

(b) if so, the reasons for delay and the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An automatic Exchange of 600 lines MAX-II is under installation. The installation could not start earlier due to want of Mains Power Supply. The exchange is now expected to be commissioned by September 1990.

Consumption of Fertilizer in Tea Gardens

10385. SHRI A. K. ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity and type of fertiliser consumed in the tea gardens of North Bengal;

(b) whether the feed stock for making fertilizer at Barauni comes from Assam through pipe line passing through North Bengal;

(c) if so, details thereof;

(d) whether it is possible and viable to tap the feed stock in North Bengal and utilise it for making fertiliser required for the area; and

(e) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard in the Eighth Five Year Plan?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) The present annual estimated consumption of various fertilizers in the tea gardens of North Bengal is as follows:-

Urea	-	18600 te.
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Ammonium Sulphate	-	5000 te.
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SSP	-	6000 te.
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Muriate of Potash	-	15000te.
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(b) and (c). No, Sir. The feed stock for making fertilizers at the Barauni plant is naphtha, which is produced in the Barauni Refinery and is not moved through the pipeline from Assam.

(d) and (e). The consumption of nitrogenous fertilizers in the North Bengal area is met by the production in the Namrup fertilizer plants and there is no proposal under consideration for setting up a new fertilizer plant in North Bengal.

[Translation]

Central Assistance to Madhya Pradesh for Drought Relief

10386. SHRI RAGHAVJI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has submitted any proposal for seeking grants to handle the severe drought and drinking water problems in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of grants proposed to be sanctioned by Government to the State in 1990-91 to tackle severe drought and drinking water problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). Government of Madhya Pradesh submitted a memorandum on drought situation and drinking water management on 16th April, 1990 seeking Central assistance