

**Selling up of fertilisers plants**

653. SHRI K M I MUKHERJEE :  
 SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :  
 SHRI KRISHAN KANT :  
 SHRI V. B. RAJU :  
 SHRI GURMUKH SINGH MUSAFIR :  
 SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : SHRI J.  
 S. TILAK : DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

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

(a) whether any time schedule for setting up of five fertilisers plants in the public sector has been drawn up; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An implementation Schedule of 36 months is envisaged for these projects.

**Credit for the proposed fertilizer plants**

654. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state ;

(a) the names of the countries which have offered to provide credit for the proposed five fertilizer plants in the public sector during the Fifth Five Year Plan period ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) :

(a) and (b) The foreign exchange cost of the five projects referred to is expected to be met from, among others, by credit assistance from Japan, France, Italy and Austria. The credit assistance offered by Japan is to the tune of 32.9

billion Yen (equivalent to Rs. 98.7 crores at the current exchange rate). France has offered a special credit of 300 million French francs. The assistance from Italy and Austria may together be about \$32]34 million dollars.

**Revision in irrigation and electricity rates**

655. SHRI K. C. PANDA :  
 SHRI CHANDRAMOULI JACI-  
 GARLAMUDI : SHRI  
 LOKANATH MISRA : SHRI K. P.  
 SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government have asked the States Government^ to revise irrigation rates and electricity tariffs to mobilise additional resources for the Fifth Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, the percentage increase in irrigation rates and electricity tariffs in various States as a result thereof; and

(c) the additional revenue which the State Governments are likely to raise subsequently?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) In order to improve the financial returns on investments on irrigation and power projects and for mobilising additional resources for the Plans, the State Governments have been requested from time to time to seriously consider suitable revision of irrigation rates and electricity tariffs. This has also been emphasised in the report of the Sixth Finance Commission and in the discussions in the National Development Council in December, 1973 and in the draft Fifth Five Year Plan document.

(b) and (c) Action on these items has to be taken by the State Governments. It is not possible to give any details about them at this stage.