

(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 PRAKAS 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 fertiliser 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 nitrogeh 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 super-phosphate, 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(SHRI MOHAMMAD SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (c) Freight concessions in respect of all traffic meant for exports have been withdrawn with effect from 1st April, 1975.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.