

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) The Government of India are not aware of any such reports. However, there is very substantial scientific evidence, built up in this country as well as in countries all over the world, that fertilisers, when used judiciously, give excellent crop yields without any dangerous effects.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Import of Foodgrains

885. Shri Yajnik:

Shri Ram Charan:

Shri R. K. Birla:

Shri D. N. Patodia:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shri S. R. Damani:

Shri V. Krishnamoorthi:

Dr. Ranen Sen:

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:

Shri Yashpal Singh:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri R. Barua:

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Shri Heerji Bhai:

Shri K. Pradhani:

Shri Sarjoo Pandey:

Shri K. Lakkappa:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce progressively the imports of foodgrains during the next few years with a view to secure self-sufficiency in foodgrains by 1971;

(b) if so, the programme of reduced imports worked out by Government for the next few years; and

(c) whether Government will continue to import some marginal quantities of foodgrains even after 1971 from some countries in the course of normal trade?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) No, Sir,

(b) Assuming normal monsoons and the fulfilment of production targets contemplated for the Fourth Five Year Plan, import requirements of foodgrains during the years 1968 to 1971 are likely to be as follows:—

(Million tonnes)

Year	Import Requirements		
	For current Consumption	For building up buffer stock	Total
1968	7.0	1.0	8.0
1969	5.0	1.0	6.0
1970	2.0	1.0	3.0
1971	..	1.0	1.0

(c) This will depend on the pattern of trade arrangements with the countries concerned at the relevant time.

#### Organic Manure

886. Shri Yajnik: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the sterling value of the organic manure and compost made of all human cattle and vegetable waste;

(b) if so, whether Government have worked out any programme for the collection and use of organic manure that is wasted in the countryside at present; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food, Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Annasahib Shinde): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have already launched schemes for the development and utilisation of local manurial resources in rural areas for compost production which are being implemented as State Plan schemes in all the States/Union Territories.

These schemes have been making steady progress from the Second Five Year Plan onwards. As against the achievement of 66.00 million tons of