

stated in (a) above, the managements are expected to meet 5 per cent of the recurring expenditure and a sizeable portion of the non-recurring and capital costs.

Distribution of Fertilizers

*109. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDRAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the existing system of distribution of fertilizers to farmers so as to make it easily available to them at reasonable rates; and

(b) if so, the broad indications of any revision proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b). No general review of the existing system of a distribution of fertilizers is contemplated at present. The existing system of fertilizer distribution in the country is well organised and oriented towards ensuring adequate availability of fertilisers to farmers in all corners of the country in time and at reasonable prices. For making fertilisers available in adequate quantities and in time, increased domestic production and adequate imports are being resorted to. Buffer stocking of imported fertilisers is being done near the consumption areas. More retail points are being opened.

Alleged Discrimination against Miss Rohini Khadilkar

*113. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the alleged discrimination against Miss Rohini Khadilkar in not allowing her to participate in National Chess Championship at Kottayam in spite of

the protest lodged by the Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): (a) to (c). Miss Rohini Khadilkar was allowed to participate in the National Championship as per the decision of the Central Council of the All India Chess Federation taken on April 15, 1977 at Delhi and endorsed by the General Body of the Federation at its Annual General Meeting on May 22, 1977 at Kottayam.

Allocation to Karnataka for Fifth Plan Period

*114. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation have approved some amount to cover the last three years of the Fifth Plan, 1976-77 to 1978-79 in favour of Karnataka State; and

(b) if so, development activities for which the subsidy is to be given?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) Central assistance is given to the State Governments as block loans and block grants for their Plans unrelated to any specific Schemes. In the years 1976-77/77-78, a sum of Rs. 60.36/62.93 crores was released/allocated to the Government of Karnataka for Fifth Plan. It is too early to give any figures for 1978-79.

(b) As the assistance is given without reference to the Schemes, the development activities cannot be identified.