

exonerated or harassed? I would not suggest killing him, but if the hon. Minister gives a satisfactory answer to my first question, I should not put the second supplementary question.

MR. SPEAKER: 'Rahiman ass na chhodiye, jab tak ghat mein pran'

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: You and we have to play the role of Opposition. For them, it is of no significance.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, it involves the supply of three machines. It does not involve setting up of any factory. The States which have the Cooperative Apex Societies have been selected and this selection of States was to be made from three different areas, That is why West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh were selected and that too for the supply of three small machines.

SHRI V. TULSIRAM: He stands exonerated, Sir,

MR. SPEAKER: Exonerated. You are a large-hearted person;

[English]

Fertilizers used by Farmers

*341. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of different types of fertilizers, separately, used by the farmers in the country during the last three years and the extent of increase registered in their price during the said period;

(b) whether there has been proportionate decline in the use of fertilizers by the farmers due to increase their price; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to bring down the prices of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) (a) to (c). A Statement is given below:-

STATEMENT

(a). The consumption of fertiliser is collected in terms of fertiliser nutrients and not variety wise. The consumption of fertiliser during the last three has been as follow:-

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	N	P _i	K	(N+P+K)
1984-85	54.86	18.86	8.39	82.11
1985-86	58.16	20.67	8.54	87.37 (Estimated)
1986-87	57.73	21.05	8.60	87.38

The retail prices of fertilisers were increased by about 8-10% with effect from 31.1.1986 for different varieties of fertilisers. This revision brought the retail prices to the level of prices prevailing in the year 1981-82.

(b) No, Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will not ask supplementary.

[*English*]

SHRI M.Y.GHORPADE: There are stocks of fertiliser but it is not reaching the farmers. It is not because people are not buying it but because the credit system - if you take the fertiliser and give it in the form of loan - is not functioning properly in the country. Would the Minister agree that if the credit system is tuned up and if all those who want fertiliser are given seeds and fertiliser on loan, then this situation would not happen in the country and there will be sufficient demand for fertiliser. The situation where there is fertiliser produced on the one hand and the so-called insufficiency of demand on the other would not arise in the country?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: This is not the situation. The demand of fertiliser has increased consistently. The Government of India is providing short-term loan through the State Government to the farmers to purchase inputs like fertiliser.

SHRI M. Y. GHORPADE: My point is that the farmer who wants to buy the fertiliser cannot buy it unless you give it in the form of credit.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I say that we are giving short-terms credit to the farmers to purchase inputs.

SHRI M.Y. GHORPADE: It is happening on a very small scale. It is not happening to cover even a substantial portion of the people who require it.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The norm of fixing the short-term loan is that we see the consumption of fertiliser by a particular State and then we see whether it is done through the cooperatives or not. Based on the quantity of the fertiliser consumed by a particular State, short-term loan is provided to the State in order to pass it on to the farmers.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the complaints regarding adulteration in fertilizers. Several complaints regarding adulteration in fertilizers have been received. Seed stores or the shops or the dealers appointed by the Department of Agriculture - all indulge in adulteration. All along, we have been writing to the District Magistrate and the State Government, but it is a matter of regret that no action has so far been taken in this regard. They all are hand in glove with them and take bribe. Adulteration is being done openly in Nitrogen, Urea and other varieties of fertilizers and thus the farmers are being duped. Therefore, you are requested to issue strict instructions from the Centre or send Central teams to visit the districts so that raids could be conducted to apprehend the adulterers. Otherwise, the State Governments are doing nothing in this regard.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: All this is considered an offence under the Essential Commodities Act and the Fertiliser Control Order. But the hon. Member says that State Governments do not implement them properly. Wherever there is a complaint, you may write to us. We will instruct the State Govern-

ments and send our own officials too, but implementation is done only through the State Governments.

MR. SPEAKER: Do you impose restrictions on the movement of fertilizers from one State to another? Are there any orders restricting their movement?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: No, Sir, There are no such orders.

MR. SPEAKER: A complaint came to me from Punjab that earlier there were cheaper rates there. Later on movement of fertilizers from other States to that State was stopped. This led to rise in prices by Rs. 30.40 of stocks already available.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Let me give answer to that. There are many fertiliser companies. Some of them are located in the South, some in the North and also some in the West. Presently the Government of India gives a subsidy to transport fertiliser upto block level. In view of this we have decided that fertilizer should be sent there from the nearest fertiliser factory. Some factories wanted to violate rules and sell their fertilizer at distant places because production was more and we too had an import commitment.

[*English*]

We had to import. Because of this glut in the market, they started an unfair and unhealthy competition.

They give some more concession to the dealers and the dealers, in their turn, give concession to the farmers. But there is no change in the price. The prices are (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER; No, Sir, I do not agree

with you.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Dhillon, will you please see that...

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: You see to it. Why should we pay for the inefficiency of these fertilizer units? Why should the farmer be penalised for that? You see to it.

[*Translation*]

DR. G.S.DHILLON: The place from where you have received this complaint.

MR. SPEAKER: I will tell you.

DR. G.S DHILLON: I have also received it.

MR. SPEAKER: Then it is alright.

DR. G.S. DHILLON: At one time that was your area, mine too. I know what you have said and some way will be found to set it right.

MR. SPEAKER : Alright, that's fine.

[*English*]

Telecast of Advertisements before T.V. Serial Ramayana

*343. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state-

(a) whether a large number of advertisement clips are being exhibited before the Ramayana serial by Doordarshan;

(b) if so, whether public have com-