

(b) A provision of Rs. 39801 crore for subsidies given by the Central Government was made in the Budget Estimates for 2002-03. Out of this, a provision of Rs. 11228 crore was made for subsidy on urea and concession on sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers. Thus, the percentage of fertilizer subsidy to the total subsidy is approximately 28.21 %.

Urea scam

349. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that urea scam case has been closed by the CBI;

(b) the names of the officials of the personal staff of the then Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers, who were found involved and whose names find mention in the FIR/chargesheet; and

(c) the action proposed by the CBI in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) No Sir, the trial on a day today basis against the accused persons in the urea scam case is in progress in the Court of Shri A.K. Garg, Special Judge, Tis Hazari, New Delhi.

(b) None of the personal staff of the then Minister (C&F) were named in the FIR nor have been chargesheeted in the case. However, Shri Prakash Chandra Yadav, son of Shri Ram Lakhan Singh Yadav, the then Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers has been chargesheeted in the case as one of the accused.

(c) The trial of the accused persons chargesheeted in the urea scam case is progressing.

Bio-fertilizer and ethanol plant

350. SHRI RUMANDLA RAAMACHANDRAYYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Biotechnology, Bio-Genus India has signed letter of intent to set up Prawn Bio-Fertilizer and ethanol plant in Kakinada with an investment of Rs. 300 crore;

- (b) if so, what are the details of the project; and
- (c) by when it is likely to start?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) No such proposal has been received by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers from Bio-Genus India.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Impact of fertilizer policy on various companies

†351. SHRI RK. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) what would be the impact of new fertilizer policy on various companies;
- (b) the names of the companies which will be benefited together with the names of the companies which will suffer a loss;
- (c) whether Government have conducted any study in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (d) The new pricing policy for urea units, scheduled to come into effect from 1.4.2003, has been formulated with the objective of encouraging efficiency based fertilizer pricing. The new scheme will be implemented in stages. Stage-I would be of one year duration, from 1.4.2003 to 31.3.2004. Stage-II would be of two years duration, from 1.4.2004 to 31.3.2006. The modalities of the subsequent stages would be decided after review of the implementation of the scheme during the Stage-I and Stage-II.

Under the new pricing policy, the existing urea units shall be given a concession which may be at the group concession rate or actual of the unit if it is lower than the group concession rate. In such a scenario, the urea units having low efficiency levels face the challenge of revamping

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.