

(b) the quantity being imported from countries to meet the deficit; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to meet the immediate shortage and to be self-sufficient in the production of kerosene oil ?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA):**

(a) The requirement of the kerosene during 1968 has been estimated at 2.64 million tonnes.

(b) Approximately 15 per cent of the total estimated requirement is proposed to be met by imports.

(c) Refining capacity in the country is being progressively augmented and it is estimated that by 1971 the indigenous production of kerosene will be adequate for the country's needs.

#### HALDIA FERTILIZER PLANT

\*412. **SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the French and Polish firms have offered to set up a Fertiliser Plant at Haldia; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASHOKA MEHTA):** (a) and (b). M/s Polimex of Poland and Ensa of France have shown interest in a fertilizer plant at Haldia. Detailed proposals are awaited.

M/s. STRETCHLON (P) LTD.

\*413. **SHRI MADHU LIMAYE:** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 679 on the 14th December, 1967 and state:

(a) whether Government have since completed the investigation into the affairs of M/s. Stretchlon (P) Ltd.;

(b) if so, the result of the inquiry; and

(c) whether the Income-tax payable by the firm is being reassessed ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. C. PANT):** (a) Investigations are still in progress.

(b) and (c). Do not arise at present.

#### FERTILIZER PLANTS

\*414. **SHRI K. RAMANI:**  
**SHRI GANESH GHOSH:**  
**SHRI BHAGABAN DAS:**  
**SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA:**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5266 on the 21st December, 1967 and state:

(a) the progress since made to set up fertilizer plants under the new concessions; and

(b) when self-sufficiency in fertilizers is likely to be achieved under this scheme and what is the target for the year 1968-69 ?

**THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA):** (a) In addition to the fertilizer projects mentioned in reply given on 21st December, 1967, one more project to be set up in Maharashtra has been approved.

(b) Self-sufficiency is likely to be reached by about 1974, if the projects under construction, approved and under consideration are completed according to schedule. The installed capacity and production expected in the year 1968-69 is 894,000 tonnes and 650,000 tonnes of nitrogen respectively. The expected demand during the year is 1,700,000 tonnes of nitrogen.

#### WESTERN KOSI CANAL PROJECT

\*415. **SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1554 on the 23rd November, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the Central Water and Power Commission have since completed the examination of the survey report of the Western Kosi Canal;

(b) if so, whether the same has been forwarded to the Government of Nepal and the reply therefrom received; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government for completion of the project ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO):** (a) to (c). The examination of Western Kosi Canal