

Establishment of new railway zone at Visakhapatnam

*3. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Committee of Senior Officers set up to examine the feasibility of establishing a new railway zone at Visakhapatnam has not commenced its work till date;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any time-limit was given to the Committee to submit its report; and

(d) if not, by when the Committee will submit its report and by when Government will take a decision on establishing a separate railway zone at Visakhapatnam?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Committee has already submitted its report. The same is under examination.

Fall in prices of DAP fertilizers

*4. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY.: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether average landed cost of DAP has fallen from US \$ 650 per tonne in 2011-12 to about US\$ 370 per tonne now;

(b) if so, the reasons for which the price of DAP, hovering at ₹ 20,000 per tonne (without taxes), has gone up to around ₹ 25,000 per tonne (without taxes) between 2014 and 2016;

(c) whether in spite of global prices of MOP (Muriate of Potash) falling by one-third between 2011 and 2012, the overall reduction is just 1000 per tonne; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not transferring the benefit of low prices to farmers by Government?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR):

(a) and (b) The annual average FMB prices of DAP, MRP fixed by the companies and NBS rates during the year 2011-12 to 2016-17 are given in the Statement (See below).