

Self-sufficiency in Fertilizers

*768. SHRI SHANTARAM
POTDUKHE:
SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR
REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fertilizer industry will be able to meet the demand of fertilizers in the country during the Eighth Plan;

(b) if not, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the steps being taken to meet the situation?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). Our policy as reflected in the Five Year Plan documents has been achievement of maximum degree of self-sufficiency in the production of nitrogenous fertilizers. While in the case of nitrogen it is estimated that 90% of the demand would be met through indigenous production during the VIII Plan, in phosphates domestic raw material constraints do not permit self-sufficiency in production. As regards Potash the entire requirements are met though imports as there are no known sources of potash in the country. For meeting the demand of nitrogenous fertilizers the Working Group set-up by the Planning Commission for the formulation of the VIII Plan has suggested establishment of three large-sized gas based ammonia-area plants in addition to the completion of the three delayed projects along the HBJ pipeline. For reducing the demand supply gap in phosphatic fertilizers the Working Group has recommended setting up of DAP plants with a total capacity of 4.5 lakh tonnes in terms of P2O5 and nitro-phosphates plants with a total capacity of 1.5 lakh tonnes of P2O5.

Release of High Yielding Varieties of Barley

*769. SHRI RAM SAGAR (SAIDPUR):
Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Barley Project at Karnal, Scientists have developed dozens of semi-dwarf high yielding varieties of huskless barley with proven yield potential;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number and details of huskless varieties released year-wise, till date; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to popularise these varieties of barley?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) to (c). Sir, only one huskless variety Karan-16 with proven performance has been released by the Central Varietal Release Committee so far, from Karnal Centre. This was released in 1987.

(d) To popularise the variety, seed minikits have been distributed amongst the farmers in barley growing areas.

Guidelines for Consideration of Applications for Registration Under FCRA

*770. SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any guidelines have been laid down for acceptance, refusal and summary rejection of applications for registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulations) Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?