Chemical Fertiliser

8547 SHRI N SHIVAPPA
SHRI P. GANGADEB;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether production potential of the wheat cultivation area entirely depends on availability of chemical Fertilisers; and

(b) if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P SHINDE)

(a) Not entirely but only partly

(b) The production potential of wheat depends upon the availability of a number of inputs like, (1) good seed (2) availability of plant nutrients, of which the fertilisers are intended to supplement what is already present in the soil or what cannot be supplied through organic manure, (3) irrigation water (4) management skill and (5) the absence of diseases and climatic hazards like hail-storm or very hot spells during the grain filling stage or severe frost during flowering. Any one of these when not favourable can prevent the yield potential of wheat being achieved fully. Under normal and favourable conditions of all the other factors the yield potential of wheat increases with the availability of chemical fertilisers. However a shortfall in fertiliser availability can be made up within certain limits by a higher efficiency of fertiliser management by a greater mobilisation of organic manure and by taking steps to increase soil fertility by growing a legume crop with the appropriate rhizobial culture prior to the cultivation of wheat. Irrigation also minimises yield reduction arising from inadequacy of fertilizer

Land given under Lease to YWCA, Delhi

8548 SHRI PILOO MODY Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state

(a) whether the land given under lease to the Young Women's Christian Association, for social welfare purposes, i.e., building a hostel for working women in Delhi (1931) is currently a hot bed of malpractice, nepotism and embezzlement; and

(b) whether there is an unhygienic overcrowding of beds for purely monetary gain and new entrants are being made to pay exorbitant rates?