

- (iii) The incremental production from the projects under implementation and in the pipeline, which have been inventorised recently, is expected to raise the production of N and P fertilizers to 140.27 lakh MT and 34.51 lakh MT, respectively by 2001-02, if all the projects materialise,
- (iv) The expressed demand for different categories of fertilizers is a function of multiple variables such as absolute and relative price of nutrients, prices of other agricultural inputs and agricultural products, as well as meteorological factors, availability of assured irrigation and cropping patterns.

(b) and (c). As per the Industrial Policy Statement issued by the Government on 24.7.1991, the fertilizer industry has been delicensed. An entrepreneur is free to set up a fertilizer project anywhere in the country, subject to environmental clearance. The projects under implementation in the country are expected to add a capacity of 19.46 lakh MT of N and 0.31 lakh MT of P fertilizers by 1.1.2000. The project proposals submitted by Public Sector/Cooperative Units for investment approval envisage a capacity addition of 14.67 lakh MT of N and 2.71 lakh MT of P.

#### Closure of Units of National Fertilizers Ltd.

21. SHRI M. SELVARASU : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that three plants of National Fertilizers Ltd. at Nangal, Panipat and Bhatinda are closed down due to financial crunch following freezing of the company's accounts by CBI and stopping of working capital support by the nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA) : (a) to (c). The Nangal, Panipat and Bhatinda plants of National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL) are in production. The bank accounts of NFL have not been frozen and the company continues to avail itself of cash credit facilities from a consortium of banks for meeting its working capital requirements.

The production at the Panipat and Nangal units was temporarily suspended on 17.6.96 due to non-availability of oil and coal on account of transport bottlenecks and difficulties at the despatching end,

coupled with some liquidity problems. The remedial measures undertaken have enabled these plants to resume production.

#### Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited

22. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is full term Chairman & Managing Director of the Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the full term Chairman & Managing Director of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited, is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The process for appointment of a full term Chairman & Managing Director of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF) has been initiated.

[Translation]

#### N.T.P.C.

23. DR. RAM KRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether an approximate amount of 4074 thousand crores of rupees payable to the National Thermal Power Corporation is outstanding against the various State Electricity Boards;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State Electricity Board-wise and the dates since when it is due;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken against each State Electricity Board for the recovery of this outstanding amount; and

(d) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) (a) and (b). As on 31st May, 1996 the total outstanding dues payable to the National Thermal Power Corporation Limited (NTPC) by various State Electricity Boards (SEBs)/Electricity Departments are Rs. 4714.84 (Rs. 3102.40 crores receivable plus Rs. 1612.44 crores surcharge). A statement indicating the outstanding dues is enclosed.

(c) and (d). The matter regarding recovery of outstanding dues is consistently followed up with