

were recorded against the FPS holders concerned for taking action under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. In 65 cases proceedings for suspension/cancellation of the authorisation of FPS were initiated. In 663 cases proceedings for the imposition of penalties on the authorisation holders were initiated.

Production and Marketing

5022. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL :
DR. RAVI MALLU :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of the Government regarding production and marketing of chemicals and fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said policy is being reviewed from time to time.

(d) if so, whether there is any controversy involved therein; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) to (e) Out of the three main fertilizer nutrients required for agriculture, raw materials are available in the country mainly for nitrogen. The Government policy has aimed at achieving optimum self-sufficiency in the production of nitrogenous fertilizers based on the utilisation of indigenous feedstocks. The major requirement of phosphate, either in the form of raw materials or finished fertilizers, and the entire requirement of potash, are imported. There are no known commercially exploitable potash reserves in the country.

At present, urea is the only fertilizer which is under price, distribution and movement control. The requirement of urea for each crop season is assessed in respect of each State and Union Territory and a detailed supply plan indicating the quantities to be supplied by the manufacturers is formulated. The gap between the requirement so assessed and the likely availability through domestic sources is bridged by imported urea. In the case of all other fertilizers, which are made by the Central Government. The demand and supply of decontrolled fertilizers are governed by the market forces. The scheme of concession on the sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilizers also influences the demand and supply of these fertilizers. Government is not aware of any controversy in regard to the marketing policy of fertilizers.

Consequent upon the liberalisation of the Industrial Policy in July 1991, the production of chemicals, with the exception of a few hazardous chemicals, has been delicensed. The entrepreneurs are only required to file an Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum (I.E.M.) with the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion before taking up the production of these items. In respect of hazardous chemicals, an Industrial Licence is required for its production, which is granted by Government taking into consideration various aspects like environmental pollution, safety angle, etc. Government does not monitor the pricing, distribution or marketing of chemicals in the country.

[English]

Reimbursement of Security related Expenditure

5023. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have reimbursed security related expenditure to the State of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the requests from some other States including Tripura for reimbursement of security related expenditure are pending with the Union Government; and

(d) if so, the time by which the reimbursement is likely to be made by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Central Government has reimbursed Rs. 1045.31 crores to the State of Jammu and Kashmir during the period 1990-98 (which includes Rs. 146.97 crores for elections) and Rs. 131.91 crores to the State of Assam for the period 1990-95, as security related expenditure.

In the case of Punjab, no security related expenditure was reimbursed. However the instalments of Principal and interest for the years 1997-2000 pertaining to the Special Term Loans given to Punjab during the years 1984-85 to 1993-94, amounting to Rs. 2114.66 crores, has been waived by centre.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Central Government are in the process of formulating and finalising the eligibility criteria and the

guidelines for reimbursement of security related expenditure in respect of North-Eastern States. Reimbursement would be possible after approval of the guidelines and adequate provision of funds in this regard.

Naphtha Based Urea Factory

5024. SHRI LAKSHMAN CHANDRA SETH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to give clearance to naphtha based urea factory; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. A.K. PATEL) : (a) and (b) No industrial licence is normally required for setting up a fertilizer plant. Due assistance in securing feedstock linkages is provided to the entrepreneurs seeking to set up fertilizer plants. The allocation of naphtha is made by Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas. The processing of requests for naphtha allocation in respect of six project proposals has been kept on hold pending finalisation of the decision of the Government on the Report of the High Powered Fertilizers Pricing Policy Review Committee. These proposals pertain to the States of Andhra Pradesh (2), Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh.

Child Labourer

5025. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of child labourer engaged in agricultural and domestic sectors, State-wise;

(b) the details of child labourer engaged in glass, bangle, fire-works and match factories; and

(c) the action plan formulated to abolish child labour in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) : (a) and (b) Industry-wise figures of the number of working children are not maintained.

(c) Government have taken a series of steps for the elimination of child labour working in hazardous occupations. Under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children is

prohibited in 7 occupations and 18 processes contained in parts A & B of the schedule to the Act. National Child Labour Projects have been set up for rehabilitation of child labour working in hazardous occupations. A major activity undertaken under the child labour projects is the establishment of special schools to provide non-formal education, vocational training, nutrition, stipend, health-care etc. So far 76 child labour projects have been set up for the rehabilitation of 1.5 lakh working children in 11 child labour endemic states. This issue was also deliberated up-or by Hon'ble Supreme Court, which has given several directions, in its Judgement dated 10.12.96, including payment of compensation by the employers employing children in hazardous occupation. The Government has already taken a number of steps to implement these directions.

[Translation]

Modernisation of Police

5026. SHRI MOTILAL VORA :
SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE:
SHRI K.P. NAIDU :
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to modernise the State police force in the country particularly in military affected States;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the budget provisions made by the Government in this regard during the current financial year, State-wise;

(d) the total amount demanded by each State for the year 1998-99;

(e) whether these demands have been examined by the Government; and

(f) if so, the final decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI) : (a) to (f) Since "Police" is a State subject as per the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India, it is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments to modernise their police forces. However, to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in the matter of