

FERTILISER FACTORIES

*434. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 332 asked on the 31st August, 1954 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken for the establishment of more fertiliser factories in the country; and

(b) if so, where the new units will be located?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes.

(b) The location of the new units will be decided on receipt of the recommendations of the Fertilizer Production Committee which has been constituted to consider and make recommendations on the various questions involved in the creation of fresh capacity. A copy of the Ministry of Production Resolution No. Fy.I-17(1)/54, dated the 29th October, 1954, published in a Gazette of India Extraordinary on the same day is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 53.]

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the proposal is to manufacture more ammonium sulphate, or some other compound of fertiliser is contemplated?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The intention is to increase the capacity for the production of nitrogenous fertilisers. They include ammonium sulphate undoubtedly, but also what is known as double salt and nitro-chalk.

Shri Karni Singhji: As far as the location of the new factory is concerned, may I sincerely hope that Rajasthan's case will be considered favourably?

Shri K. C. Reddy: All deserving cases will be given the utmost consideration.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know whether any representation has been made to the hon. Minister, that the proposed factories should be erected in the southern part of the country?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Representations have been made that the proposed factory should be located not only in the southern part of the country, but also in the northern, eastern and western parts of the country.

Mr. Speaker: There should be no suggestions for action, in the form of putting questions, saying that this place should be selected or that place should be selected.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: How many such factories are proposed to be established, and at what cost?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot say that now. It is just for that purpose, and for some other purposes, that this Committee has been constituted. They will look into all aspects and suggest how many factories have to be located, what their capacity should be, and so on and so forth.

Shri Jaipal Singh: What are the special reasons that prevent Government from locating the fertiliser factories near sites where the raw materials are available?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That is a very general question, which I cannot answer now.

RECTIFIED SPIRIT

*435. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the monopoly of the manufacture of rectified spirit having been assumed by the Government of Bombay several manufacturers of pharmaceuticals are handicapped; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any steps to help the pharmaceutical industry in Bombay in getting their requirements of rectified spirit at cheaper rates?