

RAJYA SABHA

*Tuesday, the 26th November, 1974/
5th Agrahayana, 1896 (Saka)*

The House met at eleven of the clock,
MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair,

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

tProtocol between India and Rumania for , the supply of fertilizers

135. SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA :
SHRI RAJ NARAIN : SHRI B. N.
MANDAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be
pleased to state :

(a) whether any protocol has been sign-
ed with Rumania for the supply of fertili-
zers; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof? I

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI
VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH) : (a) and
(b) The Minerals and Metals Trading
Corporation of India Ltd., signed two con-
tracts with M/s. "Aezoexport", Rumanian i
Foreign Trade Enterprise, for import of one
lakh tonnes and forty thousand tonnes of
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate respectively
from Rumania. Against the first contract, a
quantity of 83,000 tonnes has already been
shipped by Rumania. The balance quantity is
in the process of shipment. The shipment
against the second contract will be made
during November, 1974 to January, 1975.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA : Ac-
cording to the infromation available, the
protocol aims at a two-fold increase in the
volume of the annual trade between India and
Rumania and you have just stated that we will
be getting chemical fertilisers from j Rumania.
I would like to know from the i

tTntnsferred from the 18th November,

hon. Minister whether we will be paying
for the import of fertilisers in cash or in
foreign exchange or whether it will be de-
ferred payment and we will be supplying
something from our country to Rumania.

SHRI V P. SINGH : The trade with East
European countries and the USSR is based
on the balance of trade arrangement on a
rupee payment basis and it is on these
terms that it has been arranged.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA : Apart
from the development of trade, may I know
whether agreement has also been reached
for economic co-operation in the field of
petroleum, chemicals, power, energy, agri-
culture, water and land management and, if
so, what are the details thereof?

SHRI V. P. SINGH : I would submit that it
is a question which goes beyond the scope
of the present question on fertilisers.

SHRI SAWAISINGH SISODIA : Mr.
Chairman, Sir, my question is in
connection with the protocol between India
and Rumania and this is part of that. So, I
put the question and it is not at all
irrelevant. Further, it is not the Minister,
but the Chairman who decides it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is all right. He
suggested it to me.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : May I know
whether, in this connection, the Govern-
ment has assesed the internal production of
fertilisers in our country and has come to a
conclusion as to what are our requirements
which should be met by way of imports ? I
should like to know whether the Govern-
ment has explored the possibility of step-
ping up productied in India and also run-
ning the existing fertiliser plants to capacity
so that the import is kept to a low level.

SHRI V. P. SINGH : Yes, Sir. So far as
increasing the production of fertilisers is
concerned in the Fifth Five Year Plan five
units are being put up in the

1974.

public sector, one in the co-operative sector and also in the public sector there will be increased capacity. One of the second largest plants of Asia is going to be put up in the co-operative sector worth Rs. 144 crores of investment.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN : Cultivators throughout the country grumble about the supply of fertilisers. It seems cultivators in the country are not happy about the supply of fertilisers. Also, we find that the policy of the Government is that it tries to leave it to the suppliers of foreign fertilisers.

My question to the hon. Minister is this whether this Government has got any policy of self-reliance or whether it has got any policy to decrease the supply from foreign countries for the purpose of achieving self-reliance and also whether it has resorted to the process of compost manure of which there is a large wastage in the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may not be possible for him to answer. The Agriculture Minister will reply.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN : Sir, I asked whether this Government has got any policy to decrease the foreign imports for the purpose of improving the local production.

(No reply)

श्री चक्रपाणी शुक्ल : वर्तमान समय में फर्टिलाइजर की कमी का देखते हुए, पहले जो निर्णय किया गया था कौरवा में एक कोल-बेसड फर्टिलाइजर प्लांट इस्टीमेशन किया जाएगा और उसकी बहुत समय तक चर्चा थी, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो पब्लिक सेक्टर और कोऑपरेटिव सेक्टर में फर्टिलाइजर प्लांट लगाने की बात है, क्या इससे संबंधित किसी निर्णय पर पहुँचने के लिए कौरवा पर विचार किया जा रहा है या नहीं ?

SHRI V. P. SINGH : We are concerned with the import and export of fertilisers and about Korba, I think the exact answer would be available from the concerned Ministry.

SHRI K. N. DHULAP : The hon. Minister stated in the House in reply to Shri Bhupesh Gupta's question that a certain number of fertiliser plants are likely to be started in the private and public sectors in the different States. In which States are these plants likely to be situated?

SHRI V. P. SINGH : Sir, again, location and all that would not be within the purview of our Ministry. What I mentioned was about the Fifth Five Year Plan and that is the provision and that is the general framework within which fertilizer plants will be set up. Location and all that have to be gone into in detail and besides, they have to be decided on merits, which is under the purview of another Ministry.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He has no information.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Whenever we import fertilisers from the East European countries, there is the practice that those countries nominate an agent in India and a commission is paid by them to this agent. May I know whether it is a fact and he is aware of it and he has also made enquiries that particularly in the case of Rumania such a commission has been paid to a person in Delhi, which money has been used for espionage activities against this country?

SHRI V. P. SINGH : We have no such information about nefarious activities.

Import of Foreign Capital

298. SHRIMATI PRATTBHA SINGH :
SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR : SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to revise its policy regarding import of foreign capital for the exploitation of country's natural resources; and