

METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN).

(a) Yes. The Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. has developed a process for the manufacture of cryolite from wet phosphoric acid derived out of rock phosphate. As the entire quantity of cryolite that could be produced from wet phosphoric acid would be required to meet the internal requirements, there will be saving in the foreign exchange to the extent of the production. There is no immediate possibility of exporting cryolite to earn foreign exchange.

(b) and (c). Some enquiries have been received and are under examination of the company.

Retention Price of Steel and other Commodities

2027. SHRI K. HALDER ;
SHRI MOHAMMED ISMAIL ;
SHRI GANESH GHOSH ;
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS ;
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the reason behind fixing an All-India retention price of steel ;

(b) the other commodities which have All-India retention prices ; and

(c) whether Textiles, Fertilizer Heavy-Chemicals Cereals and Sugar will have similar All-India retention prices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a). At present there is no statutory price control on Iron and steel.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected.

Chemical Fertilizer Production

2029. SHRI K. HALDER ;
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU ;
SHRI GANESH GHOSH ;

**SHRI BADRUDDUJA ;
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) the total current demand and production of chemical fertilizer in India :

(b) the shares of public and private sectors in the current production ;

(c) the quantity of current import,

(d) the Programme of development of chemical fertilizer industry in India in the public and private sectors, separately during the coming three years ; and

(e) the details of the applications received from private parties (along with a list of foreign collaboration) during the last 3 years ?

THE MINISTER OR STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) The estimated demand and production for 1969-70 are given below :—

	Demand Production (Figures in million tonnes)	
(i) Nitrogenous fertilizers	1.40	0.75
(ii) Phosphatic fertilizers	0.50	0.25
(iii) Potash	0.20	Nil

(b) Shares of Public and Private sector in the estimated production for 1969-70 are given below :—

	Nitrogenous fertilizers	Phosphatic fertilizers	Potash
	(Figures in million tonnes)		
Public	0.45	0.042	Nil
Private	0.30	0.208	Nil

(c) The import programme for 1969-70 is as follows :—

Nitrogenous fertilizers ...	6.78 lakh tonnes.
Phosphatic fertilizers ...	1.13 lakh tonnes.
Potash ...	1.08 lakh tonnes.

(d) and (e). Two statements are laid In the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—2160/69]

Adulteration of Foodstuffs

2030. SHRI K. HALDER ;
SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH ;
SHRI JAGESHWAR YADAV ;
SHRI ESWARA REDDY ;
DR. KARNI SINGH ;

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the measures so far taken by Government to root out the evil of adulteration of foodstuffs have failed to produce the desired results ; and

(b) if so, what further measures Government propose to take to put an end to adulteration of foodstuffs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING AND WORKS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI B.S. MURTHY) : (a) The reports received from the State and Union Territory Governments during the last few years indicate a downward trend in the adulteration of foodstuffs.

(b) A Central Unit for Prevention of Food Adulteration is being set up to check the menace of food adulteration in cooperation with the State Health authorities. The Unit will be mainly concerned with the functions prescribed in rule 9 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules,

1955 in respect of inter-State offences and will help in giving technical guidance to the State Governments.

The provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act have been more stringent and the States have been asked to enforce proper implementation of the Act.

The Fourth Plan proposal envisage additional facilities for training, publicity, etc.

Anticipated Shortage of Power in the Eastern Region

2031. SHRI J. M. BISWAS ;
SHRI K. HALDER ;
SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA ;
SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR ;
SHRI ESWARA REDDY ;

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is likely to be a serious power shortage in the Eastern Region by 1974 ;

(b) whether at a recent meeting of the Electricity Board, the Eastern region has asked the Centre and the State Governments concerned to launch a crash programme of additional generation and associated transmission lines to meet the shortfall in the power generation ; and

(c) if so, whether the Centre has taken any steps in consultation with the States to meet the expected shortfall in the power generation in the region ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) According to a recent assessment, power shortage of the order of 642 MW is anticipated in the Eastern Region by the end of 1973-74.

(b) The Board has recommended implementation of certain new thermal and hydro-electric schemes in the constituent States with an aggregate capacity of 1910 MW involving an outlay of Rs. 263 crores for mitigating the shortage anticipated.

(c) The proposals from the State