

(b) Individual proposals are being taken up with effect from the current financial year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In pursuance of the guidelines circulated, State Governments are formulating concrete proposals. 14 such proposals have so far been approved.

IMPORT OF FERTILIZERS

442. SHRI DEIVEEKAN:
SHRI ANBUCHZHIAN:
SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a proposal to import about a million tonnes of fertilizers during 1967-68;

(b) whether it is also a fact that our efforts to import fertilizers at competitive prices have suffered much as a result of the continued closure of the Suez Canal; and

(c) if so, the total loss suffered as a result of the Suez closure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The programme for the year 1967-68 envisaged import of 0.90 million tonnes of nitrogen; 0.30 million tonnes of P2O5 and 0.30 million tonnes of K2O.

(b) The contracts for the import of fertilizers are generally made on F.O.B. terms. The freight element has not, therefore affected the competitive character of the purchases effected.

(c) Does not arise.

SECOND SUGAR WAGE BOARD'S REPORT

443. SHRI DEIVEEKAN:
SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND

REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the second Wage Board for sugar mills has submitted its final report;

(b) if so, the broad recommendations thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) and (b). The Board has not yet submitted its final report. It has, however, recently made interim recommendations concerning age of retirement, annual increments and the computation of dearness allowance. Copies of these have been placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) The Board has to deal with the complex question of wages in respect of an industry having establishments units spread over several States. It is seized of the problem and is trying to complete its work as early as possible.

खेतिहर मजदूरों की सहकारी समितियाँ

444. श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : क्या लाल लख कृषि मंत्री 5 दिसम्बर, 1967 के अतारंकित प्रश्न संख्या 2962 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विभिन्न राज्यों से अपेक्षित सूचना इस बीच एकत्रित कर ली गई है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) खेतिहार मजदूरों तथा भूमिहीन किसानों की सहकारी समितियों को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

ल. ख. कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकारी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. एस. मुखर्जी) : (क) जी हाँ।