

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Tuesday, 2nd December, 1952

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. CHAIRMAN (SHRI HARI VINAYAK PATASKAR) in the Chair]

MEMBER SWORN

Shri Mahae Yeshwantrao Martandrao
(Thana—Reserved—Scheduled Tribes.)

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

WASTE SULPHUROUS GASES

*821. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any efforts have been made for the utilisation of waste sulphurous gases at copper production works; and

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been evolved for making use of this waste?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) and (b). The question of the utilisation of waste sulphurous gases at the works of the Indian Copper Corporation has been investigated with the assistance of an expert obtained from the U.S.A. under the Point Four Programme. A scheme to convert the waste gases into sulphuric acid is being formulated by the Company in consultation with their own expert from the U.K. and Government are awaiting the results of the investigation.

Sardar Hukam Singh: How long is the formal finalisation of this scheme likely to take?**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Sir, I am unable to give any precise date for the reason that it is for the company to decide whether it will be in a position to undertake the financial commitment that adoption of this scheme will entail.

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Sardar Hukam Singh: What was the estimated waste per day of sulphur during the last four years, or at least during the past one year?**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I cannot give the estimated waste per day during the last four years. But as at present estimated the waste is supposed to be about 35 tons of sulphur per day, out of which 27 tons are lost in the atmosphere and 7 tons are lost in tailings from the concentration plant.**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Has the expert invited under President Truman's Point Four Programme, as has been said by the hon. Minister, suggested any concrete proposals, and what amount of this waste shall we be able to recover according to his conclusions?**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Sir, the expert, Mr. Hillburn, was invited generally to advise us on utilising local raw material for the production of sulphur, and his investigation of utilisation of waste gases from the Indian Copper Corporation plant at Gatsila was incidental to it. He had made certain suggestions that these waste gases could be converted into sulphuric acid and perhaps might be utilised in the Tata Plant which is not very far away. But it happens that the Tata Company have their own scheme for manufacture of sulphuric acid and until they are assured that utilisation of these gases was cheaper than their plan, they were not interested in it. We have not gone very far into the matter so as to be able to estimate the cost.**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether the industry's own experts have scrutinised the proposals put forward by this expert?**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Yes, Sir I do not know if he scrutinised Mr. Hillburn's proposal, but their own expert is advising them on this matter.**Shri A. C. Guba:** May I know if the Government have made any calculation as to the amount of sulphuric acid that might be manufactured out of sulphurous gases at Gatsila Copper works?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The experts have not given us any definite figures, though they say the recovery might be appreciable in quantity.

Shri A. C. Guha: Have they made any calculation as to whether cost would be economical?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is precisely the matter in dispute. If we could tell the Tata Company that the cost of recovery of sulphuric acid from the sulphurous gases would be cheaper than their producing sulphuric acid themselves, perhaps we might be able to interest them in this proposition.

Shri B. S. Murthy: When was this investigation taken up and how long will it take?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The investigation by the expert under the Point Four Programme, as I said was incidental. It was sometime in the latter half of 1951. Investigation by the company's own expert, is a matter about which I cannot give any information.

Shri A. C. Guha: In view of the extreme importance and scarcity of this particular material, may I know if the Government is pegging their entire scheme on the economic aspect of the matter, or whether they are going to take up the scheme, even if the cost might be somewhat higher?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There are a lot of hypothetical premises in the question that was framed by the hon. member. The hon. member will understand that when a layman like myself is able to give so much information, Government have gone into it fairly thoroughly and Government are really interested in this matter. There are certain limitations which, the hon. member will understand, make it not possible for us to go ahead.

COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTIES LEFT IN PAKISTAN

*822. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quantum of compensation and mode of payment to displaced persons for their properties left behind have been determined by now; and

(b) if so, what percentage of the claim verified would the displaced persons get?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The scheme for compensation is under preparation. The percentage of the claim which would be given as compensation cannot be stated at present.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the sources from which compensation is to be given have been settled and finalised?

Shri A. P. Jain: The whole scheme is under consideration.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the Inter-State Conference made any recommendation and whether they have been considered by Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: They have made recommendations, but those recommendations cannot be made public.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the offer or decision, conveyed by Shri Gopalaswami Ayyangar in a Conference in 1949 that the Central Government propose to make a contribution stands?

Shri A. P. Jain: Whatever commitments have been made, they stand, unless they are revoked.

Shri Gidwani: Before the scheme is finalised will it be placed before the members of the Tek Chand Committee and of the representatives of displaced persons?

Shri A. P. Jain: It will not be placed before the representatives of displaced persons.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any reply has been received from Pakistan on the reference that we made to that country?

Shri A. P. Jain: Not so far.

PROGRAMME MATERIAL FOR FOREIGN BROADCASTING ORGANISATIONS

*823. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state whether any requests from foreign broadcasting organisations for supply of programme material and recordings from A.I.R. for use in their Home Services were received during 1951-52?

(b) If so, from what countries were such requests received and what material was supplied to them?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 1.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the requests received from all the countries have been met, or recordings have been supplied only to a few countries?