

Shri L. N. Mishra: Inspection was made on the charges and we have got the report from the Chief Inspector of Mines. And, from the report, I can say, most of the charges are substantially proved against the management.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether Government is contemplating the question of taking over the management of this colliery in view of the troubles there?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Not for this reason.

Shri Panigrahi: Is it a fact that the State Government has represented to the Union Government to mend matters in this colliery so that the situation might improve?

Shri L. N. Mishra: We have received some representation from the State Government to improve the situation in these mines and we are looking into it.

12 hrs.

Mr. Speaker: Question Hour is over.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: It is very bad planning that so many questions are printed and they are not answered because they are not reached.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members table questions and also indicate the date on which the hon. Ministers should reply. All these 50 or 60 questions may not be reached; but, we are making constant attempts to cover all. The answers are printed anyhow in the proceedings.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: The number can be then reduced.

Mr. Speaker: That means I need not allow all these questions to be on the Order Paper. I am not going to accept this recommendation.

Now, we shall take up the Short Notice Question.

Ship Explosion in Bahrein

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S.N.Q. No. 4.	}	Shri Radha Raman:
		Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
		Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
		Shri Shree Narayan Das:
		Shri H N. Mukerjee:
		Shri Muhammed Elias:
		Shri Prabhat Kar:
		Shri S. M. Banerjee:
		Shri Ram Krishan:
		Shri Assar:
		Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Indians were killed when the British freighter 'Seistan' blew up and sank near Manamah (Bahrein); and

(b) if so, the number of Indians killed and injured in that explosion?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):
(a) Yes.

(b) 45 killed and 5 injured.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether any enquiry is held, with a view to know the causes of this accident, by the British Government?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The cause of the fire is not known; and the Trade Ministry Inspectorate is making a preliminary enquiry which may be followed by a formal enquiry in London.

Shri Radha Raman: May I know whether the Indian Government has claimed any compensation in respect of the families who have lost their men?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The compensation is paid by the company which recruits the seamen and they are given some compensation. If the hon. Member would like to know, I can read out the compensation paid.

Shri Joachim Alva: Has Government got a watch on the quantum of compensation which may be paid to the Indians who have disappeared with the ship and also, if there are

any foreigners, what quantum of compensation is paid to them?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: The compensation is paid according to the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923 in the case of any personal injury, including injury resulting in death by accident in the course of employment. In this case, the company has already agreed to pay the compensation.

Shri Achar: Was any Indian representative associated with that enquiry?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No.

Shri Muhammed Elias: May I know whether the Government of India is thinking of giving some interim relief to these families?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: No.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Indian Trade Delegations

*785. **Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries visited so far by the Indian Trade Delegations composed of the representatives of the State Trading Corporation and the Indian industrialists; and

(b) what was the expenditure incurred by the Corporation on the sending of such delegations to foreign countries?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) West Germany, Italy, France, England, Luxemburg, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia.

(b) The estimated expenditure works out to approximately Rs. 8,200.

Manufacture of Polyethylene

*794. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what firms from the U.S.A. and U.K. have come forward to help India in the manufacture of polyethylene;

(b) whether agreements have been finalised;

(c) if so, the terms thereof; and

(d) what is the production target?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) The Member presumably refers to Polyethylene. The following two firms have come forward to manufacture Polyethylene in India:

(i) Messrs. Union Carbide International Co., New York;

(ii) Messrs. Imperial Chemical Industries, U.K.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It would not be in the interest of the parties concerned to disclose the terms of collaboration.

(d) The current demand for Polyethylene is about 2.2 million lbs. It is expected to reach a level of 9 million lbs. by the end of the Second Plan period. On the basis of the capacity of 5,100 tons (11.4 million lbs.) envisaged it is expected that the production would be 8 to 9 million lbs. per year by 1960-61.

Part-time Employment

*796. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made to obtain part-time employment for engaging the job-seekers in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the prospects of finding out such jobs?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Ford Foundation Experts

*798. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how many Ford Foundation experts are at present working in the country;