

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Setting up of public sector drug manufacturing units in districts

•291. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA; SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA; DR. Z. A. AHMAD; SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to establish one public sector drug manufacturing unit in each district of the country; and

(b) if so, the main features of the plan?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI PRA-KAS CHAND B. SETHI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Glut of fertilisers

♦292. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a glut of fertilisers with the fertilizer manufacturing units in the country at present;

(b) whether these fertiliser units propose to cut their production; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS (SHRI PRAKAS CHAND B. SETHI): (a) The stock

with manufactures as on 1-3-1976 is estimated at 1.52 lakhs tonnes of nitrogen and 0.82 lakh tonnes of phosphate; this stock represents about four weeks of production of nitrogen and 12 weeks of production of P 205 at current levels of production and is on the high side.

(b) and (c) Due to poor offtake of phosphatics, the manufacturers, particularly these producing single superphosphate, have had to cut back on their production.

*293. [Transferred to the 1st April, 1976]

Concessional freight charges of industrial raw materials and export items

*294. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA; SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA; SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND; SHRI S. KUMARAN;

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are carrying industrial raw materials and items meant for exports at concessional freight rates;

(b) whether these rates are below the unit cost of inputs; and

(c) what are the reasons for allowing these concessions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHAMMAD SHAFI QURI-SHI): (a) to (c) Freight concessions in respect of all traffic meant for exports have been withdrawn with effect from 1st April, 1975.

Normally freight rates for industrial raw materials are fixed with a view to cover the costs. In cases where costs are not covered, action is taken to suitably alter the rates from time to time.