

Gap between Demand and Supply of Fertiliser

29. SHRI DINESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state: composing.

(a) the estimated gap between the demand and supply of fertilisers and how Government propose to cover it; and

(b) steps the Government have taken to make the best possible use of traditional measures of manuring?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) According to current indications, during the year 1974-75, there is likely to be a shortage of about 30 per cent in the supplies of nitrogenous fertilisers, about 32 per cent in the supplies of phosphatic fertilisers and about 7 per cent in the supplies of potassic fertilisers. The following steps have been taken to meet the shortage:—

- (i) efforts to maximise the capacity utilisation of the existing domestic fertiliser factories.
- (ii) efforts to import the maximum quantities of fertilisers.
- (iii) efforts to rationalise the system of fertiliser distribution in the country.
- (iv) circulating to the States guidelines prepared by the Government of India to make the best use of the available fertilisers.

(b) Steps have also been taken by the Government to mobilise and utilise the rural and urban organic manure resources in the best possible manner. Thus the State Governments have been asked:—

- (i) to take up training of the farmers in the techniques of composting.

(ii) to introduce a scheme for the award of prizes to Gram Panchayats for outstanding work in the field of rural compost production.

(iii) to set up one lakh gobar gas plants during the Fifth Plan which will provide both fuel gas as well as manures.

(iv) to utilise all the available urban waste for compost production in urban centres.

(v) arrange compost weeks/campaigns and to take up intensive promotional propaganda publicity through Radio, TV, Press and other extension media.

(vi) to make the farmers include a leguminous crop in their crop rotations.

उत्तर प्रदेश के पश्चिमी जिलों में प्रति व्यक्ति कृषि मूल्य और आय

30. श्री लालजी भाई : क्या कृषि

श्रीर सिचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के उन पांच जिलों को जहां खांडसारी, चीनी तथा गुड़ उद्योग केन्द्रित हैं, देश में सर्वाधिक प्रतिव्यक्ति कृषि मूल्य एवं आय होने का गौरव प्राप्त है ?

कृषि और सिचाई मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : उत्तर प्रदेश

सरकार से यह मांग हुआ है कि 1960-61 के मूल्य सूचकांक के आधार पर पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश के 5 जिलों अर्थात् मेरठ, मुजफ्फरनगर, सहारनपुर, बिजनौर और मुरादाबाद में, जहाँ खांडसारी चीनी और गुड़ के उद्योग स्थित हैं, राष्ट्रीय व्यावहारिक वार्षिक अनुसंधान परिषद् के अनुसार प्रति व्यक्ति वार्षिक आय क्रमशः 345,262, 367,239, और 265 रुपये की और डा०

बलजीत सिंह की अध्यक्षता रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 430, 398, 385, 336 और 290 रुपये थी। यह मान्य नहीं हुआ है कि यह प्रायः देश में सबसे अधिक है अथवा नहीं।

Imposition of Levy on Farmers by States

31. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has decided to impose food-grain levy on all farmers including those cultivating cash crops;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any other State has also imposed foodgrains levy on all farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Maharashtra Government have mooted a proposal to impose levy on all irrigated holding, including those under cash crops. It has been considered appropriate to bring them within the scope of the Foodgrain Levy Order as the most productive agricultural lands in the State are generally under cash crops.

(c) No such proposal has been received so far from any other State Government for imposing levy on all farmers including those cultivating cash crops.

Review of Food Situation at the Chief Ministers' Conference

32. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of Chief Ministers was held in New Delhi in the middle of September, 1974 to review the food situation in the country;

(b) if so, whether the Conference had *inter-alia* discussed the question of credit squeeze for agricultural sector in the context of anti-inflationary drive and the increase in the prices of farm inputs if so, the decision taken to relax the credit squeeze; and

(c) what was the precise assessment of the food situation taken at that meeting and what decisions were taken to increase food production in the ensuing year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c). The Conference of Chief Ministers was held on 14th September, 1974 mainly to consider the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission on price and procurement policy for Kharif Cereals for 1974-75 season. While expressing their views on the subject, some of the Chief Ministers referred to the policy of credit squeeze and the need to make institutional finances available to the State Governments for putting up thermal power plants for power generation for the purpose of increasing agricultural production. During discussions the general food situation and the likely shortfall in the production of kharif cereals due to erratic and inadequate rainfall in certain States was referred to by some of the Chief Ministers. The need to make all out efforts to increase agricultural production by making the essential inputs available to the farmers at