

(c) whether Government of Gujarat have accepted the recommendations of the said Report and if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(d) action being taken for implementation of the recommendations in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

International Women's Year
4587. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI
THANKAPPAN;

SHRI AMARSINH CHAU-
DHARI:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a Committee to celebrate 1975 as International Women's Year; and

(b) if so, the broad outline of the programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NEETAM): (a) Yes, Sir, a National Committee has been constituted to formulate a suitable programme.

(b) The Committee held its first meeting on 10-12-1974 and resolved that the programmes should be oriented towards the achievement of positive results in improving the status of women and enabling them to play a larger role than hitherto in various spheres of national life. Stress was laid on improving the economic condition of women and in creating among them a greater awareness of their rights and responsibilities, with reference to the various laws that are

in force. Stress was also laid on family planning and on bringing about certain attitudinal changes, both among men and among women, in regard to the role of women in society. It was emphasised that the backward areas like the tribal, slum and rural, should receive primary attention.

A Sub-Committee is being considered to settle the details of the programme in the light of the general observations of the National Committee. Every endeavour will be made to dovetail the Governmental programmes with those of voluntary organisations working in the field.

Withdrawal of Permit System for Sale of Fertilizer

4588. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the desirability of withdrawing permit system to help the private wholesalers and retailers to freely market their stocks of fertilisers has been considered;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) to (c). Only some State Governments have introduced the card/permit system in their States, in regard to fertiliser distribution. The Government of India received some complaints that in some States this system of distribution was affecting the smooth and quick off-take of fertilisers. The Government of India have brought these complaints to the notice of the State Governments and have requested them to review the system of