

**LOK SABHA**

Monday, April 8, 1974/Chaitra 18,  
1896 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock*

[Mr. Speaker in the Chair]

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**FORMULA FOR ASSESSING AND DISTRIBUTION OF FERTILISER TO STATES FOR 1974-75.**

\*587. **SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the formula adopted for assessing fertiliser requirement of each State; and

(b) the quantity of pooled fertilisers allotted, on the basis of this formula to each State in 1972-73 and 1974-75 ?

**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 Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6643/74]

**SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI** : The Annexure II shows the allotment of Pool fertilisers to various State Governments. The allotment to Karnataka for the year 1972-73 is 50,370 tonnes and 7,159 tonnes and for the period February, 1974 to April, 1974, it is 16,477 tonnes and 5,884 tonnes. I want to know whether the quantities allotted were supplied and, if not, what are the reasons. Secondly, I want to know whether it is a fact that for want of railway wagons, the imported

fertiliser could not be moved to various States in the south and, if so, whether it is under the consideration of the Government that the ban on the movement of fertiliser by road is likely to be removed.

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE** : There can be some difference in the figures of allotments and supplies. While the Government of India makes all efforts to see that allotted quantities are supplied, there have been many constraints in the way of the Government of India. For instance, in the case of imports, there are many uncertainties at the international level. Even the domestic production is not coming up to the expectation. That is why there are shortfalls. As far as Karnataka is concerned, there have been short supplies mainly because of the congestion at the ports. Recently, the Karnataka Minister was here and we assured him that we will allow, as a special case, the movement of fertiliser even upto 500 Kilometres by road if such proposals are presented by the Karnataka Government to us.

**SHRI A. K. KOTRASHETTI** : So far as domestic fertilisers are concerned, supplies are made to Karnataka Government by three different factories—Zuari Fertiliser Factory, Goa, FACT, Cochin, and Madras Fertilisers. But the major portion is allotted from the Goa factory. But that has not reached its full capacity of production and the State Government is not getting the expected quota. May I know whether the Government is thinking of allotting this quota from some other factory—FACT or Madras Fertilisers?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE** : It is not possible to change the allotment orders in respect of domestic manufacturers because that would disturb the supplies to other States. There is actually no difficulty as far as production is con

cerned, but the rail movement is presenting some difficulties. We propose to attend to these. But changing from one unit to another will not help solve the difficulties of Karnataka.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister, who has just now made a reference in his reply to the difficulties regarding import of fertilisers, whether it is true that, due to the difficulties in the berthing facilities provided in the Bombay Port, a lot of raw materials, not fertilisers but raw materials required for fertilisers, are remaining uncleared in the Bombay Port right from 10th March. If that is so, in consultation with the Minister for Shipping and Transport, will he be able to tell us, whether more berthing facilities will be made available so that the accumulated stock of fertiliser raw materials are cleared without delay?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** The Ministry of Transport and Shipping has been very sympathetic to these problems. Whenever we presented them with our problems, they have always been helpful to us. But, despite that, due to factors like labour problems, rail movement problem, unloading problems, etc., some difficulties are coming up. But they are not due to lack of coordination between our Ministry and the Ministry of Transport and Shipping.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE :** A policy decision has to be taken that berthing facilities are to be offered not only for import of fertilisers but even for import of raw materials required for fertilisers. That policy decision has to be taken.

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** I would request the hon. Member to put a separate question on this to the Ministry of Transport and Shipping.

**SHRI S. B. PATIL :** Just now the hon. Minister told us that road transport might also be utilised. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether transporting fertiliser by road would not give rise to malpractices and other things.

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** We are aware that there is likelihood of some malpractices, but to the extent possible, the State Government is supposed to ensure that these are kept to the minimum level. The main reason for moving them by road is this. This time the supplies to Karnataka have been only 20 per cent of the allotment; the position is very difficult and kharif season is coming; therefore, all means of transport have to be used to deliver fertilisers to Karnataka Government. We will take care to see that the malpractices are not indulged in; we shall seek the necessary cooperation from the State Government.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :** From the answer given by the hon. Minister we find that assessment of fertiliser requirements of each State has not been completed—since the answer given is inadequate. Even the requirement of fertilisers on the basis of high-yielding varieties of crop and various patterns of crops has not been supplied to various States, including Karnataka. As a consequence of that, they have not been able to grow any high-yielding variety of crops; it has failed in various States, including Karnataka. My second question is this. Even movement of fertiliser, by adopting this method, does not take place properly and it does not reach the State in time, due to wagon supplies and other reasons. As a result of that what happens is this, we do not get the required crops in the various States including Karnataka. I would like to know to what extent the Government is going to streamline these things, so that these difficulties are avoided.

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** Sir, it is not correct to say that no assessment was made. For Khariff, assessment is made. For Rabi, assessment will be made subsequently. Certain well-laid down principles are adopted for allotment to various States. With regard to streamlining the procedure, it is a good suggestion. It is also our endeavour to see that the movements are well-coordinated and streamlined to the extent possible.

**SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI :**

It is a fact that there is acute shortage of fertiliser all over the country. Considering the necessity, especially in Kerala, I want to know about this. The FACT is to help the agriculturists but the agriculturists are very much in difficulty in regard to their requirement of fertilisers. I want to know from the Minister whether the allocations which are now given from FACT to agriculturists will be increased at least ten per cent from the present quantity.

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :**

As the hon. Member himself has rightly referred to, there is some difficulty in regard to this. It is because the demand is more and the supply is less. The position is well known to the honourable House. As far as our Minister is concerned, we can deliver to individual States only those quantities which are produced from domestic plants and which are imported. But if there are constraints regarding imports and domestic manufacture, naturally the shortfalls have got to be distributed over the various States. As far as Kerala is concerned, orders are there under the Essential Commodities Act for delivering fertiliser as against individual domestic manufacturers. It would be difficult to increase the allotment but we have to see that whatever is allotted at least is given to Kerala.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस बात पर विचार करेंगे कि फर्टिलाइजर की कमी को देखते हुए जो ग्राज इण्डियन लोर्गों को डीलरशिप दी गई है, उस से इस कमी में भी ब्लैक-मार्केट बढ़ रहा है और फर्टिलाइजर ऊंचे दामों पर बिक रहा है। क्या इस कमी को दूर करने के लिये खाद्य मंत्रालय ने कोई कदम उठाये है जिस से फर्टिलाइजर ब्लैक मार्केट में न मिले।

**MR. SPEAKER :** The question related to the formula adopted for distribution requirement of each State. It is not about shortfall. That is a separate issue.

**SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY :** The Minister said about this. So, I am asking.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Whatever he said, you keep yourself within the scope of the question. Shri Goswami.

**SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GO-SWAMI :** He has said in the statement particulars in respect of fertiliser assessment relating to the crops delivered to the Food Corporation. But my particular question relates to crops like tea and coffee. May I know whether Government has fixed any criteria for allotment of fertiliser for the tea-growing States and if so what is the same?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** For tea and coffee separate allotment is made directly by the Government of India to those States which have tea and coffee as for example the hon. Member's State. Adequate care is taken about that.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** You know that there is acute shortage of rice in West Bengal. For that reason, the cultivators—the peasants—of West Bengal tried to cultivate *boro* crops to the maximum extent. There is an acute shortage of fertilisers. For that reason too, the *boro* crops productions are going to fall. I want to know from the hon. Minister what concrete steps is he going to take to supply adequate quantity of fertilisers to West Bengal? What is the formula worked out?

**SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE :** As far as the formula is concerned, we have worked that out keeping in view the requirements of various State Governments. Also they have been given an option to select any year after 1969-70. If they select any area, they will be allowed 12% more over that year's consumption of fertilizers.

**MR. SPEAKER :** So many questions have been allowed already on this question. I shall pass on to the text question.