

- (ix) To develop linkage with Social Science Institutions in order to give adequate attention to the social engineering aspects of ground water saving and sharing.
- (x) To adopt a revised target date for completion of long-term target of 18,000 boreholes.
- (xi) Exploratory drilling particularly for deep aquifers, will have to be handled by the National Ground Water Organisation alone during this decade.
- (xii) The Ground Water Organisation at national level should be headed by a Director General in the scale of Additional Secretary and he should be supported by four Deputy Directors General in the scale of Joint Secretary. In order to achieve integrated work arrangement in the field so that command and control is not diffused, the Organisation should have 17 Regional Directorates, combining both the Scientific and Engineering Wings, to discharge all functions of the organisation.
- (xiii) The Flexible Complementing facility should be extended to the Officers of Engineering Wing.
- (xiv) A Consultant may be engaged to prepare an appropriate Stores Management System.

Modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant

*353. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made so far in the modernisation of Durgapur Steel Plant; and
- (b) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEB): (a) The basic and detailed design engineering and the ordering of plant and equipment have almost been completed for 14 of the 16 main turnkey packages under DSP modernisation. The remaining two packages are yet to be finalised. Though in some areas of work like equipment supply and erection of structurals and equipment, slippages have been observed, substantial progress has been made in civil works and structural supplies.

(b) Steel Authority of India expect that the overall completion schedule of March, 1993 set for the whole project would be adhered to.

Prices of Fertilisers

*354. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

SHRI HARIKEWAL
PRASAD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) when the prices of fertilisers were last fixed;
- (b) whether the Government propose to increase the prices of fertilisers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (d) whether there is likely to be an adverse impact of price hike on the farmers; and
- (e) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) to (c) The statutory consumer prices of fertilisers were revised with effect from the 25th July, 1991. The details of these prices are given in attached statement. A reduction has since been announced, which would increase fertiliser prices by 30%, in-