

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : कैमिकल्स जो देश में तैयार किये जाते हैं उन की कीमत तय करने के लिये गवर्नमेंट के पास कोई मशीनरी है या नहीं ? शायद श्री मधु लिमये ने दाम 7,000 रुपये टन बतलाया है, जिस पर यहां बोरेक्स बिकता है। जब इतने जरूरी कैमिकल्स हमारे यूज में आते हैं तब उन की कीमत तय करने के लिये कोई मशीनरी है या नहीं, और अगर है तो कीमत तय होती है या नहीं ?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN : I will have to find it out.

श्री राम चरण : इंडिया में जो ड्रग मैन्युफैक्चरर हैं वह बहुत सी मेडिसिन्स तैयार करते हैं, ऐसे टैब्लेट ए पी सी है, विटैमिन बी कम्प्लैक्स है, विटैमिन सी है, बेनेजोलिन टेब्लेट्स हैं। इन का अकाउंटिंग टु इंडिया ड्रग्स ऐक्ट आई० पी० 66, एक प्रेस्क्राइब्ड स्टैंडर्ड के अनुसार मैन्युफैक्चर होना चाहिये। लेकिन जितने भी मैन्युफैक्चरर्स हैं वह सब स्टैंडर्ड ड्रग्स बना कर मार्केट में चीप बेच रहे हैं। क्या सरकार इस तरह का प्रबन्ध करेगी कि जो भी ड्रग्स बनें वह इंडियन ड्रग्स ऐक्ट के आई० पी० 66 के अनुसार बनें, और स्टैंडर्ड के अनुरूप बनें ?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN : There is always quality control of the chemicals, particularly drugs, manufactured in this country. There is a Quality Controller who supervises the quality of the various drugs produced here.

श्री राम चरण : जब इंडियन ड्रग्स ऐक्ट के आई० पी० 66 के अनुसार स्टैंडर्ड प्रेस्क्राइब्ड है तब लोग सब स्टैंडर्ड क्यों मैन्युफैक्चर करते हैं ?

SHRI ANANTRAO PATIL : Government has so far not taken proper steps to boost up indigenous production of chemicals, with the result that there is monopoly in the field of production of chemicals. May I know whether the Government is going to encourage small manufacturers of chemical products ?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN : There are a number of small manufacturers of chemical products in the country.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Recently there was a lot of publicity in the international press about certain drug rackets in the manufacture of tetracycline products by certain United States firms. It is reported that this country, which has been importing tetracycline for the last ten years from these American firms has been over charged to the extent of something like Rs. 9 crores. A tablet whose total cost of production is 8 paise has been sold in this country for 53 paise. May I know whether, in the same way as consumers in the United States have now been able to take advantage of the laws prevalent there to claim compensation from those firms for excessive over-pricing, the Government of India is taking any steps to claim Rs. 9 crores worth of compensation from these firms for overcharging us ?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN : Sir, this is rather a different question and does not arise out of the main question.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Sir, it does arise and it is an important chemical product. Sir, I would request you to protect us. Just because a Minister says that our supplementary does not arise out of the main question it should not be brushed aside.

MR. SPEAKER : Evidently, he has no information.

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN : Sir, I repeat that this does not arise out of this, but I will look into it.

श्री मधु लिमये : हर एक प्रश्न के बारे में इनका जवाब है कि मुझे जानकारी नहीं है। होम वर्क करके नहीं आये हैं क्या डाक्टर साहब आज ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has no information now.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH : Sir, they must give us a list of what they know so that we will ask our supplementaries from among them.

Unsold Stocks of Fertilizers at Udaipur

*1352. **SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large stock of fertilizers produced by the Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Udaipur is lying unsold;

(b) if so, whether this has been due to the desire of the State Governments to purchase from other private sources even when the prices in the private sector are higher; and

(c) if so, whether any remedy is contemplated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS (SHRI JAGANATH RAO) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) The present stock of single superphosphate with the Hindustan Zinc Ltd., is about 14,000 tonnes.

(b) With the advent of more sophisticated complex fertilizers single superphosphate is getting less popular with the farmers. The demand is also seasonal—State Governments usually do not directly purchase superphosphate. Generally the Cooperative Federation in each State are the principal buyers of this fertilizer and they usually purchase after inviting tenders and after taking into consideration the freight element from the station of despatch to the destination. Following accumulation of stock of imported diammonium phosphate in the country, there has been further difficulty in the sale of superphosphate. Ex-factory selling price is fixed by the Fertilizer Association of India, but their prices are ceiling prices and it has not been possible for any of the factories in the country to realise the said selling price during the last 18 months. Hindustan Zinc Ltd., have also been selling at less than the ceiling price fixed by the Fertilizer Association of India.

(c) It has been decided to restrict import of diammonium phosphate as also its allocation to Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The Fertilizer Corporation of India have been appointed as selling agents for various States for the sale of superphosphate produced by the company. Negotiations are also in progress for sale through the Central Fertilizer Pool also. All these steps are expected to improve the sale prospects of the superphosphate produced by Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : Sir, the question is related to the evidence of all round corruption. Whether it relates to

cooperatives or not, it certainly relates to evidence of all round corruption. If the fact as alleged, that Hindustan Zinc Limited is selling fertilizers at 30 per cent lower prices and yet do not find buyers either in cooperatives or Government, is correct, may I know whether this has been the allegation made even by the Chairman of Hindustan Zinc Limited—in fact it was—and, if so, may I know whether action has been taken to look into this matter? One can easily find it out because the price is lower than the market price and if somebody, some officer, has purchased at a higher price from private parties he can immediately be charged for corruption.—I want to know whether action has been taken in this regard?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : Sir, I have answered this question earlier also, that the single superphosphate produced at Hindustan Zinc Limited, Udaipur, is not popular with farmers and there is difficulty in disposing of this stock. In the earlier years and also last year several meetings were held with the Fertilizer Corporation, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and other concerned departments and some stocks were lifted. The price of fertiliser is fixed by the Fertilizer Association once a quarter. They fixed the price of single superphosphate between Rs. 300 to Rs. 330. The Hindustan Zinc Limited is selling at a rate of Rs. 285 thereby incurring a loss of 15 per cent. The private sector were selling at a much lower price and therefore we had to dispose of the stock that was accumulated. That is why a lower price had to be agreed to. I do not think there is any question of corruption anywhere in the disposal of this stock.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA : May I know whether single superphosphate itself was imported during that year about which we are discussing and whether there was faulty planning in that this complex fertilizer was not produced and it was not foreseen in due time? May I know whether it is possible to do it now and whether it is possible to convert this production into the complex fertilizer?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : It is true that the Ministry of Food and Agriculture imported a huge quantity of diammonium phosphate in 1968 and this unit went into production in January 1968. This difficulty was experienced in February, 1968. We

have now advised the Ministry of Food and Agriculture not to import diammonium phosphate. They are not importing it now and therefore this can be disposed of.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU : I may recall that the predecessor of the present Minister was warned in this House that he was importing fertilizers which was excessive to the requirements of the country. I would like to know from the Minister what is the total quantity of diammonium phosphate which has been imported; secondly, if any responsibility has been fixed for the person responsible for miscalculation; thirdly, what is the total accumulation of superphosphate in the country, and, fourthly, why superphosphate should not be used as fertiliser mixtures to reduce accumulation ?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : The Food and Agriculture Ministry gives the indent for various types of fertilizers that are required during a year. Superphosphate is used twice a year at the time of sowing and has a seasonal demand. Diammonium phosphate was imported in 1967-68. Because of the closure of the Suez Canal, the superphosphate could not reach the country in that year. It arrived in India early in 1968 when there was already a glut. This was not anticipated by either the Food Ministry or the Ministry which imported it. Now, according to a decision taken, diammonium phosphate is not being imported so that superphosphate may be used.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU : 14,000 tonnes is the accumulation of superphosphate in Rajasthan. What is the total accumulation in the country ?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : Only 14,000 tonnes.

SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR : This stock has been lying there for some months. Now, what has been the disposal of superphosphates during the last six months since this accumulation of 14,000 tonnes ? Secondly, is any attempt made to see that there is further treatment of superphosphate so that it can be made more popular with the farmers ?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : The total quantity of superphosphate manufactured in this unit from January 1968 to February 1969 is about 70,000 tonnes and all that has been disposed of. There is an order for 6,000

tonnes. The balance is only 14,000 tonnes. I had a meeting only a week ago with the Fertilizer Corporation of India, the representatives of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Department of Petroleum & Chemicals. They have agreed to lift the stock. So, there would not be any difficulty in future.

Regarding the second part of the question about the disposal of superphosphate, as I have said earlier, single superphosphate is not popular with the farmers. Therefore, a Committee has been appointed in the Planning Commission to examine the question how a complex fertilizer can be manufactured so that by mixing it with other nitrogenous fertilizers it could be used by farmers.

श्रीमती मिनीमाता अगस बास गुड :
मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि सिंधरी रासायनिक खाद कारखाने की उत्पादन क्षमता क्या है और क्या वह कारखाना भारत की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने की क्षमता रखता है ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहती हूँ कि वहाँ उत्पादित खाद का किस प्रकार से वितरण किया जायगा ? क्या कोओप्रेटिव सोसाइटीज के द्वारा होगा या व्यक्तिगत एजेंसीज के द्वारा होगा ?

SHRI JAGANATH RAO : This question does not relate to Hindustan Zinc Ltd. It relates to Sindri.

Polyester Fibre Plants

+

*1353. **SHRI SITARAM KESRI :**
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to give more licences for setting up of polyester fibre plants;

(b) the names of parties who are to be given those licences and whether any foreign collaboration is being allowed;

(c) the total requirement of polyester fibre in the country at present and at the end of 1973-74;

(d) how much fibre is at present produced in India and the names of producers;