

^a) the main recommendations made I by the Tariff Commission in their report on the cost structure of sugar ; and

(b) the details of the recommendation accepted by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) and (b) A copy of the Report of the Tariff Commission (1969) on the cost structure of sugar, alongwith a copy of the Government Resolution No. 2-1/70-S. Py., dated 20th February, 1970 indicating the position in respect of Government's decision on its recommendations was placed on the Table of the House on 26th February, 1970.

CONSUMPTION OF FERTILIZERS

244. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :
SHRI R. P. KHAITAN :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Fertilizer Consumption *n the country has been showing a downward trend ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have investigated the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to augment the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE) : (a) The consumption of fertilisers increased by 14% in 1969-70 over the level of 1968-6^, according to reports received from the States in March, 1970. This rate of increase in the consumption of fertilisers is, however, lower than the planned growth rate.

(b) and (c) The main reasons for low level of consumption, in comparison to the targets, are lack of timely and adequate rainfall in certain areas, lack of adequate credit to the farmers, rigidity in distribution system and gaps in extension work.

The Government are considering a schem* to guarantee re-payment of credit i extended by bankers to farmers and fertiliser dealers. The commercial banks are encouraged to provide greater credit I

facilities to larmers and dealers of fertilisers. The system of licensing of feVtiliser dealers has been replaced with a system of registration so as to increase the number of sale points in the country. The national demonstration and farm training schemes have been strengthened to bring to the farmer the latest technology on agriculture, including optimum and balanced use of fertilisers. The Government are also actively considering establishment of a Fertiliser Promotion Council for promoting optimum and balanced use of fertiliser.

संसद् सदस्यों के लिये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन
245. सरदार गुरुचरण सिंह टोहड़ा :
क्या सूचना तथा प्रसारण और संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उन संसद् सदस्यों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके स्थायी निवास-स्थानों पर अभी तक टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था नहीं की गई है ;

(ख) इस विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार को इसकी जानकारी है कि संसद् सदस्यों को उनके स्थायी निवास स्थानों पर टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था न होने के कारण बड़ी कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है ; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

*f [TELEPHONE CONNECTION FOR M. Ps.

245. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Members of Parliament at whose permanent resi-dences telephones not so far been provided ;

(b) what are the Reasons for this delay ;

(c) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Members of Parliament have to face a great difficulty for want of telephone facility at their permanent residences ; and

(d) if so, what action is being taken by Government in this regard ?]

j[] English translation.

सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय और संचार विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (प्रो० शेर सिंह) : (क) तथा (ख) सूचना संकलित की जा रही है और शीघ्र ही सभा-घटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

(ग) तथा (घ) मंसद सदस्यों के लिए आवास तथा टेलीफोन सुविधा निम्नान्वली, 1969 के अनुसार संसद सदस्य के सामान्य आवास के स्थान या उसके द्वारा चुने गए स्थान पर टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था की जानी है। चुने हुए सदस्यों के मामले में यह स्थान उस राज्य में होना चाहिए जिसका वे प्रतिनिधित्व करने हैं और नामजद सदस्यों के मामले में यह स्थान सदन के अध्यक्ष द्वारा अनुमोदित होना चाहिए, बशर्ते कि सदस्य द्वारा चुना गया स्थान या सदस्य द्वारा अनुमोदित स्थान मौजूदा टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज के प्रचालन क्षेत्र के भीतर हो।

उपर्युक्त नियमों के अनुसार अधिकांश संसद सदस्यों के लिए टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था की जा चुकी है। बकाया मांगों में से अधिकांश संबंधित एक्सचेंज के स्थानीय क्षत्र के बाहर की हैं, जिनके लिए टेलीफोन की व्यवस्था करने से पहले राज्य-सभा सचिवालय को बदा हुआ किराया देने की स्वीकृति देनी होगी।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH) : (a) and (b) The information is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha shortly.

(c) and (d) According to the Housing and Telephone Facilities (Members of Parliament) Amendment Rules, 1969, telephones are to be provided at the usual place of residence or at a place selected by the Member, or at a place situated within the State which he represents, in the case of an elected Member, and the place approved by the Chairman of the House in the case of a nominated Member, provided that the places selected by

the Member or approved by the Chairman lies within the area of operation of an existing Telephone Exchange.

In accordance with the above rules telephones have already been provided for the majority of M.Ps. Most of the pending demands are for places outside the local area of the concerned exchange for which enhanced rentals are required to be accepted by the Rajya Sabha Sectt. before the telephone can be provided.]

PUNJAB WHEAT TO CENTRE

246. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab will contribute the biggest share of two and half million tons of wheat to the procurement pool this year ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government of Punjab have suggested that the procurement prices for wheat should be increased because the cost of production in the State had gone up by more than Rs. 4 per quintal ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAEB SHINDE) : (a) The target of wheat procurement in Punjab is 2.5 million tonnes for this year.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government, after considering the recommendations of the Agricultural Prices Commission on Price Policy for Rabi foodgrains for 1970-71 marketing season and the views expressed by the Chief Ministers of Rabi States at a Conference held on the 22nd March, 1970, fixed the prices of wheat for 1970-71 season at the same level as that for 1969-70 marketing season.

TOTAL PROCUREMENT OF FOODGRAINS

247. SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take over total procurement of foodgrain; and