

Use of Fertilizers

323. **SHRI PRAKASHVEER SHASHTRI** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers have reduced the use of fertilizers due to their increased price;

(b) whether it is also a fact that sufficient stocks of fertilizers have accumulated at the fertilizer producing factories as a result of this; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL) : (a) The consumption of nitrogenous nutrients have marginally increased, while that of phosphatic and pottasic ones have declined in 1975-76 compared to that of 1974-75 due to various of factors including the high prices of these two nutrients.

(b) There is some accumulation of stocks with the domestic manufacturers especially phosphatic and complex fertilisers. In order to reduce inventory build-up with the domestic manufacturers, it has been decided to holdback pool supplies of phosphatic and complex fertilisers to the States falling within the normal marketing zone of the manufacturers with heavy stocks.

(c) To increase the consumption of fertilisers and to reduce the accumulated stocks, the prices of fertilisers have recently been reduced. The State Governments have also been advised to adopt such management practices which can result in maximum return for every kilogram of fertiliser applied.

Marine Products Industry in the Country

324. **SHRI S. KUMARAN** : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to encourage marine products industry in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Development of marine fishing industry is being encouraged through introduction of mechanised boats and large fishing vessels, harbour facilities, training of manpower, demonstration of new techniques provision of facilities for storage, processing, transport and marketing and various other facilities and concessions, particularly for production of marine foods for export. There are also proposals to set up two model fish processing plants, an aluminium can fabricating unit, grant of interest subsidy on loan and construction of refrigerated storages.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE**Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Rules, 1976**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 63 of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Works and Housing Notification G. S. R. No. 352, dated the 6th March, 1976, publishing the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Amendment Rules 1976. [Placed in library. See No. LT-10429/76]

DRUGS AND COSMETICS (SECOND AMENDMENT) RULES 1976

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under section 38 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning (Department of Health) Notification G. S. R. No. 245, dated the 21st February, 1976,