

(ख) यदि हां, तो लाइसेंस कब तक जारी किए जाने की संभावना है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने देश में सहकारी क्षेत्र में 2500 टी० सी० डी० की कुल क्षमता वाली 34 नई चीनी मिलों की स्थापना के लिए आशय पत्र जारी कर दिए हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो मध्य प्रदेश में चीनी मिलों की स्थापना के लिए प्राप्त आशय पत्र जारी न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

प्रश्न प्रो० नगरिक प्रति संतो (श्री न.थू.र.म. मिश्री) : (क) भारत सरकार के पास अभी तक मध्य प्रदेश से सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान सहकारी क्षेत्र में नई चीनी फैक्ट्रियां स्थापित करने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

(ग) सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजनावधि के दौरान अब तक देश में सहकारी क्षेत्र में प्रत्येक 2500 टी० सी० डी० की 55 फैक्ट्रियों को आशय पत्र जारी किए गए हैं।

(घ) चूंकि मध्य प्रदेश में सहकारी क्षेत्र में नई चीनी मिल स्थापित करने के लिए कोई आवेदन पत्र प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है, इसलिए आशय पत्र प्रदान करने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Misuse of subsidy on fertilizers

*172. DR. (SHRIMATI) SARAJINI MAHISHI:

SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the subsidy given on Fertilizers during 1987-88 and 1988-89;

(b) what are the names of the Fertilizers covered under the subsidy scheme;

(c) what are the names of the Units engaged in the production of Nitrogenous and Phosphatic Fertilizers.

(d) what is the purpose of subsidy scheme and whether it is a fact that the scheme is being misused;

(e) whether it is a fact that Government are reviewing the above scheme;

(f) if so the details thereof;

(g) whether Government had taken any steps to reduce the subsidy; and

(h) if so the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The total amount of subsidy paid on indigenously produced fertilizers and imported fertilizers including freight subsidy during the years 1987-88 and 1988-89 was Rs. 2164.20 crores and Rs. 3200.70 crores respectively.

(b) The fertilizers covered under the retention price and subsidy scheme are:

(i) Urea

(ii) Diammonium Phosphate (DAP)

(iii) Ammonium Sulphate (AS)

(iv) Ammonium Chloride (AC)

(v) Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN)

(vi) Complex fertilizers like NP & NPK of the following grades:

16:20:0

20.8:20.8:0

20:20:0

28:28:0

10:26:26

12:32:16

14:28:14

14:35:14

15:15:15

17:17:17

19:19:19

(vii) Single Super Phosphate (SSP)

(c) The names of units engaged in the production of nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilizers are given in the Annexure attached to the Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 47]

(d) The main purpose of the retention price and subsidy scheme is to make fertilizers available at reasonable prices to the farmers in order to encourage agricultural production, to maintain a reasonable ratio between the prices of fertilizers and of goods, to protect the interests of the indigenous manufacturers by assuring them a reasonable return on their investment, to induce manufacture of fertilizers in the country and thereby to reduce dependence on imports and consequently, outgo of foreign exchange. As far as possible, the retention price and subsidy scheme has been structured to prevent misuse.

(e) to (f) In November, 1989, Planning Commission constituted an Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Shri B. B. Singh, Member, Appellate Authority for BIFR to go into the entire gamut of fertilizer subsidy, pricing etc.

(g) and (h) With a view to reducing the subsidy burden, higher norms of capacity utilisation and longer period of depreciation were notified with effect from 1.4.1988.

Increase in the prices of dals

*173. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of dals have gone up further during the recent months;

(b) if so, the average prevailing price of each type of dal both wholesale and retail during November and December, 1989 and during January and February, 1990; and

(c) the steps taken to keep these prices under control?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI NATHU RAM MIRDHA): (a) The prices of dals have

generally remained steady since November, 1989.

(b) Statements I and II indicating the required information is laid on the Table of the House, the Appendix CLIII, Annexure No. 48)

(c) Government is regularly reviewing the prices. Necessary measures are being taken to increase production of pulses in the country. Their availability is also being augmented by imports. The custom duty on pulses was reduced from 35 per cent to 10 per cent from 1-11-1989 so that the prices of indigenous pulses are also brought down.

Improvement in the volume of goods traffic during the 7th Five Year Plan period

*174. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the volume of goods traffic, handled by the Railways, has registered steady improvement during the 7th Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, whether the said increase in the volume of freight handling by the Railways was achieved by any major investment in the capital assets and/or maintenance during the last five years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The increase in volume of traffic was achieved partly through investments in additional capital assets and in rehabilitation of existing assets and partly through optimisation in utilisation of the system through better maintenance of the assets and improved productivity thereof, as well as of the man-power resources.