

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA : the coordinating Ministry is the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry. Therefore, it is very reasonable of the hon. Members to ask the Parliamentary Affairs minister to ascertain from the different Ministries and place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : May I submit that the Members expect us to function as efficiently as possible? And I think 'efficient' means cutting down delays. Instead of routing the enquiries through me, if notices are given direct to the Ministries, they will answer them much more quickly than through the medium of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

* 367. [The questioner (Shri K. L. N. Prasad) was absent. For answer, vide. col 37 *infra*]

CONSUMPTION PRICES OF FERTILIZERS

*535. **SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL** ; †
SHRI K. C. PANDA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the consumption prices of fertilisers in the country during the last one year and how do these prices compare with the prices in various developing and developed countries; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to reduce the prices of fertilisers so that the same may be within the reach of all farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) the retail prices of important imported fertilizer for the farmers during the last one

year and the current prices effective from 17.3.72 are as under :

(Rupees Per M. T.)

Name of fertiliser	Prices as Prievalent from 1.4.71 to 16. 3. 72	Prices from 17.3.72 After imposition of 5%additional duty.
Ammonium Sulphate	529	549
Urea (46 per cent N)	923	959
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (26 percent N)	575	594

The maximum retail prices of the fertilisers mentioned above are statutorily fixed for both the imported and indigenously produced fertilisers. Regarding the other fertilisers, both imported and indigenously manufactured, like Ammonium phosphate- Ammunium Nitro Phosphate, Super-Phosphate, NPK complex fertilisers, etc., there is no statutory prices control; but their prices prevail more or less at the levels of prices of nitrogen, phosphate and potash nutrients of fertilisers imported by Government.

The prices of fertilisers prevailing in same developing and developed countries *vis-a-vis* India as available in the latest available F. 4, O. publication are shown in Appendix (*see* below). It will be seen therefrom that the prices of fertilisers in India are relatively high. But it is also to be noted that the prices of agricultural produce in India are comparatively higher than in several other countries. Scientific use of fertilisers, despite their relatively high price, bring in reasonable profits for the farmers. In some countries there is also an element of subsidy. The policy of Government is not to subsidise inputs but to offer incentive prices to the farmers for out-put.

(b) the prices of imported fertilisers depend upon the cost of procurement from abroad. Every effort is made by Government to import fertilisers at the lowest possible cost. Government continuously review the prices of these fertilisers and reduce the prices whenever possible. In fact, the prices of certain varieties of Ammonium Sulphate were reduced by Rs. 100 per tonne in 1969-70 and Urea by Rs. 20 per tonne in March, 1971.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the house by Shri Sunder Mani Patel.

(Fertiliser Prices paid by Farmers (1967-68)
(Rs. per M. T. of plant Nutrient content in the material)

Country	Ammonium Sulphate N	Urea N	Single (a) Superphosphate (P205)	Muriate of (b) Potash (K20)
India (71-72)	2500	2001	2000	872
India (69-70)	2567	2050	2001	872
India (68-69)	2390	1870	2077	808
India (c) (1966-67)	2032	1567	1695	555
Australia	1987	1950	847	585 60percent
Belgium	2047	1770	1455	607 60percent (bulk)
France	2070	—	1785	697 60percent
West Germany	2055	1935	1702	600 50percent
Netherlands	2100	—	1770	697 60Percent
U. K.	1342	—	1132	682 45percent
Japan	1920	1687	1792	727 „
U. S. A.	2160	1800	1740	735 „
U. A. R. (1966-67)	2242	2280	1380	—
Canada	2220	1747	1732	650
East Bengal (1966-67)	1282	1035 (40percent N)	1485	—
Pakistan West	1627	1642	1925	—

(a) Below 25 Per cent P205

(b) Above 45 percent K20

(c) The prices in India are simple monthly averages (July-June)

NOTES : Prices are those paid by farmers at the farm gate and relate to the period July-June. They are shown with subsidies deducted wherever 'possible.' Exceptions to these general features are given below :—

Australia : Prices of fertilisers at nearest railway station. Prices are for 20 ton lots. Nitrogenous fertilisers are unsubsidized.

West Germany : Prices at nearest railway station. Prices 2 for 20 ton lot.

U. A. R. : Prices at retail stores.

Canada : Prices at nearest railway station.

East Bengal : Prices shown with deduction of subsidy at 53 percent to maintain prices at the level established in 1961. No subsidy allowed to the Pakistan Tea Association, Pakistan Tobacco Company and sugar estates.

Pakistan West : Subsidy of 50 per cent has been reduced from prices shown.

U. K. : Prices of Muriate of Potash. Price at nearest railway station.

U. S. A. : Prices at retail store.

India : Prices at retail stores.

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL Sir, Government have admitted in the statement that the prices of indigenous fertilisers in India are relatively higher than in other countries—I mean imported fertilisers. Government have also admitted that their policy is not to have subsidised imports but to offer incentive prices to the farmers for higher output. My first question is what are the factors which are responsible for the higher production cost in our country?

(b) what are the incentives to the farmers for more output? This is my first question.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, various elements go into the cost of production. Labour, fertiliser, irrigation, electricity and many other items go in as inputs into agriculture. I can go on enlisting them.

MR CHAIRMAN It is not necessary.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Now, the incentives are, for instance, the price policies of the Government of India. Through them incentives are given. Then in regard to plant protection measures and supply of seeds, a number of provisions are there by which farmers are helped through various Government agencies. But the price mechanism and the marketing organisation are the main instruments by which encouragement is given to farmers.

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL Sir, I asked what are the incentives for more output? That has not been answered.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, unless the hon. Member indicates what type of incentives he has in mind, I cannot give a reply. I have enunciated the Government's policy.

SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL What is the percentage of imported fertiliser in our consumption for the last one year?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Broadly 60 per cent of the fertilisers are indigenously produced and 40 per cent are imported. But this proportion is changing every year and every year our indigenous production is increasing. Only in the case of potash, which is not indigenously produced, we have to import 100 per cent from outside.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV The Minister has said that there is no statutory price control for the imported fertilisers which is 40 per cent of our consumption

usually, and that the prices of Indian fertilisers are very high as compared to the prices of fertilisers prevailing in other countries like Australia, the U.K., the U.S.A. and even Pakistan. Now, is it a fact that the high price of fertilisers is due to heavy taxation and a high percentage of profit to the manufacturers and middlemen? Will the Minister give an assurance that he will reduce the prices?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, as far as the imported fertilisers are concerned, there is a pool under the Government and it is operated on a no-profit, no-loss basis. As far as the cost structure of fertilisers is concerned, of course, taxation is there. Two years ago a 10 per cent duty was levied on fertilisers and this year a 5 per cent duty has been levied. But unfortunately the cost of domestic fertilisers is also relatively higher, as compared to other countries. Therefore, the price levels in our country are relatively higher. That is what I have explained in my statement.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV I asked whether it was also because the Government is permitting the manufacturers to earn a high percentage of profit and the middlemen are also given more profit than is required.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Sir, Ammonium Sulphate, Urea and Calcium Ammonium Nitrate, these are the important fertilisers and their prices are completely controlled. Regarding the rest like Ammonium Phosphate, Ammonium Nitro-Phosphate, Super Phosphate and NPK complex fertilisers, the Government examines their prices from time to time. Though they are not statutorily controlled, they compare favourably with the prices of basic fertilisers like Urea and others which go to form these complex fertilisers.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA The hon. Minister has said that at least 40 per cent of the fertiliser consumption of this country is imported. May I know what happens to the price difference? The statement given by the hon. Minister shows that there is a difference of Rs 700 per tonne between the fertiliser indigenously produced and the fertiliser imported from abroad. What happens to this Rs 700? Who takes it away? Or do I take it that the imported fertiliser is made available to the agriculturists at a reduced price to the extent of Rs 700 and he reaps the benefit out of it?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE We operate on the basis of pooled prices. That means all the imported prices are pooled together, then transport costs are added to that, and fertilisers are made available at the same price everywhere, whether it is in far off areas in the hill districts or in the coastal areas. When I was mentioning the principle the honourable Member obviously was not attentive.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA What is that price ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Why are you not listening ? Sir, the honourable Member was in fact not attentive, I said the Government pool operates on a no-profit-no-loss basis. That means all prices are pooled together and the average is the price.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA Do you know the price ? After all these answers, what is the price ? That is what I wanted to know.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE I would again draw the attention of the honourable Member and I would seek his protection because he is unnecessarily agitated, the statement laid on the Table of the House gives the prices of various fertilisers.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA Kindly understand me, Do not misunderstand me. What is the price ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE I would also like to inform the honourable Member that ammonium sulphate price was Rs 529 per ton between 1-4-1971 and 16-5-1971. As a result of increase of 5 percent duty, it is now Rs 549. For urea which has 46 percent Nitrogen the price was Rs 923, and now it is Rs 959 as a result of 5 per cent duty.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA Kindly do not read any more. What I wanted to know is suppose in the U K in the open market ammonium sulphate is Rs 1342, do you get it at that rate and do you add your transport charges and then you supply it to your farmer at Rs 1500 ? Do you do that ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE We purchase fertilisers from different countries. Their prices are different. The brands are different, All those prices are pooled together. As I said, we do not earn any profit on it.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA What is the price ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE Last year we found that the pool was earning some profit and so we reduced the price of ammonium sulphate. We also reduced the price of urea. Therefore, no-profit-no-loss basis is the general line in which the pool operates.

SHRI A G KULKARNI Does the pool mean the prices of Indian fertilisers and the prices of imported fertilisers are averaged together and then supplied to the consumers ?

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE No, no. Indigenous fertiliser manufacturers are free to sell those fertilisers in the open market. The only point I mentioned was so far in regard to three items the prices are controlled at the same level and they are also pooled together.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव मै मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हू कि जब सभी चीज मे आत्मनिर्भर बनने की बात चल रही है तो फर्टिलाइजर्स के मामले मे कब तक आत्मनिर्भर हो जायेगे और वह जो दर आपने निश्चित की है वह दर क्या है। मै जानना चाहता हू कि किसानो को जिस दर पर बेचते है वह दर क्या है। जो दर आपने सेटर मे तय किया है और जिस दर पर वाकई मे किसान परचेजकरना है वह दर क्या है।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE As regards the first part of the honourable Member's question, of course, it is the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals which is in charge of production. But by and large, according to the projections which the Government has prepared, we expect that we will have self-sufficiency in fertilisers by 1976.

SHRI S D MISRA Not at all.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE but excluding Potash. We will have to import that,

श्री वीरेन्द्र कुमार सकलेचा क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेगे कि आपने बताया है कि अन्य देशो मे तो सबमिडाइज किया जाता है और अपने यहा पर रेम्युरेटिव प्राइसेज के मिलने के आधार पर आप

सबसिडाइज नहीं करते है जब कि यहां किसानों की हालत बहुत खराब है ।

श्री एस० डी० मिश्र : उस पर इम्पोर्ट ड्युटी लगा दी है ।

श्री वीरेन्द्र कुमार सकलेचा : आपने ड्युटी लगा कर के यूरिया की प्राइस गत दो तीन साल के अन्दर काफी बढ़ाई है जब कि मार्केट के अन्दर गेहू के भाव नीचे जा रहे है । पहले जो सौ रुपये क्विंटल था वह आज 72 रुपये क्विंटल है, तो आखिर सरकार ने किस आधार पर सोचा कि रेम्युनरेटिव प्राइसेज उनको मिल रही है जब कि आप प्राइसेज कम करने की बात कर रहे हैं ।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : I would appeal to the honourable Member not to be angry...

MR. CHAIRMAN : He is not angry. He is only vigorously putting the question.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : All right. My submission would be that the very fact that agricultural production is coming up very fast is an indication that the country is going to reach the stage of self-sufficiency in foodgrains...

श्री वीरेन्द्र कुमार सकलेचा : परिणाम आप नहीं बता रहे हैं ।

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : ... and the consumption of fertiliser is increasing at a faster rate. This indicates that the price policy and the inputs are in the interests of production...

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Production has allowed down. It is not picking up.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE : Your information is not upto date.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COLLECTION OF ELECTION FUNDS BY TEACHERS OF D. M. C.

* 532. **SHRI GANESHI LAL CHAUDHARY :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the *The Mother-Land*, dated the 25th January, 1972 to the effect that the local unit of the Congress Party was pressurising the teacher and students of Delhi Municipal Corporation schools to collect election fund ; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (PROF. D. P. YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir. But according to the information furnished by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, the allegation is not correct.

(b) does not arise.

बस्तियों का गिराया जाना

* 533. **श्री सूरज प्रसाद :** क्या निर्माण और आवास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 25 दिसम्बर, 1971 को दिल्ली विकास अधिकरण ने यमुना पार की लक्ष्मी नगर कालोनी को गिरा दिया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण थे?

†[DEMOLITION OF COLONIES

*533. **SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Lakshmi Nagar Colony across the river Jamna in Delhi was demolished by Delhi Development Authority on the 25th December, 1971; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

निर्माण और आवास तथा स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री (श्री उमा शंकर दीक्षित) :

(क) और (ख) इस कालोनी में सरकारी भूमि पर बनाई गई कुछ अनधिकृत संरचनाओं तथा चार दीवारियों को 25 और 26 दिसम्बर, 1971 को गिराया गया था । भूमि एक अत्या-