

(b) the number of letters out of them which were acknowledged;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replies were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued containing positive and negative replies respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) The desired information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Sick Fertilizer units

437. SHRI S. AUSTIN:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of sick fertilizer units in the country;

(b) whether these sick units have approached Government for assistance;

(c) what measures Government propose to take to remedy their sickness; and

(d) what is Government's policy regarding sickness in the fertilizer industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Two fertilizer producing public sector companies, namely Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) and Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC) have been declared as sick companies by the Board for Industrial and

Financial Reconstruction (BIFR).

(b) to (d) The BIFR has directed the Government and the management of the above two companies to submit an agreed viable revival package for each of the said companies. Any action with regard to the revival of these companies would depend on the final outcome of the proceedings pending before the BIFR which is a quasi-judicial authority.

Closed units of Hindustan Fertilizer Company Limited

438. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of units of the Hindustan Fertilizer Company Limited currently under closure;

(b) the reasons therefor and the total loss of output on account of such closure;

(c) the total outlay, in foreign exchange, on account of additional import of fertilizers consequent to the cutback in domestic fertilizer output; and

(d) the principles underlying the policy which encourages fertilizer imports at the cost of non-utilisation of domestic capacity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Except the Haldia Project, which could not be commissioned due to repeated equipment breakdowns during commissioning, no unit of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) is lying closed at present. However, Namrup-II plant is presently under shutdown for repair/maintenance work and is expected to resume production in April, 1994.

Namrup-II plant had produced 1500 tonnes of urea during the month before the shutdown.