

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