

## AMMONIUM SULPHATE (DISTRIBUTION)

\*606. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India have agreed to supply to West Bengal Government free of cost 50,000 tons of ammonium sulphate to be used on lands exclusively for cultivation of paddy;

(b) whether it is a fact that this ammonium sulphate fertilizer will be distributed to farmers in West Bengal as a loan, which will be paid back in the form of paddy or rice; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, whether Government propose to adopt the same basis of distribution in the case of other States also?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The Government of India have agreed to sell 50,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia to the West Bengal Government for which it is proposed to give them a short term loan.

(b) Yes. The recovery will be in cash or kind at the choice of the farmer.

(c) The State Governments are being consulted.

**Shri L. J. Singh:** May I know what are the demands from the various States for ammonium sulphate and will the hon. Minister please state State-wise?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** If the hon. Member wants it for this year 1953, the amounts are still under negotiation between the Central Government and the States and final figures are not yet available.

**Shrimati Kamalendu Mati Shah:** May I know if we have got information as to for how many years this fertilizer is being used in other countries, and with what results?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** In India we have been using it for a number of years with very good results.

**Shrimati Kamalendu Mati Shah:** How many years?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I have not got the information.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Good number of years is sufficient.

**Shri L. J. Singh:** What is the basis of repayment?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I think the hon. Member means the same part of the question he has asked, namely, whether we are going to insist on payment in cash or in kind. As I have said, we propose to give this choice to the farmers in every possible case.

**Shri Achuthan:** May I know whether the Government expects to meet the full demand from the States?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I should think so.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know the amount that the Madras State has demanded?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** Madras has 110,000 tons in store.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What is the agency of distribution: Is it through private agencies or through your own agents?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It varies from State to State. We allot the quantity required to the State concerned. Then, they distribute either through Co-operative societies, or sometimes through the officers of the Agriculture and Revenue departments or through firms.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know the price that will have to be paid by the West Bengal Government for this ammonium sulphate?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am glad to state that the prices originally fixed have been considerably reduced. They have been reduced to Rs. 290 instead of Rs. 335 which was the pool price for this year as against Rs. 365 which was the pool price last year.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know what will be the price of the products in kind that the Government wants to be repaid?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It will work out roughly to about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  maunds of paddy or one maund of rice.

**सेठ अबल सिंह :** क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश को कितना फ़रटीलाइज़र दिया गया है।

**डा० पी० ऐस० बेसमूख :** अभी दिया नहीं गया है। उन के पास कुछ क्वान्टिटी मौजूद है। शायद इस साल वह ४० हजार टन लेंगे।

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether any other State Government has asked for this fertiliser on the basis of a loan?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is not the basis for asking. The State Government concerned asked for the quantity that it wants. This question whether it is to be repaid in cash or in kind comes up later. Liberty is given to every State to pay either in cash or in kind.

Several Hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We have spent five or six minutes on this question. Next question.

VILLAGE WORKERS' TRAINING CENTRE

\*608. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Workers' Training Centres so far established in connection with the Community Project Programme along with the places where they are located;

(b) the amount of financial assistance both recurring and non-recurring received for their establishment and maintenance from the United States Technical Co-operation Agreement and Ford Foundation; and

(c) whether any Americans are working in any capacity at any of these centres and if so, what is their number and where are they working?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Thirty-four Training Centres in connection with the Community Project Programme have so far been sanctioned. A statement showing the location is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 35].

(b) (i) *Non-recurring:*

The T. C. A. have promised a sum of \$ 166,000 in the shape of equipment to be imported from the U. S. A.

(ii) *Recurring:*

The Ford Foundation have agreed to meet an expenditure of Rs. 111,56,960, out of which a sum of Rs. 42,93,650 has so far been received.

(c) Eleven American Experts are attached as Advisers to 11 Training Centres as follows:—

Madhya Pradesh	}	2
Punjab		
U. P.	}	1 each.
Bhopal		
Hyderabad		
PEPSU		
Travancore-Cochin		
West Bengal		
Bombay		
Mysore		

**Shri Krishna Chandra:** May I know whether these Americans hold any administrative control?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No, Sir; in no case.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** When there are 34 centres, may I know why there are only 11 American experts to guide the centres?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The rest can be looked after by us. In any case, hon. Members opposite are always criticising us for having more experts.

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** यह ३४ केन्द्रों की संख्या जो माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी बतलाई, क्या ये केन्द्र इस वर्ष के हैं या यह संख्या और आगे बढ़ाई जाने वाली है या अभी कुछ वर्षों तक ३४ केन्द्र ही रहेंगे ?

**डा० पी० एस० बेशमुख :** यह तो और बढ़ाने की कोशिश है। अब तक इतने ही हो सके हैं, आगे और भी हो सकेंगे।

**Shri B. K. Das:** How many trainees have come out of these centres so far?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I can give the numbers, Sir. Roughly 450 have already been trained and about 600 to 700 are under training.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Arising out of the answer given that 23 out of 34 centres are managing without any foreign experts, may I know, Sir, what is the necessity for having even these experts?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I do not know if a foreign expert is expected to confine himself only to one centre or...?