

**Shri A. C. Guha:** That also ceased after the passport system. The hon. Minister stated the figure of Hindu migrants coming this side but is there any figure of Muslims taking migration certificates from this side to Pakistan?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Undoubtedly there is. I have not got it here because the question did not ask that but I have, as a matter of fact, only yesterday seen the figures of Muslims as well as Hindus travelling from West Bengal to East Bengal and vice versa. Those figures we have. I cannot precisely say which of them is a migrant or not.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Any approximate idea as to the proportion of the two figures?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Migrants or travellers?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Migrants.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I can give you the proportion of the travellers with passports, etc. I have naturally to speak from memory. In the first week of October, the hon. Member must know, there was a fairly considerable number of people who came over from East Bengal to West Bengal just before the passport system was introduced. A fair number also went the other way. In November the figures were more or less even but rather there were more people going to East Bengal. In December, there were many more people going to East Bengal, both Hindus and Muslims and so also in January. The figures roughly would be about 30 or 40 per cent. more going to East Bengal or West Bengal, both Hindus and Muslims in the last two months of December and January.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know how many more offices would be necessary to facilitate granting of certificates to intending migrants here?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Well, I really do not know whether any more difficulty has arisen, from our side I mean. There have been difficulties in issuing visas which is a different thing. Both sides are opening fresh offices for giving visas.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know the conditions which an intending emigrant has to satisfy in order to receive an emigrant certificate?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** No conditions are necessary. He has only to apply to our Deputy High Commissioner and in due course an emigrant certificate will be given.

#### PRODUCTION IN SINDRI FACTORY

\*95. **Shri A. C. Guha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the total production up to the end of 1952 in the Sindri Fertilizer Factory;

(b) the cost of production and how it compares with the price of foreign fertilizer, specially of Japan; and

(c) the price at which the Sindri fertilizer is given to the peasants in different States?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) 1,79,964 tons of Ammonium Sulphate.

(b) I regret I am not in a position to give the production cost as it is a confidential matter, but I may assure the hon. Member that the price of Rs. 310 per ton at which the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. sell at present their fertilizer to the Central Fertilizer Pool compares favourably with the selling price in almost all other producing countries. It has been ascertained that the internal selling price in Japan is Rs. 350 per ton the normal export price being Rs. 336 per ton.

(c) The Sindri fertilizer is not supplied at a different price but is contributed to the pool at a uniform price of Rs. 310 per ton. The pool price is at present Rs. 335 per ton F.O.R. Station of despatch.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know if there is a large stock accumulated with the factory and, if so, what is the machinery for disposal?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** On the 7th of this month, the stock was in the neighbourhood of about 80,000 tons. Subsequently, the stock has been reduced. Large scale movement of fertiliser has commenced from the 7th and the present stock is roundabout 70,000 tons. Distribution is through the Central Fertiliser Pool, operated by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. They get indents from the respective State Governments and from certain other interests like Tea Plantation people and the Coffee Board etc. They pass on the indents to the Sindri Fertiliser Factory and on the basis of these allocations, the Sindri Fertiliser Factory arranges movement.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know the reasons for this large quantity accumulating?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** There are several reasons. Unfortunately during this year and at the end of the last

year, the demand was not sufficient from the various States, and from the Tea Plantations, etc. The crisis in the tea industry, perhaps the lack of purchasing power on the part of the farmers, insufficiency of credit facilities, drought in certain areas, particularly in Madras and certain other States.—all these reasons have contributed to the decrease in the oil-take of the fertiliser. But, steps have been taken by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture to popularise the use of this fertiliser. There has recently been a proposal to supply fertilisers on a barter basis, that is, to supply fertiliser and take back rice. This is being finalised now. After this is finalised, it is hoped that the production in our country will be sufficient for our requirements.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** Is it true that during this year we have imported large quantities of fertilisers from abroad also?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Not so much during this year. Last year we imported about two lakh tons of fertiliser. This year we are committed to import about one lakh tons. This is under a previous arrangement with the T.C.A.; it is not a new arrangement which we are entering into freshly. According to the old arrangement we have got to import about one lakh tons this year out of which about 25 tons have come through the T.C.A.,—Japanese fertiliser. We are making every effort to see whether we cannot replace this fertiliser which we are importing by some other commodity with the T.C.A. aid. It is too early to say whether we will succeed in that effort of ours.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** In view of the fact that the Sindri Fertiliser Factory was to go into production even earlier than 1952, was any account taken of this factor in entering into the T.C.A. agreement?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** Yes, certainly. Our estimate of consumption of fertiliser according to the Planning Commission and according to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is 450,000 tons during this year, going up in 1955-56 to 6 lakh and odd tons. The output in the Sindri Fertiliser Factory is only in the neighbourhood of three lakh tons, and in the other indigenous factories about 50,000 or 60,000 tons.

**Shrimati A. Kale:** What is the price of the imported fertiliser per ton?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** The cost of the imported fertiliser varies. At one time,

the landed cost was Rs. 480 per ton. Subsequently, there has been a reduction and the international market price has gone down. Even now, the landed cost of the fertiliser that we are getting from abroad is higher than the pool price that we have fixed, except in the case of the consignment of the Japanese fertiliser which we have got through the T.C.A. That particular consignment has been sold to us at Rs. 240 per ton. That is under very exceptional circumstances. There are several reasons why the Japanese fertiliser has been made available to us at, what I may say, a "sacrificial price".

**Shri Gopala Rao:** May I know whether the Government are taking into account the important factor, the purchasing capacity of the peasants while fixing the price of fertilisers?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I have not caught the question. Will the hon. Member kindly repeat the question?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know if the purchasing power of the peasant has been taken into consideration in fixing the price.

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I should say; yes.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Has the attention of the Minister been drawn to Press reports to the effect that certain workers in an organisation called Gandhi Nidhi, Working at Borivilli near Bombay, have said that the ammonium sulphate produced at Sindri is not at all useful for the purpose for which it is intended, that it burns cereals and that it is useful only in the case of leafy plants?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** This fertiliser is being used for several years and it has proved successful.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** May I know whether there are certain private firms which are producing fertilisers, and the cost of production there is far lower than the cost of production in Sindri and also they quote a lesser price than the Government price?

**Shri Kidwai:** I think the hon. Member does not know what he is talking about. There is only one private factory which is producing fertiliser, at Alwaye. Their cost of production is much higher and therefore they have approached us to introduce the pool so that the price may be adjusted. There are one or two Iron and Steel Works which are producing it as a by-product. There, the cost is a little