

products originating from the countries where mad cow disease is prevalent, it has been made mandatory for the exporting countries to give a health certificate certifying that the "products have originated only from healthy animals, free from Bovine Spongi-form Encephalopathy (BSE)".

News report regarding C.B.S.E.

2689. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report in the Indian Express dated August 1, 1996 about the C.B.S.E. giving an assignment of valuing question papers in the subject of Hindi of the 10th class Board examination to an examiner whose subject of teaching was different;

(b) if so, the reason due to which such a thing happened which would be unfair to the candidates who answered to the Hindi paper; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent the recurrence of such mistakes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) As per information received from the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the answer scripts of class X students evaluated at the Kendriya Vidyalaya, S.P. Marg, New Delhi, in the subject of Hindi in the Examination conducted by the Board in 1996 were evaluated by the teachers qualified in Hindi as reported by the Principal of the concerned school.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Detailed instructions regarding proper evaluation of the answer scripts have already been laid down in the Examination Bye-laws of the Board.

Adequate supply of Urea for 1996-97 Kharif and Rabi seasons

2690. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS and FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether the States have been assured of adequate urea supplies for the 1996-97 kharif and rabi seasons;

(b) if so, whether Government's first priority was to ensure that the fertilizer requirements of the farmers were met and there was no shortage;

(c) whether the Union Government have despatched 52 per cent of the urea that was targeted for the current financial year;

(d) if so, what is the State-wise position of urea supplied so far; and

(e) what is the quantity of urea supplied during 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEELAM RAMOLA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, by 10.8.96, the availability of urea in States was 71% of the total ECA allocation for Kharif '96. The despatches during the season have been 53,82 Lakh Metric Tonnes till 10.8.96. These constitute 52.5% of the ECA allocation. There has been no reports of shortages of urea from any of the States.

The availability of Potassic and Phosphatic fertilisers which have been decontrolled since August '92, is reported to be comfortable.

(d) State-wise availability of Urea till 10.8.96 is given in the Statement (see below).