

**RAJYA SABHA**

*Friday, the 28th March, 1969/the 7th Chaitra, 1891 (Saka)*

The House met at e'even of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

**MEMBER SWORN**

Shri Deodao Krishnarao Jadhav  
(Madhya Pradesh).

**ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****ACCUMULATION OF SUPERPHOSPHATE**

\*719. SHRI M. M. DHARIA:† SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an accumulation of about 11 million tons of Superphosphate due to lack of publicity about its utility; and

(b) if so, the effective measures taken or proposed to be taken for its speedy distribution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

(a) The stock of superphosphate with the factories, on the 1st January, 1969 was 1,79,424 tonnes only. This is only 11 months production and may not be considered unusually heavy in view of the fact that during this period, demand for superphosphate in particular is generally slack. "However, there were difficulties in marketing of superphosphate, due to "various reasons, introduction of complex fertilisers, lack of efficient marketing organization and absence of

promotional measures on the part of the superphosphate manufacturers.

(b) The Government took immediate steps for curtailing the import of phosphatic fertilisers, staggering shipments of these fertilisers and persuading the State Governments to lift stocks of superphosphate in the first instance before asking for imported phosphatic fertilisers. The Government have also brought home to the indigenous industry the importance of establishing efficient marketing organization and of adopting modern commercial practices.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, is the Government aware that because of the acceptance of complex fertilisers by farmers in the country they are reluctant to have this superphosphate and it is one of the main reasons why the stocks have accumulated and, if so, is there any thought in the minds of the Government to have complex fertilisers in the Fourth Five Year Plan? Otherwise, the present production is bound to become saturated.

SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir the thinking of the hon. Member is very much in the right direction and my Ministry and the Government of India have also come to similar conclusions, and that is why my Ministry has addressed a letter to the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals that in future the complex fertilisers are likely to be more acceptable to the farmers and they are more economical. And therefore, all these-problems, from a production angle, have to be tackled by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals.

SHRI M. M. DHARIA: When the hon. Minister has so fairly conceded it, may I know whether in the Fourth Five Year Plan all possible endeavours will be made to see that complex fertilisers are produced in this country and that the present production is not allowed to go down? SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE: Sir, the fertiliser projects which are being put up and which have been already implemented, they are taking

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. M. Dharia.