

श्री मधु लिमये : इसलिये मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार विदेशियों की मूर्तियाँ दिल्ली से हटा कर उन लोगों की मूर्तियों की स्थापना करेगी जिन का जिक्र मैंने किया है, क्या इसके बारे में कम से कम कोई निश्चित आश्वासन सरकार देने की स्थिति में है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इसका जवाब तो आ चुका है, शायद आपने सुना नहीं है ।

श्री मधु लिमये : इसका नहीं आया है ।

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Kapur Singh: You nodded your head on three occasions indicating a promise to call me.

Mr. Speaker: I nodded only to indicate that the hon. Member might sit down.

Fertilizer Plants

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- Shri Himatsingka;
 - Shri Rameshwar Tantia;
 - Shri P. C. Borooah;
 - Shri Bishwanath Roy;
 - Shri P. R. Chakraverti;
 - Shri Hem Barua;
 - Shri Umanath;
 - Shri Nambiar;
 - Shri Imbichibava;
 - Shri Mohan Swarup;
 - Shri Gokulananda Mohanty;
 - Shri Rama Chandra Mallick;
 - Shri Surendra Pal Singh;
 - Shri K. C. Pant;
 - Shri M. L. Jadhav;
 - Shri Ram Sewak;
 - Shri P. G. Sen;
 - Shri T. Subramanyam;
 - Shri M. Rampure;
 - Shri Koya;

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint U.S.-Indian Corporation is considering a proposal for setting up five Fertilizer Plants in India;

(b) the conditions and terms for this joint venture; and

(c) the main features of the proposed scheme?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) No, Sir. An American Company has been permitted to undertake a feasibility study for the establishment of an additional capacity of one million tonnes of nitrogen.

(b) and (c). The terms and conditions and main features of the scheme will be known only after the feasibility report is received.

Shri Himatsingka: Has any discussion preceded this decision, and if so, may I know whether any discussion has taken place about any place or the basic materials that will be used for these fertilisers?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, there were some preliminary discussions as a result of which this study has been entrusted to this corporation. There were also suggestions made about the locations; there are suggestions about five or six locations such as Madras, Cochin, Haldia, etc. The feed-stock is naphtha.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know the reasons why even after seventeen years of Independence we are so short of fertilizers which are the most necessary things for improving our agricultural production?

Shri Alagesan: That is certainly a very pertinent question. We were unable to fulfil our Third Plan targets, but we are trying to make up for the deficiency by going in for a crash programme of establishment of fertiliser factories?

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether there is any difference of opinion between the U.S. consortium and our Government about the size of the plant, and if so, what that difference is, and why Government are thinking of having a smaller plant?

Shri Alagesan: The question has not yet arisen; we have not yet received the report. As far as I am able to see there is no difference of opinions.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: Before taking the decision to invite a foreign company to set up these plants, may I know whether any Indian company was consulted in this connection for the same purpose?

Shri Alagesan: There are several factories licensed in the private sector also.

Shri P. G. Sen: Is the Corporation sending an expert to go into the matter?

Shri Alagesan: Already some field teams are in India and they are studying the question.

Shri Muthiah: May I know whether the Government has any intention of setting up a fertiliser factory in Tuticorin?

Shri Alagesan: A private party was licensed to put up a fertiliser plant there but unfortunately that party surrendered his licence.

Shri Tulshidas Jadhav: May I know the quantity which is produced and the quantity which is in demand by the people?

Shri Alagesan: We produced according to last year's figures about a quarter million tons of nitrogen and I think we imported an equal amount the two put together make the demand.

Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee (Ratnagiri): The hon. Minister said that some private sector people were licensed. What was the amount for which it was licensed and why has it not been fulfilled by the private sector?

Shri Alagesan: I am not able to give the quantity off-hand. In Vizag I think a private party had been licensed for about 80,000 tons in terms of nitrogen. So, also in Kothagudam another factory has been licensed.

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): A number of private firms were licensed. Unfortunately many of them failed even though the size of these plants were economical, units being for 60,000 tons or 80,000 tons. That is one of the major reasons why the Third

Plan target had not been fulfilled. Government had to step into the breach and in certain cases will themselves put up factories which the private sector was not able to do.

Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee: My question has not been answered. Why did they not put up factories?

Mr. Speaker: We will take some other opportunity.

Shri Humayun Kabir: They had difficulties in finding foreign collaboration; about 50 per cent of each fertiliser factory's cost is foreign exchange and in most cases they were not able to get foreign exchange; in some cases they were not able to raise even internal capital.

Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Is it a fact that the spokesmen of the American consortium assured the Government of India that if they are allowed to put up plants in this country, they will be able to produce fertilisers at a much cheaper cost than at present?

Shri Alagesan: All this will be available to us *viz.*, at what cost it will be produced and how far it will be cheaper, etc.—when the report is before us.

Shri A. P. Jain: According to the Industrial Policy Resolution licences were to be in the public sector. In making allocation to the private sector, why was proper care not taken that licensees were in a position to fulfil their demands?

Shri Alagesan: As far as the Industrial Policy Resolution goes, it is possible to put up factories both in the public and the private sectors. As Mr. Kabir answered, unfortunately the Private Sector was not able to fulfil the targets. We are stepping in wherever they have not done so.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I may add that some of the licences were issued when my hon. friend was in-charge of the Food and Agriculture Ministry.

Shri A. P. Jain: On a point of order: it is totally incorrect to say that the Food and Agriculture has anything to

do with the issue of licences; he wants to cover up his mistakes by accusing others.

Pipe-line to carry Naphtha from Barauni Refinery

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- *637. { **Shri Hukam Chand Kachhavaiya:**
Shri Chandak:
Shri Bakliwal:
Shri Wadiwa:
Shri Surya Prasad:
Shri R. S. Tiwary:
Shri J. P. Jyotishi:
Shri Uikey:

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to lay a pipe-line for carrying Naphtha from Barauni Oil Refinery to Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(c) whether a proposal has also been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh requesting that this pipe-line should also pass from the border of Madhya Pradesh so that arrangements could be made for allowing Naphtha to be tapped for development of petro-chemical industries in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने जो पत्र दिया है उस सम्बन्ध में सरकार का क्या विचार है। क्या सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में मध्य प्रदेश सरकार को कुछ लिखा है। यदि लिखा है तो वह क्या है ?

Shri Humayun Kabir: We have asked the Madhya Pradesh Government to give us some information about the quantities involved and the type of industries which they have in mind. No reply has so far been received to this query.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : यह जो पाइप लाइन बिछाने की योजना है उस के सम्बन्ध में माननीय मंत्री ने बतलाया कि वह नहीं कर रहे हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ने कुछ इस का अन्दाजा लगाया है कि यदि वह किया जाये तो उस से सरकार को कितना लाभ होगा।

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is not correct to say that we are not laying the pipeline. We are laying the pipeline and we shall lay pipelines wherever they are profitable.

Shri P. C. Borooah: In spite of Assam being 70 years ahead of other States so far as oil industry is concerned,—the source of naphtha that is produced in Barauni lies somewhere in Naharkotiya oil fields in Assam,—may I know why Assam has been excluded from the map of petrochemical industries of the country?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Assam is not 70 but 60 years ahead. But in any case, the major reason is that till now naphtha-based petrochemical industries were not known throughout the world. Only in the last ten years they have grown. It will depend upon the amount of naphtha that is available and the gas that will be available. These have been taken into consideration and the two expert committees which have examined this question have suggested that only some minor industries may be put up in Assam. At the present time it would not be possible to put up any large petrochemical complex in Assam.

श्री रा० स० तिवारी : बरौनी से जो पाइपलाइन पेट्रोलियम की जा रही है उस के बीच में मध्य प्रदेश पड़ेगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस पाइपलाइन को बनाने के साथ साथ मध्य प्रदेश में भी पाइपलाइन बनाने की मंजूरी देगी या बाद में उसे बनाने का विचार है।

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already stated that we have asked the