

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) and (b) Presumably the Members have in mind the proposals submitted by the Govt. of Nagaland for new additions to the existing National Highway System during the 5th Plan period. In this connection they have proposed the following two roads only for inclusion in the National Highway System:-

- (1) Kohima-Wokha-Mokokchung Road.
- (2) Mokokchung-Amguri Road.

These proposals have been noted for consideration along with similar proposals received from other States keeping in view the funds available for the purpose which though are likely to be extremely small, *inter se* priorities of individual proposals on an All-India basis and the extent to which each road satisfies the criteria laid down for declaring roads as National Highways.

**Vegetable and Oil Seed Corporation**

\*508. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 580 given in the Rajya Sabha on The 20th March, 1974 and state:

(a) whether Government have since worked out the details for setting up a Vegetable and Oil Seeds Corporation; and

(b) if so, what is the composition and what are the functions of the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Government of India have since decided that the present is not an opportune time to set up the Corporation.

**Supply of Seed and fertilizers to States**

\*509. SHRI J. S. TILAK :

SHRI KRISHAN KANT :

SHRI GURMUKH SINGH MUSA-

FIR : SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received complaints from certain States regarding supply of bad quality of seeds by the National Seeds Corporation and also inadequate supply of fertilisers; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to ensure supply of good quality of seeds and to rationalise distribution of fertilisers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) The Government have not recently received any specific complaint about the quality of the certified seeds supplied by the National Seeds Corporation. However, Government have received some complaints from the Government of Karnataka regarding the poor quality of foundation seeds of hybrid maize supplied by the Corporation. Some State Governments have represented to the Government of India regarding the inadequacy of supplies of fertilizers.

(b) The responsibility for ensuring the availability of quality seeds required by the farmers, rests primarily with the State Governments. The National Seeds Corporation only supplements the efforts of the State Governments in making available certified seeds. The N.S.C. has undertaken a much larger programme of certified seed production in the current year to increase the supply of good seeds. In fact, by and large, there were no serious difficulties in meeting the seed requirements this year excepting for hybrid bajra. As regards fertilizers, the Government of India have been assessing the requirements for each State with reference to the production programmes proposed to be taken up and the levels of application achieved in each State. Thereafter a coordinated and rational supply plan is drawn up taking into account various factors like the requirement of the State, the economic marketing zones of the factories, the hinterland of the ports, railway logistics, etc.- Internal distribution within the States is left to the State Governments, so that they can make the optimum use of the available fertilisers.