

EXPENDITURE ON DESILTATION OF CALCUTTA PORT

1462. SARDAR AMJAD ALI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that expenditure for desiltation of Calcutta Port has increased substantially during the last four years;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any study for ascertaining the reasons of such increase; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the measures Government propose to adopt for reducing the expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) There has been a general increase in the charges during the last 7-8 years.

(b) and (c) The increase in expenditure on river conservancy of Calcutta Port is due to several factors viz., increase in the quantum of dredging, revision of the pay of officers and staff manning the dredgers, training works undertaken by the Port Commissioners to improve the navigability of the river, and increase in the cost of dredging.

The dredging commitments in the river Hooghly upto the estuary are expected to come down with headwater supply from Farakka Barrage to the river Hooghly when the feeder canal from the barrage is completed towards the end of 1973. The Calcutta Port Commissioners have disposed of certain uneconomical dredging craft to save operating expenditure.

In order to assist the Port Commissioners in meeting their financial difficulties arising partly from the large expenditure on dredging and maintenance of the river, the Government of India have agreed to meet 80% of the

cost of river dredging and river maintenance for the years 1968-69 to 1973-74.

देश में ट्रैक्टरों का उत्पादन.

1463. श्री वीरेन्द्र कुमार सखलेचा : क्या कृषि मंत्रों यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में ट्रैक्टरों का उत्पादन उनकी मांग की अपेक्षा कम है जिसके फलस्वरूप ट्रैक्टरों का विदेशों से आयात किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस वर्ष कितने ट्रैक्टरों का आयात किया जा रहा है और पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान कितने ट्रैक्टरों का आयात किया गया ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि देश में ट्रैक्टर बनाने वाले कंपनियों को 1971-72 के वर्ष में ट्रैक्टरों के मूल्य में कई हजार रुपये की वृद्धि करने की अनुमति दी गई थी; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो उन्हें ट्रैक्टरों का मूल्य इतना अधिक बढ़ाने की अनुमति किन कारणों से दी गई थी ?

†[PRODUCTION OF TRACTORS IN THE COUNTRY]

1463. SHRI V. K. SAKHALECHA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of tractors in the country is less than their demand as a result of which tractors are being imported from abroad;

(b) if so, what is the number of tractors that are being imported this year and the number of tractors imported during the last three years ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the tractor manufacturing companies in the country were permitted to increase the price of tractors by thousands of rupees during the year 1971-72 ; and

†[] English translation.