

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, November 25, 1960/
Agrahayana 4, 1882 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Bhawani Prasad (Sitapur—
Reserved—Sch. Castes).

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Discovery of Sulphur Pyrites in Bihar

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Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Raghuna'h Singh:
Shri Amjad Ali:
Shri Sadhan Gupta:
Shri P. K. Deo:
*453. } Shri Subiman Ghose:
 } Shri Anirudh Sinha:
 } Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
 } Shri B. Das Gupta:
 } Shri Wodeyar:
 } Shri N. M. Deb:
 } Shri Koratkar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and
Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vast
sources of sulphur pyrites have been
discovered in the Amjore area in
Bihar;

(b) if so, whether any quantitative
and qualitative estimates of the new
deposits have been made;

(c) the result thereof; and

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(d) the industries that would be
greatly benefited by it?

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

STATEMENT

According to the report rendered by
the Indian Bureau of Mines, who
carried out the investigations, reserves
of sulphur pyrites of the order of
about 8 million tons have been dis-
covered in the Amjore area in Bihar
State. The probable reserves are
thought to be considerably larger.

The ore is reasonably rich in its
sulphur content and analyses as
follows:

- (i) Sulphur varies from 32 to 49
per cent. (but close to 40 per
cent S).
- (ii) Iron varies from 29 to 43 per
cent (but close to 38 per cent).
- (iii) Arsonic varies from traces to
0.03 per cent.
- (iv) Phosphorus varies from traces to
0.03 per cent.
- (v) Cu, Co, Ni etc., are present in
traces only.

Sulphur forms the basis of almost
all chemical industries, particularly of
fertilizers.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know
what steps Government is going to
take to exploit these results?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The present
approach is that as the finds have been
much more than what we were even
optimistically estimating them to be,
we are going to consider the setting
up of a big smelter of 400 tons of

sulphur per day which will give about a lakh and a quarter tons of sulphur. We are also thinking of a setting up a thousand ton per day sulphuric acid plant and to mine more ores, so that the various sulphuric acid consuming industries may consume this ore instead of imported sulphur.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what arrangements will be made for the transport of this ore, this sulphur pyrites, from the mines to the place of destination?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The usual railway transport, because it is not a combustible item in the normal sense of the term. With slight precautions sulphur can be transported easily.

श्री मा० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो सल्फर प्रायराइट्स वहाँ पर मिला है तो उस के प्रयोग के लिये सरकार ने क्या प्रबन्ध किया है और क्या उस को एक्सपोर्ट भी किया जायगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : हाँ अभी फिलहाल दो टैक्नीशियन्स को नाव भेजा है और वह पिछले २२ दिन से वहाँ हैं। ४०० टन ओर्स वहाँ पर भेजा था और उस का बड़ा सक्सेस-फुल एक्सपेरीमेंट किया जा चुका है और हम २००० से ५००० टन ओर्स और भेजने की सोच रहे हैं।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने कहा कि ८०० टन ओर नावें भेजा गया और ५००० टन ओर भेजा जायगा तो क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस प्रायराइट्स की जांच के बाद इस गंधक फैक्टरी का निर्माण नावों में कितने दिनों के अन्दर हो जायगा और कब तक यहाँ पर अमजोर में उस को लगाने का काम शुरू हो जायगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वैसे दो साल में हो जाना चाहिये लेकिन चूँकि ओर्स काफी मात्रा में है इसलिये हम ने सोचा कि दो स्टीमर भर कर नावें भेज दें जिस से १२५ टन के बजाय हम ४००, ५०० टन के स्मैलटर लगा लें

जिस से कि बड़ी तादाद में उत्पादन कार्य आरम्भ हो सके और इसलिये हो सकता है कि दो साल की जगह तीन साल का समय लग जाय।

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: What will be the estimated cost of this plant?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Now the estimates will all have to be revised. At one stage we were thinking that it would cost seven to eight crores of rupees. But in view of the larger possibilities, the cost may be higher.

Shri P. K. Deo: May I know what amounts of this sulphur product are imported into the country every year, and if by the discovery of these mines this country is going to be self-sufficient in the production of all our sulphur requirements?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Presently we are importing about 2,50,000 to 3,00,000 tons of sulphur, and by the end of the Third Plan we expect that the demand will be round about 6,00,000 tons per year. The present estimates are, if these ores are properly worked we might reach about fifty per cent national self-sufficiency by the end of the Third Plan and, maybe, complete self-sufficiency in the Fourth Plan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: As it has just now been disclosed that large deposits of sulphur ore have been found at Amjore and this is one of the basic things needed for manufacture of fertilizers, may I know whether, along with the setting up of this sulphur plant, Government will also propose to set up any fertilizer plant also?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It will certainly help the Bihar phosphatic fertilizer factory which is being set up by the Bihar Government in the public sector there and also Sindri, and also various fertilizer plants one of which is being established in every State.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जहाँ तक गंधक का सवाल है बिहार के सिवाय इस देश में

क्या और भी खोज हो रही है कि गंधक कहां कहां है और क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ ऐसी कार्यवाही की जाने वाली है कि हमारे देश में हम को बाहर से गंधक न मंगाना पड़े ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : वही आजकल हमारी कोशिश हो रही है क्योंकि सल्फर इतना स्ट्रैटजिक मैटीरियल है कि शांति के समय और आपत्तिकाल अर्थात् युद्धकाल में वह हमारे लिये बहुत उपयोगी वस्तु है और काम में आने वाला पदार्थ है। मैसूर में भी उस की तलाश की जा रही है, आसाम में भी तलाश की जा रही है और मध्य प्रदेश में भी तलाश की जा रही है।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या जबलपुर में नहीं है ?

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has stated that sulphur will help the Sindri Fertilizers. May I know if the use of gypsum which it is taking from Rajasthan will be completely stopped?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, Sir. There is always a scheme for expansion of these plants and the present resources need not be disturbed. This will augment the national requirements.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the discovery of this abundant supply of sulphur will lead to the reduction in price of fertilisers?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It may not consequentially lead to that because, as the House knows, natural deposits of sulphur throughout the world are so stupendous that the mining cost is rather less. Here what we have located is a combined sulphur iron pyrites which is a bit difficult to process. That is more expensive. The prices may equate if not be lower than the international price.

Shri Raghunath Singh: What is the sulphur requirement of India and the quantity that we are importing at present? When will we be self-sufficient?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have just now answered that question in detail.

शेठ अचल सिंह : सल्फर पाइरेट्स में प्योर सल्फर का कितना परसेंटेज होता है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : मैं ने अभी बताने की कोशिश की है कि पहली बैरायटी में ४० प्रतिशत सल्फर है, दूसरी बैरायटी में ३८ प्रतिशत और आम तौर पर ३० परसेंट है।

Land Routes to Goa

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Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Nardeo Snatak:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav:
Shri Achar:
Shri Assar:
*455. Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri Hem Barua:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Agadi:
Shri Wodeyar:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 383 on the 12th August, 1960 and state whether the two new land routes to Goa improving travel facilities have since been opened?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Yes; the two new routes were declared open for the movement of persons to and from Goa with effect from 1st October, 1960. However, traffic through these routes has not yet commenced as no corresponding facilities have been made available by the Portuguese authorities in Goa on their side of the border.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether there is any possibility to open the route in the near future?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: As far as we are concerned, the routes have been open since the 1st October. It is for the Portuguese Government to decide whether they should provide