

of releases depending on stock position, festivals, seasonal requirements, etc. But there has been no delay in issuing allocations/release orders during the period. The increase in prices of free-sale sugar is on account of other factors.

(e) Does not arise.

Nitrogenous Fertilizer

1064. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA :

SHRI YOGENDRA MAK-
WANA:

With the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Nitrogenous fertilizer in the country;

(b) the demand and requirements of the Nitrogenous fertilizer in the States and allocation thereof during the current year;

(c) whether it is a fact that there is short supply of fertilizer to the Gujarat State;

(d) if so, the quantity of short supply, and the reasons thereof; and

(e) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) The total production of nitrogenous fertilisers in the country is expected to be 11.2 lakh tonnes during the current year i.e. 1973-74.

(b) A statement showing the quantities of Nitrogenous fertilisers asked by the States, requirements finalised and the supplies made to the States, is attached at Annexure I [See Appendix LXXXVI, Annexure No. 64.]

(c) and (d) During Kharif 73 season the State of Gujarat was supplied 88 per cent of its requirements. During the

Rabi 73-74 the supplies to the State so far have been 60 per cent of the proportionate commitments. The shortfalls are a part of the shortage of fertilisers being faced by the country, as a result of lags in domestic production and reduced availability of fertilisers from imports.

(e) Steps are being taken to improve the availability position of fertilisers in the country by taking measures, to achieve enhanced domestic production of fertilisers to import maximum possible quantities of fertilisers and to improve the distribution of fertilisers by rationalising the movement etc. Efforts are also being made to step up the supplies of fertilisers to Gujarat.

Fall in shipping trade

1065. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD ;

SHRI K. B. CHETTRI:

SHRI HARSH DEO MAL-
VIYA:

SHRI SARDAR AMJAD
ALI:

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHARY:

SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KU-
MARI CHUNDAWAT:

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a sharp fall in Indian Ships' share in foreign trade compared to last two years;

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve the situation; and

(d) whether the Director General of Shipping has been asked to thoroughly investigate the causes of decrease in share if so, what are his findings?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMALA-PATI TRIPATHI): (a) to (d) The share

of Indian shipping in the overseas trade of the country since 1969-70 is as follows :—

1969-70—21.34 per cent.

1970-71—19.87 per cent.

1971-72—16.30 per cent.

The figures for 1972-73 are not yet available. The Director General of Shipping, who had investigated the reasons for the fall, attributed it mainly to increased participation of Indian shipping in cross-trades and also to some extent the temporary diversion of some tramp ships and tankers to coastal trade, necessitated by trading conditions which prevailed during 1971-72. At the same time, the overall earnings of Indian Shipping showed a substantial increase of about Rs. 14 crores during 1971-72.

During the 5th Plan, it is proposed to achieve a target of 8.6 million grt. of shipping. It is expected that this Indian tonnage would be adequate to carry 100 per cent of country's overseas trade in crude oil and petroleum products, 50 per cent of iron ore export to Japan, 100 per cent iron ore export to Europe and about 50 per cent of the trade in other commodities as well as 100 per cent of coastal trade.

Incidence of cataract in U.P.

1066. SHRI K. B. CHETTRI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the incidence of cataract in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government have drawn up any scheme to conduct cataract operations in Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) if so, what is the amount sanctioned, and what are the broad features of the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (PROF. A. K. ')

K1SKU): (a) No specific survey has been conducted by the Government in regard to the incidence of cataract in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Yes.

(c) The estimated expenditure on the scheme is about Rs. 16 lakhs out of which Rs. 7,86,000 have so far been sanctioned.

Uttar Pradesh has been divided into 8 Zones for the purpose of treatment of eye ailments. Every Zone has a base-hospital or a Head Quarters. The scheme of eye relief camps will be implemented through these 8 base hospitals.

The scheme will be executed in 47 Districts in plains, excluding the 7 hill Districts. One eye Relief Camp will be organised in every Block of these districts. A target of 100 cataract and other operations is fixed for every camp. In this way there is a target of 80,000 operations for the entire State. One operation is estimated to cost Rs. 20/-.

Redesigning of Government Office Buildings

1067. SHRI KOTA PUNNAIAH :

DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

SHRI KRISHAN KANT;

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR :

SHRI J. S. TILAK : SHRI KALI

MUKHERJEE : SHRI A. G.

KULKARNI: SHRI GURUMUKH SINGH MU9AFIR :

SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY:

Will the Minister of WORK AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether (g)overnment have considered the question of redesigning the new Government office buildings so that air-conditioning therein does not become necessary; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?