

Haldia Dock

510. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work for deepening the channel at Haldia Dock has been started;

(b) if so, by when the work is likely to be completed; and

(c) by when the Dock system will be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI KAMALAPATI TRIPATHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Time-bound programme of deepening the approach channel to provide targetted 40 ft. draught will be completed with progressive improvement in depth by 1980.

(c) Every effort is being made to commission the Haldia Dock system by the middle of 1974.

Import of Fish from Bangladesh

511. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of fish imported from Bangladesh since June, 1973; and

(b) the price at which it was imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASHEB P. SHINDE) : (a) 1855 tonnes of fish were imported from June, 1973 to 2nd November, 1973.

(b) The price varied from Rs. 3,536.00 to Rs. 6,400.00 per tonne.

Construction of Tubewells

512. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tube-wells and bores constructed during 1972-73 and in the current year;

(b) out of them how many have been put into operation;

(c) the number of tube-wells and bores without pumps and the reasons thereof; and

(d) the expenditure incurred in each State and the aid disbursed to the States (State-wise) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) 141,200 tubewells/bore wells were constructed during 1972-73 and 147,000 tubewells/bore wells are targetted for construction during the current year.

(b) and (c) Out of 2,967 State tubewells included in the above figure for the year 1972-73, 1,774 tubewells had been put into operation till the end of the financial year. The rest had not been put into operation due to various reasons such as delay in the completion of the work on energisation, shortage of power, procedural delay in procurement and installation of pumpsets etc. These details about private tubewells/bore wells or for State tubewells under construction during 1973-74 are not available.

(d) Expenditure on tubewell construction is incurred in each State from different sources such as Plan funds under the Minor Irrigation and Rural Electrification Programmes, normal and special lending activities of the various land development, cooperative and commercial banks and the farmers themselves. Scheme-wise accounts of expenditure from all these sources are not available. Central assistance to the States is in the form of block loans and grants for the annual plan as a whole and is not related to any particular scheme.

Price of Edible Oils

513. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the price of edible oils has doubled than the last year's price;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to control prices by forming an edible oils Corporation as to make oils easily available at fair prices; and