

(b) if so, the details of accumulated stocks and the reasons thereof;

(c) the steps being taken to ease the situation; and

(d) whether Government propose to reconsider the import policy for fertilisers for the year 1987-88?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Because of low off-take as a result of unfavourable weather conditions in many parts of the country during 1986-87 and due to imports as well as higher indigenous production, the stocks of fertilizers as on 1.2.1987 were higher than on 1.2.1986.

The accumulated stocks of fertilizers as on 1.2.1987 were 30,93,500 metric tonnes of nutrients.

(c) and (d). The level of imports during 1986-87 has been reduced by about 6.3 lakh tonnes of nutrients. For the year 1987-88, it has been decided not to import any urea and DAP fertilizers during the quarter April-June 1987; the position will be reviewed therefore depending on the trend of consumption.

#### **Representation Against Shrimp Fishing by Imported Fishing Boats**

**\*71. SHRI T. BALA GOUD:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations that foreign chartered fishing trawlers are indulging in shrimping operations, primarily from Andhra coast; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check these operations?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (DR. G. S. DHILLON):** (a) No specific complaint of foreign chartered fishing trawlers indulging in shrimping operations, primarily from Andhra Coast was received although general allegations in this respect were received,

(b) As per the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Rules 1982, the Chartered Foreign Fishing Vessels are prohibited from undertaking shrimping operations for exploitation of coastal shrimp. Without specific complaints, no action against such trawlers could be taken.

#### **Voluntary Retirement Scheme in SAIL**

**\*72. SHRI B. B. RAMAIAH:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the salient features of voluntary retirement scheme drawn up by Steel Authority of India Limited;

(b) the response of the staff thereto; and

(c) other measures being taken to reduce the surplus staff in the steel plants?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT):** (a) SAIL's revised voluntary retirement scheme was introduced with effect from 1.10.1986. It provides for the payment of a certain percentage of future earnings till superannuation.

(b) About 800 employees have taken voluntary retirement upto 31.1.1987.

(c) SAIL's approach is to improve the utilisation of existing manpower through improved work practices and by retraining and redeployment, wherever possible.

#### **Procurement Price of Wheat**

**\*73 SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL :  
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA :**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the revised procurement price of wheat fixed for 1987-88;