

4. The fertiliser manufacturers have been requested to channel as big a share of their output as possible through cooperative organisations and other public agencies in order to minimise the change of mal-practices.
5. Through monthly reviews at a very high level a careful watch is being kept on the availability of wagons for rail movement in order to ensure that movement of fertilisers is not affected by bottlenecks in rail transport.
6. Steps are also being taken to import maximum possible quantities.

Delhi Milk Scheme

*14. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated the 15th October, 1973 under the heading "DMS still in aness";

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to set it right; and

(c) how Government propose to redress the grievances of the citizens of Delhi who suffer at the milk booths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Steps have been taken by Delhi Milk Scheme to ensure that milk is supplied regularly to bonafide token holders without unnecessary waiting at the milk booths. The availability of milk has since increased by approximately 100 per cent partly due to improvement in weather conditions and partly due to higher prices offered by the Delhi Milk Scheme to the milk producers. The handling capacity of the existing

dairy is also being expanded to handle 3.75 lakh litres of milk daily against the present 3 lakh litres daily and that would meet the requirements of the persons on the waiting list for milk tokens. With the introduction of one quality of milk w.e.f. 5th November, 1973, the chances of tampering with caps would be eliminated considerably. Except for marginal shortages at some depots, the distribution of milk is expected to be normal hereafter. Nevertheless the DMS arranges regular surprise checks of milk depots and also operates a complaint section in the dairy running round the clock so that local problems may be promptly attended to and rectified. It has recently been decided to encourage the formation of Depot Advisory Committee comprising of token holders to assist the Delhi Milk Scheme in ensuring smooth and equitable distribution of milk from their respective milk depots. In addition, Assistant Milk Distribution Officers of the Delhi Milk Scheme will hold office after distribution hours in the morning and evening in each of the major localities to hear customer's difficulties and complaints for appropriate remedial action.

With the setting up of the Second (Recombining) milk dairy towards the end of 1974, the requirements of the Capital will be met to more or less the full extent.

Provision of beds to patients lying on the ground in Safdarjang Hospital

*15. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of patients of fracture cases are lying on the ground in Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing beds to these patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Orthopaedic Department of the Safdarjang Hospital has a bed strength of 150 but the number of patients admitted at any one time far exceeds this number. The Safdarjang Hospital being a General Hospital, no patient needing admission is refused admission on account of lack of beds. Some patients have, therefore, perforce to be accommodated on the floor from time to time.

Wheat found short in weight supplied by Punjab

*16. **SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH:**

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item in 'Tribune' dated the 28th September, 1973 that the wheat supplied by Punjab to other States was found short in weight; and

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by Government in this regard and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An inquiry conducted by the State Vigilance Department is in progress.

Working of National Seeds Corporation

*17. **SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY:** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint regarding the

working of the National Seeds Corporation;

(b) if so, the main points thereof; and

(c) the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE):

(a) to (c). The Government have received a number of memoranda, the last being in January, 1971, from the Employees Union of the National Seeds Corporation containing certain demands and pointing out instances of malpractices and mismanagement in the Corporation. The main demands related to payment of bonus, enhancement of house rent allowance, confirmation of staff, promotions, etc. There were also allegations against the management of the Corporation regarding wrong certification of seeds, procurement of poor quality seeds, improper planning in seed movement, etc. and certain instances of malpractices had been cited. The Government have appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri V. N. Gadgil, Member, Rajya Sabha, who is also a Director on the Board of Directors of the Corporation, to look into the grievance of the employees as well as cases of mis-management. The Committee's report is awaited.

Suggestion of National Commission on Agriculture regarding Farmer and Agricultural Labour

*18. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission on Agriculture has suggested some changes in the two development programmes for farmers and agricultural labour;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and