

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: From the statement, I find that only 44 villages in the Arambag sub-division will be benefited by the scheme. May I know whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government to extend the facilities of irrigation to the neighbouring areas also?

Shri Hathi: At present there is no such proposal but later on, having regard to the terrain of the neighbouring areas, if it is found possible to irrigate them, it may be considered.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: In view of the fact that 25 per cent of the water will be withheld, may I know what amount of water of the Dwarakeswar, a tributary of the Damodar, will be withheld during the rainy season and what amount during other seasons?

Shri Hathi: As I have already said the committee will look into this question.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether this is a departmental committee and if so, whether they will accept representations from the local people who are affected by these schemes?

Shri Hathi: If the representations are sent to the Bengal Government, they will forward them to the committee for examination.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this committee will also look into the problems of the Rupnarain River whose water flow has been disturbed by Damodar Valley?

Shri Hathi: In fact, that is one of the terms of reference to the committee, namely, what steps, if any, should be taken for preventing deterioration of the lower Damodar Valley.

Slack Coal

*1003. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any scheme for effective utilisation of slack coal in India; and

(b) what is the total stock of slack and other low grade coals lying at the different pit-heads of the collieries in India, as on the 30th June, 1955?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Slack coal is at present mainly used for brick burning purposes. As regards the utilisation of slack coal, the Working Party for the coal industry recommended in 1951 that all

future thermal stations situated in or near about the coalfields should invariably be designed to use slack, dust or pulverised fuel with an ash content of not less than 24%. This recommendation has been accepted by the Government and the authorities concerned have been requested to take necessary action to implement the above recommendation as far as practicable.

(b) According to the figures compiled by the Coal Commissioner the stocks as on 30th June, 1955 were:—

- (1) Slack coal in West Bengal/Bihar coalfields—1.6 million tons, including 1 million tons of low grade slack.
- (2) Stocks of other low grade coal—870,000 tons.
- (3) Stocks of coal in fields outside West Bengal/Bihar—162,000 tons.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: As the need for effective utilisation of slack coal cannot be over-estimated, may I know whether the Fuel Research Institute at Dhanbad has submitted any scheme for production of synthetic oil from it and also whether the Fuel Economy Enquiry Committee Report has thrown any light on the subject of its proper utilisation?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Fuel Research Institute held a symposium on the subject and they recommended that apart from its being used for thermal stations, slack coal can also be utilised for synthetic gas generation and for production of chemical fertilisers, and for boilers. The various schemes are under the consideration of the Government and the Planning Commission.

Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha: Is there any proposal to prepare bricks for the use of boilers out of this slack coal?

Shri Satish Chandra: That is not being considered in the public sector. Private industry can take this up, if it is profitable to do so.

Shri Chattopadhyaya: Is it not a fact that the quality of slack coal deteriorates to the extent of 50 to 60 per cent when exposed?

Shri Satish Chandra: Slack coal does not indicate the qualitative composition of Coal. Coal which is less than 1" in size is termed as slack coal.

Sindri Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd.

*1004. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state the present strength of re-employed retired Government servants in the administrative offices of the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey): Eleven, including three upper division clerks.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether it is a fact that such appointments in non-administrative offices are also very large? If so, may I know what the reasons are for Government employing retired hands when fresh talents are available?

Shri R. G. Dubey: In non-administrative offices, the number is about 8. The reasons are that the company requires specialised hands for this purpose, and so these experienced persons are appointed.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether the Government are aware that under the name of specialised hands, such persons have been recruited who are not physically fit and weak for the work?

Shri R. G. Dubey: Only in certain cases retired men are employed. The age of retirement in Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited is 58 years. Only in certain cases, extensions are given and they are made up to 60 years, in view of their rich experience.

Mr. Speaker: The point is that they are physically so weak that they are unable to work.

Shri R. G. Dubey: That is not the information of the Government.

हिन्दी की पाण्डुलिपियों की छपाई

*१००५. **डा० राम सुभग सिंह:** क्या निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि हिन्दी की पाण्डुलिपियों को फोटो कम्पोजिंग से छापने का एक आसान तरीका निकाला गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या उस तरीके को भारत में प्रचलित करने के कोई प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं ?

निर्माण, आवास और संभरण मंत्री (सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह): (क) तथा (ख). कई कम्पनियां अनेकों प्रकार की फोटे कम्पोजिंग मशीनों का विकास करने में लगी हुई

हैं। इन मशीनों के बनाने वाले ऐसे तरीकों की खोज कर रहे हैं जिससे प्रूफ (proof) में गलतियां अच्छी तरह से ठीक, ठीक सही की जा सकें। ऐसे किसी तरीके का विकास हो जाने पर ही इन मशीनों को काम में लाने का विचार किया जा सकता है।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह: क्या सरकारी छापेखानों में भी फोटो कम्पोजिंग से हिन्दी की छपाई करने के बारे में कोई प्रयोग किया जा रहा है, और यदि हां, तो इस छपाई से समय में और व्यय में कितनी कमी होने की आशा है ?

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह: मैं पहले जवाब दे चुका हूँ कि अभी किसी सरकारी छापेखाने में ऐसी मशीन चालू नहीं की गई है क्योंकि कोई मशीन अभी तक ऐसी नहीं बन सकी है जिसमें अच्छी तरह से गलती को ठीक किया जा सके।

Cotton Market

*१००६. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the U. S. A. cotton surplus has had any adverse effect on the Indian Cotton Market?

The Minister of Industries (Shri Kanungo): It is understood that surplus stocks of cotton will be released by America during the period January-July 1956 in limited quantities and specified qualities. It is too early to assess precisely the effects of such unloading of the surplus stocks.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether there is any consternation in the cotton market on account of this news?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): No. The ruling prices indicate no such consternation. The prices are hardening. I am rather worried about the fact that the prices are going up.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: How much American cotton do we import?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We only import American cotton of a particular staple length 1 and 1/16 and above. We