

been given tool Kits costing up to Rs. 500 and/or those who have been given subsidy and loan.

The number of such youth during the last three years in Rajasthan is given below :

Year	Number of self-employed youth
1982-83	18,818
1983-84	12,477
1984-85 (upto February, 1985)	7,779
TOTAL :	36,074

As the Seventh Plan has not been finalised so far, the targets for Seventh Plan for the country cannot be indicated now. For 1985-86 Government of Rajasthan has fixed a target of 20,000 youths for training under TRYSEM

[English]

Prices of Fertilizers

*820. PROF. BIMAL KANTI GHOSH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the retail price of fertilizers that the farmer in India has to pay, is the highest as compared to the price paid by the farmers in other countries;

(b) to what extent the prices of fertilizers have been increased during the past three years ;

(c) the reasons for keeping the price of fertilizers so high ; and

(d) whether Government have any proposals to bring down the prices of fertilizers to a level which the farmer can afford ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) The retail prices of fertilizers which the Indian

farmer has to pay are not the highest in the world. They are at reasonable levels, which allow a reasonable return to the farmer taking into account the market conditions. The Government of India substantially subsidised fertiliser use to the extent of over Rs 1900 crores in 1984-85, so that fertiliser prices could be held at such reasonable levels.

(b) Fertiliser prices have not been increased during the last three years. In fact, the prices were reduced by 7½% with effect from 29.6.83.

(c) The prices of fertilisers are not considered to be so high.

(d) There is no proposal at present to further bring down the prices of fertilisers, as they are already heavily subsidised.

Transport Problem in Metropolitan Cities

*820-A. SHRI YASHWANT RAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether with the ever-growing population and increasing traffic on roads, Government have made any assessment with regard to the requirements to tackle the growing transport problem in the metropolitan cities ; and