

Cold storages

†2650. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the present amount of grant for establishing cold storages; and

(b) whether Government do not think it proper that the process to establish cold storages should be further simplified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) In order to give a major thrust to the development of cold storages and storages, the Government have in December, 1999 approved a scheme of Capital Investment Subsidy for Construction/Expansion/Modernisation of Cold Storages and Storages for Horticulture Produce for implementation during the Ninth Five Year Plan (1999-2002) with an outlay of Rs. 175.00 crores. The Scheme is being implemented by the National Horticulture Board (NHB), an autonomous organisation under the Ministry of Agriculture, through the National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD), National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), etc. Under the Scheme, capital subsidy @ 125% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs per project for States other than North Eastern States and 33.1/3% subject to a maximum of Rs. 60.00 lakhs per project for the North Eastern States is provided. The Scheme envisages back ended subsidy to the promoters/beneficiaries after completion of the project to be released by the NHB and operated by the NABARD in the case of projects financed under NABARD re-finance scheme and in the case of cooperative projects financed by the NCDC, by the NCDC. Under the Scheme, the promoter has the option of choosing any commercial/cooperative bank of his choice and the project proposal is required to be submitted to that bank in the prescribed proforma of the bank. After sanction of the term loan, 50% of the subsidy is

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

[17 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

envisaged to be credited into the Subsidy Reserve Fund Account of the borrower as per the guidelines and the remaining 50% is to be released after the completion of the project. The promoter is required to deal with only one financial institution under the Scheme. In the case of projects where promoter himself proposes to meet the entire cost of the project, the subsidy is to be released by the NHB directly to the promoter after the project is completed. The procedure under the Scheme thus is already simplified. Besides with a view to removing administrative control in licensing, rent control and requisition of cold storage space, the Government have already repealed the Cold Storage Order, 1980. State and Union Territory Governments have also been requested to take necessary steps to deregulate the rentals of cold storages where the rentals are regulated at present. There is no proposal under consideration to further simplify the process under the Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, as mentioned above or to increase the present level of subsidy therein.

Subsidies for producers of DAP and urea

† 2651. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the subsidy of Rs. 34548.19 cores has been provided by Government to the producers and importers of fertilizers such as urea, DAP etc. during last three years;

(b) whether the farmers of country have actually benefited by it;

(c) the amount received by the urea producers of Uttar Pradesh during the last three years; and

(d) the details of the amount spent under this head during 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO):

(a) An amount of Rs. 34549.19 crore was disbursed as subsidy/

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.