

Rs. 2 lakhs in unsold milk per month and had to close down 70 of its depots in various colonies which lost their customers to the Mother Dairy, due to the rise in price of the D.M.S. milk;

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

(c) what steps Government propose to take to save the situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) and (b) After 2nd May, 1978 when the price of DMS milk was raised, there has been some fall in the sale of milk by the D.M.S. The sale of milk in some of the depots of D.M.S. was reduced to a level which rendered them running uneconomical. The supply of such depots has been merged with the nearby depots and these depots were closed. Till 20th November, 1978, 82 such milk depots have been closed.

The return of unsold milk is not heavy, it has, on an average, never been more than 6000 litres on any day. Further all such unsold milk received back in the Central Dairy is re-processed for issue on the next day or the same is utilised for conversion into butter/ghee. The question of loss on this account does not arise.

(c) To streamline the distribution system, as a first step it has been decided to do away with the token system and to allow the sale of milk from all the milk depots without tokens gradually. Till to-day milk has been made available to all the consumers without tokens from 76 milk depots (45 morning plus 31 evening) located in the area of old Rajinder Nagar and Patel Nagar.

Proforma accounts of the Central Fertilizer Pool

549. SHRI R. R. MORARKA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 176 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 16th August, 1978 and state;

(a) whether the consolidated proforma accounts of the Central Fertiliser Pool for the period from the 1st April, 1970 to the 29th February, 1976 have since been prepared and submitted to audit;

(b) if not, by when the accounts are likely to be submitted to audit; and

(c) what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the advice of Audit, the proposal for Consolidated Proforma Accounts has been referred to Controller General of Accounts and his approval is awaited. Simultaneously, review and documentation of accounts is in progress. As the consolidated Proforma Accounts relate to six years, records/data involved are innumerable. It may not be possible at this stage to indicate the probable date of its submission. However, all efforts are being made to expedite the finalisation of Proforma Accounts for the above years.

Import of fertilizers

550. SHRI GHOUSE MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of chemical fertilizers imported during the year 1977-78 and the quantity proposed to be imported during the current financial year; and

(b) the number of sole agents to whom these fertilizers have been supplied for distribution during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA):

(a) The quantum of chemical fertilisers imported during the year 1977-78 was 28.74 lakh tonnes.

It is not in the public interest to disclose the information about the quantity of fertilisers proposed to be

imported during the current financial year.

(b) Imported non-potassic fertilisers are allotted in favour of the State Governments; Union Territories/Commodity Boards, who in turn reallocate the same to departmental institutional agencies and the private distributors. Potassic fertiliser, however, is distributed to M/s Indian Potash Limited, a joint Sector Undertaking, as per the requirements of the States and complex manufacturers. At present, imported fertiliser is handled by Pood Con of India, P Limited. Hindustan Fertiliser Corporation, Southam Petrochemical Industries Corporation, etc. on ownership basis. Government have not appointed any sole agent for distribution of fertilisers in any State.

Mysterious Gas in West and South Delhi areas

551. SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH; Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that large areas of West and South Delhi were affected by a mysterious and pungent gas in the evening of the 19th October, 1978;

(b) whether Government have ascertained the source of this gas; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SIKANDAR BAKHT): (a) A report about the presence of gaseous matter in the atmosphere over some localities in West Delhi on the 19th October, in the afternoon appeared in the Newspapers.

(b) and (c) The nature of the phenomenon could not be ascertained because it occurred for a short period, during which the samples could not be taken for testing.

उत्तर प्रदेश में रासायनिक उर्वरकों की कमी

552. श्री लाखन सिंह : क्या कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को यह जानकारी है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में 1978-79 की आगामी खरीफ फसल के आरम्भ में इस्तेमाल होने वाली रासायनिक उर्वरकों की कमी है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप किसानों को फसल बोने में कठिनाई हो रही है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार उत्तर प्रदेश को रासायनिक उर्वरकों की तत्काल सप्लाई करने के लिए क्या कारगर कदम उठाने का विचार रखती है ?

[Scarcity of chemical fertilizers in U.P.

552. SHRI LAKHAN SINGH; Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government were aware that there is scarcity of chemical fertilizers, used at the preliminary stage, in Uttar Pradesh for the next Kharif crop of 1978-79 with the result that farmers are finding it difficult to sow the crop; and

(b) if so, what effective steps Government propose to take for immediate supply of chemical fertilizers to Uttar Pradesh?]

कृषि और सिंचाई मंत्री (श्री सुरजीत सिंह बरनाला) : (क) और (ख) फास्फेटयुक्त उर्वरकों की आवश्यकता अधिक मात्रा में बखरेत (आरम्भिक खरप) के समय होती है ? खरीफ 1978-79 के पहले तीन महीनों के दौरान इन उर्वरकों की 0.71 लाख मीटरी टन की अनुपातिक आवश्यकता थी, जिसकी तुलना में लगभग 0.87 लाख मीटरी टन की उपलब्धि थी । इसके अलावा, 1.11.78 को राज्य

[] English translation.