

Construction of Silos at Khurja

2030. SHRI HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the progress of the construction of Silos at Khurja Junction in District Bulandshahr in U.P. is not satisfactory; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to get Silos constructed earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION. (SHRI ANNA SAHEB P SHINDE): (a) The work on the construction of Silo installation at Khurja is proceeding according to schedule and is expected to be completed by the end of September, 1977.

(b) Does not arise

Production and Import of Fertilizer

2031. DR K. L. RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the investment made in chemical fertilizers so far and the annual production;

(b) the quantity and the value of imported fertilizer on an average;

(c) percentage of fertilizer used for food crops, and

(d) whether there are any special studies being made to find the effect of green manure as a fertilizer?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): (a) The investment in fertilizer industry, till 1973-74 was of the order of Rs. 1110 crores. The production during 1975-76 was 15.35 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 3.2 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 .

(b) During 1975-76, a quantity of 9.50 lakh tonnes of N, 3.37 lakh tonnes of P_2O_5 , and 2.67 lakh tonnes of K_2O was imported. The C & F value, on an average, comes to Rs. 1500.00 per tonne.

(c) According to a study conducted by the National Council of Applied Economic Research on "Fertiliser use on selected crops in India" for the year 1968-69 to 1970-71, 66 per cent of the total quantity of fertilisers was used on foodgrains in 1970-71.

(d) Studies have been conducted to show that the response of green manure crops was equal to that of application of 224 kg nitrogen per hectare

New Rice Variety

2032 SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new variety of rice "Pusa-21" has been evolved; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The variety is named as Pusa 2-21. Tamil Nadu Government has named this variety 'Kannagi'.

(b) The rice variety "Pusa 2-21", developed by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, is now grown over considerable acreage in several States in the country. The main features of the variety are as under:—

- (1) It is a quick maturing variety of 100 days (seed to seed) with a yield potential of about 5000 kg/ha.
- (2) It possesses wide adaptability, and stability yield and maturity.