

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) The requisite information has since been collected and laid on the Table of the House on 8-8-72 vide statement No. 3/L.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

EMPLOYEES AT JODHPUR RAILWAY WORKSHOP

*313. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:

SHRI GANESH LAL MALI:

SHRIMATI SITA DEVI:

SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of employees at the Railway Workshop at Jodhpur has declined in 1972 as compared to the number employed in the year 1960; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Productivity of staff has increased due to the introduction of the Incentive Scheme. Fresh recruitment was curtailed and existing surplus staff were absorbed against vacancies caused by normal wastage.

FERTILIZER DISTRIBUTION POLICY OF MADRAS FERTILIZER PLANT

*314. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the joint sector Madras Fertilizers is distributing large part of its products through 'foreign-associated at large business house' distributors instead of marketing cent percent products through public sector and cooperative channels;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government directed the private sector Indian Explosives Ltd. to market its fertilizer products through its own distributors instead of using established trade channels; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to secure commanding heights for public sector in fertilizer marketing?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) The share of cooperatives and public sector distribution agencies in the distribution of products of Madras Fertilizers Ltd. during 1972-73 is expected to be about 34% while the share of private sector institutions will be about 66%.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The cooperative and the public distribution systems are being used to the extent possible by the producers who have a measure of freedom in the marketing of their products. The National Commission on Agriculture in their interim Report on "Fertilizer Distribution" have made certain recommendations and these are currently under the consideration of Government.

HELP FOR RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN WEST BENGAL

*315. SADAR AMJAD ALI: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of West Bengal have approached the Central Government for help in the procurement of implements such as poles, wires, insulators etc. for an effective implementation of its programme to electrify 10,000 villages by the end of 1973; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?