

**Increased Allotment of Fertilizers to Flood-affected States**

\*524. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make additional allotment of Fertilisers to the cultivators in Gujarat and such other States in the country where several crops were damaged due to the recent floods and incessant rains; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement**

(a) and (b). Requests for additional allotment of fertiliser during the current season on account of damage due to floods and rains have been received from two State Governments, namely Gujarat and Kerala. In case of Gujarat, the request was received in the middle of September, 1973 in which it was stated that Gujarat had been struck badly by devastating floods and in view of this they may be allotted "some additional quota of Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate from the Sindri factory". It was also stated that this fertiliser was very useful for tobacco crop in Gujarat. The request was examined and it was pointed out to Gujarat Government that Gujarat could not be included in the rationalised distribution zone for priority movement of fertiliser by rail from Sindri factory, as it was not a rational movement. They were also advised that Urea and Ammonium Sulphate fertiliser was as good for tobacco as Urea and Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate. It may be mentioned here that as far as the overall position of supplies to Gujarat during the current season is concerned, counting both imported and domestic fertilisers, the percentage of supply actually made, to supplies due to be made has been better

than most other States in this area. As such, any enhanced supplies to Gujarat would not have been desirable as it would be at the cost of other States which were already in a more difficult position than Gujarat.

2. The second request of this nature was received from the Government of Kerala in the third week of November, 1973 and a plea was made for additional supplies on account of the damage that had been caused earlier by floods in the month of June-July, 1973. This request was also examined and it was found that the overall percentage of supplies made by Pool and manufacturers to supplies due so far, was higher in case of Kerala than in case of all States in the southern zone. It was, therefore, not considered desirable to further enhance the supplies to Kerala, as it would have depressed the supply position in respect of other States in that area who were already in a more difficult position than Kerala.

3. As regards the general question of additional allotment or supply of fertiliser to States where there was damage to crop on account of floods and rains, it may be stated that due to a very difficult position in respect of availability, it is, normally, not feasible for the Pool to make additional allotments or enhanced supplies on this account. The State Governments, however, have full control over the internal distribution of Pool fertiliser within their State and substantial control over the distribution of domestic fertiliser also. Within their allocations, therefore, the State Governments can arrange distribution of fertiliser to the flood-affected areas in preference to other areas.

**Master Plan in State of Madhya Pradesh**

4908. SHRI MARTAND SINGH: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Master Plans approved for town and cities in the