

(b) How does it compare with the results of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Budgetary control over public sector

630. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the nature of supervision and control exercised by his Ministry on the working of public sector units under it;

(b) whether the Ministry receives monthly or quarterly performance reports from these units;

(c) whether a practice is followed to prepare a budget for each of the units for the ensuing year and if so, whether it is also a fact that in some cases, loss budgets are prepared;

(d) if so, what are the reasons and justification for the same; and

(e) what action is taken by the Ministry where the actual results vary from the budgeted figures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) The control over and supervision of the Air Corporations and the International Airports Authority of India by the Ministry is exercised in accordance with the Air Corporations Act, 1953 and the International Airports Authority Act, 1971 respectively. The control is also effected through the Government nominees on the Boards of Directors of these Corporations and India Tourism Development Corporation.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir, If the operations of a year are expected to result

in a loss, the same is reflected in Budget Estimates.

(e) The reasons for variations of the actual results over budgetary figures are examined in consultation with the Corporations and instructions issued to the Corporations, wherever necessary. Annual accounts are also duly audited by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Distribution of fertiliser to small and marginal farmers

631. SHRI J. K. JAIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has received any suggestion from the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh regarding the question of providing relief to small and marginal farmers in respect of distribution of fertilisers;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is his reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). A reference has been received from the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh by the Minister of Agriculture requesting for permission to sell old stock of pool fertilizers at pre-revised prices which is under the consideration of that Ministry.

The Commercial Banks provide credit to the farmers for their seasonal agriculture operations including the procurement of fertilizer. Certain schemes of Government like SFDA provide for subsidy to the small and marginal farmers on the cost of various inputs. Till recently fertilizers were being supplied for distribution normally upto the rail-head destinations. It has now been decided that the same will be supplied at fixed prices to the distribution agencies upto block headquarters thus ensuring its availability in the interior area.