

**Funds asked for by J.C.I.**

\*251. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds asked for by the Jute Corporation of India to carry out its purchasing operations in the current raw jute season;

(b) the amount actually sanctioned so far by Government; and

(c) the estimated quantum of purchases of raw jute with the sanctioned funds?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D. P. CHATTOPADHYAYA): (a) to (c) At its Board meeting dated the 31st May, 1976, the Jute Corporation of India had planned a purchase programme of 8 lakh bales for the current season. Government, however, requested the JCI to increase its purchase operations to ensure at least statutory minimum price for the growers. According to JCI's assessment, for carrying out a purchase operation of 12 lakh bales, credit limit of Rs. 46.23 crores would be required. JCI's price support operations will not be allowed to suffer due to financial constraints. To start with JCI had requested the Reserve Bank of India to raise its present credit limit from Rs. 24 crores to Rs. 35 crores. This is being presently discussed between the Reserve Bank of India and Jute Corporation of India.

**Financing of Buffer Stocks of Imported Fertilizers by Banks**

\*253. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Reserve Bank of India has asked commercial banks to finance buffer stocks of imported fertilizers; and

(b) if so, the amount advanced so far for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) The Reserve Bank of India has asked commercial banks to finance operations of fertilizers imported by Food Corporation of India on a consortium basis.

(b) The amount outstanding on this account under the cash credit limit was Rs. 34 crores as on 2nd August, 1976

**Instructions to Public Financial Institutions to cut down Assistance to Industries having Idle Capacity**

\*254. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued instructions to public financial institutions for cutting down their assistance to industries which either already have idle capacity or are likely to have it; and

(b) if so, the gist thereof and the measures being taken to detect such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). Government have not issued instructions to the all-India public financial institutions for cutting down their assistance to industries which either already have idle capacity or are likely to have it.

In assessing techno-economic viability of project applying for financial assistance, the public financial institutions take into account the likely demand and supply situation including capacity installed and likely to be installed as also the prevailing