India Hopes To Have

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accounted for about 10 percent of total Indian production capacity for nitrogen fertilizer.

The new public factories that began operating in 1973-74 at Durgapur and Cochin produced only token quantities of fertilizer, and are not expected to approach even 50 percent of capacity in 1974-75 since about 3 years usually are needed to reach normal operating capacity.

Another FCI factory is scheduled to open in October at Barauni. It also has a capacity to produce 152,000 nutrient tons of nitrogen fertilizer annually — the same as the factories at Durgapur and Cochin.

In December, the expanded facilities at Namrup are scheduled to begin operating — again adding the same volume of capacity as that at each of the other FCI installations.

In December, a large privately operated factory with a capacity of 258,000 nutrient tons of nitrogen annually is scheduled to open near Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu. The factory also is equipped to produce blended fertilizer and diammonium phosphate.

Imported naphtha will provide the factory with necessary raw materials in the first months, but naphtha probably will come from a nearby Indian Oil Company refinery in the future. Japanese and Swiss credits and technology were involved in constructing the factory.

British and Dutch financing and credits were used in building the new plant at Mangalore, Karntuka. Commercial production is expected to begin late in 1974 at the plant, which has a capacity of 340,000 tons of urea annually. A factory operated by the Indian fertilizer cooperatives is scheduled to open in Kandla early in 1975 after several years of delay.

The plant is to have a capacity to produce 215,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer annually.

By 1980, India's fertilizer capacity is expected to be about 5.3 million nutrient tons — about double the 1973-74 level. Four large, new factories at Korba, Ramagundam, Talcher, and Haldia are expected to turn out about 1 million nutrient tons in 1980.

Three of the plants will use India's abundant coal as a feedstock, and the factory at Haldia will use oil. The greater use of coal by new factories will lessen the adverse impact of higher petroleum prices.

The larger fertilizer factory at Kandla, managed by cooperatives, will use India's natural gas resources to produce fertilizer. India also plans to use natural gas imported from Bangladesh for new fertilizer factories planned for construction in West Bengal in the late 1970's. However, naphtha — the increasingly expensive byproduct of petroleum — still will account for most of the feedstock used by India's fertilizer factories during the late 1970's.

A slight increase in fertilizer imports is planned. Striking gains in imports during 1974-75 from the USSR, Poland, and Bulgaria through trade agreements are expected to more than offset smaller arrivals from Japan and Western Europe. Modest gains are expected in imports from the United States, Canada, Kuwait, and Norway.

India's total imports of fertilizer are expected to increase from 1.24 million nutrient tons in 1973-74 to about 1.38 million nutrient tons in 1974-75. Higher prices of fertilizer could push the value of India's fertilizer imports above $700 million in 1974-75 — about double the previous peak in 1967-68.

Canada was India's major supplier of fertilizer in 1973-74 in terms of quantity, but the predominance of lower priced potash left Canadian exports below those of the United States and Japan in value.

India's imports of Canadian potash increased from 130,000 nutrient tons in 1972-73 to about 191,700 nutrient tons in 1973-74, when small quantities of blended fertilizer brought the total to 210,200 nutrient tons. This quantity still was below India's imports of the record 248,000 nutrient tons imported from Canada in 1971-72.

Fertilizer prices continued to rise throughout first-half 1974. On June 1, the Indian Government increased the official retail price ceilings on all nitrogen fertilizers and other imported fertilizers by 55 to 125 percent. On May 31, the price of naphtha used for nitrogen fertilizer production was increased by about 93 percent.

All these price rises grew out of the higher cost of inputs in production of nitrogen fertilizers, as well as sharply higher prices of imported fertilizers. Prices of other domestically produced fertilizers also are being revised.

Harold Probst, left, and Lee Landis are the newest recipients of the Distinguished Service plaque awarded annually to Pennsylvania's two top Dairy Herd Improvement Association supervisors. Probst lives in Bart while Landis is a Narvon resident. The awards were presented during the annual DHIA supervisor conference held recently at Penn State. Awards are presented on the basis of time spent on the job, efficiency and the recommendation of the county DHIA board of directors. Probst and Landis continued a tradition which is now several years old. Last year and in previous years, both of the state's top DHIA supervisors were from Lancaster County. The tradition will probably come to an end soon, though, because each supervisor can receive the award only once, and most of the Lancaster County supervisors have already received it.

Rural Leadership Program Applications Due Sept. 20

The deadline for receving completed applications at Penn State for the upcoming statewide workshops offered through the Cooperative Extension Service's Public Affairs Leadership Program is September 20, 1974.

The program provides a unique educational experience aimed at furthering the development of leadership for Pennsylvania's rural communities. This opportunity for young men and women between the ages of 25 and 40 is made possible through a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and contributions from businesses, corporations, organizations, and individuals throughout Pennsylvania.

The Program consists of a series of three- to four-day workshops, totaling 30 days of instruction, discussion and field trips conducted over a two-year period. The workshops are held during the winter months at two regional locations in the state and at Penn State's University Park Campus.

Program participants may be mechanics, farmers, real estate salesmen, housewives, attorneys, or bankers. They may be nurses, public utility supervisors, or planners. Municipal officials and citizens are encouraged to apply. To qualify, each candidate should be 25 to 40 years of age, have potential for leadership and an interest in improving the quality of life in rural Pennsylvania. There are no formal education requirements.

Persons interested in learning more about the program should contact their County Extension Office.