

happening in that area, because it is under illegal occupation by the Chinese.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The hon. Prime Minister says "I cannot say definitely", and the Prime Minister of Jammu and Kashmir State stated that the Chandan mine area is being operated by them, as it used to be previously. May I know whether the persons attached to the Chandan mines are mining salt at present, as usual, or not?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I believe there is still that confusion about different areas. There is a certain area which is under the illegal occupation of the Chinese. Obviously, when it is in the illegal occupation of the Chinese, we are not mining there.

Mr. Speaker: Is there any other mining area?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There are bits here and there. But I am talking of the lake in the area which is occupied by the Chinese.

Shri Vajpayee: There are certain other salt mines, apart from the area which is under the occupation of the Chinese, and the reports relate to that area.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is that which is contradicted by the Kashmir Government.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Iron Ore

*378. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1692 on the 28th August, 1959 and state:

(a) whether there has been any improvement in the export performance of iron ore to European countries during the last six months; and

(b) the difficulties that confront the trade agencies and Government to step up exports?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) The exports have been almost steady.

(b) Limited rail and port capacity and competition with nearer sources of supply.

Production of Calcium Carbide

*379. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 785 on the 10th December, 1959 and state:

(a) at what places the new factories for production of better quality of Calcium Carbide with large modern furnaces and improved technique of material handling are being located;

(b) the time by which each such factory/furnace is expected to be installed; and

(c) the details of the measures taken to encourage use of alternate carbonaceous raw materials with low ash content?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). The following are the places where calcium carbide factories have started production or are likely to start production:—

S. No.	Name of the place	Name of factory	Approximate date of starting production
1.	Calcutta	M s Birla Jute Manufacturing Company, Calcutta.	Already started production in December 1959.
2.	Bombay (Bombay State)	M s. Calico Mills Ahmedabad.	They are likely to start production during the second half of 1960.
3.	Tinnevely (Madras State)	M s. Industrial Chemical Limited, Tinnevely.	Do.
4.	Kottayam (Kerala State)	Travancore Electro Chemicals Ltd., Alwaye.	1961.

(c) The factories are advised and encouraged to use charcoal and petroleum coke in addition to low ash content coke from the collieries coke oven plants.

Transfer of Indian Diplomats

*382. **Shri M. B. Thakore:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian diplomats are transferred after every three years by established custom and practice; and

(b) if so, the reason why the Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia has not been transferred even after ten long years?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). Members of the Foreign Service are ordinarily transferred from one post to another after completion of their term. Normally, the term prescribed is three years, except in a small number of Missions where it is two years. An officer may, however, be required, if necessary, to stay at his post for a longer duration. The present Ambassador in Saudi Arabia has been kept there for specific reasons because it is one of those rather special places where anybody cannot easily fit in linguistically and otherwise, and since he is discharging his work with great

satisfaction his period has been extended.

Smuggling of Rice to Tibet

*390. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale smuggling of rice from Kalimpong area to Tibet has been reported lately;

(b) whether a maund of rice fetches Rs. 280 on the Tibet side of the border; and

(c) whether any such cases of smuggling have been detected recently?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) No large scale smuggling has come to Government's notice. However, reports received indicate that occasionally smuggling of rice on small scale was being attempted from the Kalimpong area into Tibet.

(b) According to information available, the price of rice on the Tibet side of the border varied from Rs. 75 to Rs. 120 per maund.

(c) 17 cases of smuggling were detected during 1959.