

because there had been several violations of the conditions of the licence.

Shri Bose: May I know what foreign material was mixed up with this explosive powder and whether it has been checked so as to know if such foreign material is also being mixed in other factories?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The foreign material was found to be grit and iron particles. By a magnetic test it was found that iron particles were there. Also there was grit from the shed where the mixing takes place. As I said, the mixing was being done in a place which was not authorised for the purpose.

Shri Kasliwal: The hon. Minister referred to several violations of the licence. May I know whether these violations have come to the notice of the Government only after this explosion or even before, and if it was even before, what action was taken?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No, Sir. The factory was inspected only about three months before this accident. The licence was given because the conditions in the factory satisfied all the requirements of the licence. But then, subsequent to the granting of the licence they have been violating some of the conditions.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know on what criteria this sum of Rs. 9,000 has been placed for the payment of compensation? Did not the Government think that more money should be made available for the payment of compensation to the persons who have been killed?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is under the Workmen's Compensation Act and it is done by the State Government.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know who is the licensee who went on violating the conditions like that?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: His name is Shankar Lal.

Shri Tyagi: The hon. Minister stated that the mixing of gunpowder

was being done in an unauthorised place. May I know if the Superintendent of the factory or someone else responsible takes daily rounds of the factory and whether he does not see into these cases of mixing?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is a very small private concern. It seems that when the accident took place the licensee himself was not present. The whole operations were in charge of an almost illiterate workman.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if there is any scheme for the insurance of those workers who are employed in this strenuous work?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am afraid it is not for me to answer this question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri Bose: In regard to the second part of my question....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry. I have passed on to the next question.

Fertiliser Plant in Rajasthan

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*1722. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

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

(a) whether the proposal to set up the Fertiliser Plant in Rajasthan has been finalised;

(b) if so, whether its plan and estimates have been prepared;

(c) whether any work has been started; and

(d) if so, the progress made so far?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) to (d). The proposal to set up a fertilizer factory in Rajasthan will be considered along with other suitable sites when additional fertilizer factories are planned.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether this plant was financed by the Rajasthan Government alone or by the Central Government?

Shri Satish Chandra: The plant has not yet been decided upon. The question of setting up of a fertiliser plant somewhere in Rajasthan is to be explored. What the place will be, what will be produced, how much quantity can be produced are all matters under consideration. The question of financing it does not arise at present.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the decision to establish further fertiliser factories will be taken during the second Five Year Plan?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is the only one.

Shri S. C. Samanta: There was a proposal about it.

Shri Satish Chandra: There is a proposal to start the construction of a fertiliser plant during the second Five Year Plan at Bombay. The locations for the rest are to be explored and they will be taken in the third Five Year Plan.

Shri Kasiwal: The hon. Minister said that the question of location will be considered later. May I know whether Government have taken a decision that there has to be in principle, a fertiliser factory in Rajasthan also?

Shri Satish Chandra: The setting up of a fertiliser factory in Rajasthan was gone into in great detail when fertiliser projects for the second Five Year Plan were considered. The difficulty was regarding water supply and availability of power. There is no doubt there is suitable raw material for the production of ammonium sulphate in Rajasthan. But all these matters have to be gone into thoroughly before a final decision can be taken.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether the Rajasthan Government has submitted any scheme in this regard?

Shri Satish Chandra: The Rajasthan Government has been pressing the Central Government to locate a fertiliser plant in Rajasthan for a long time—for five or six years. The difficulty, as I said, is about water supply and electricity. If these facilities could be made available, there are feasible sites for the production of ammonium sulphate in Rajasthan.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Two important raw materials for the production of this fertiliser are gypsum and coal. Coal is not there, but lignite is there. May I know whether Government have examined the possibility of utilising lignite for the manufacture of the fertiliser?

Shri Satish Chandra: The production of fertiliser or ammonium sulphate in Rajasthan can of course be based on the utilisation of lignite and gypsum; there are other difficulties.

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know when the fertiliser plant is likely to be established in Orissa?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Orissa is not in question now.

Shri Satish Chandra: The factory is under construction.

Shri Panigrahi: Besides the fertiliser plant in the public sector, may I know whether there is any proposal to set up a fertiliser plant during the second Five Year Plan in the private sector?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: In Rajasthan?

Shri Panigrahi: Anywhere.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are not concerned about it.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Is it not a fact that all the details for the establishment of a fertiliser factory in Rajasthan had been worked out and it was only because of the question of heavy water to be taken up at

Bhakra Nangal that the consideration of this factory was postponed and it was taken up first for Bhakra Nangal, and then a promise was given that the next choice would be Rajasthan?

Shri Satish Chandra: No promise was given. The sites in Rajasthan were considered. As I said, if the difficulties relating to water supply and electricity could be overcome it would be possible to set up a fertiliser factory in Rajasthan.

Productivity Projects

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*1723. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the Productivity Projects taken up during 1958;

(b) who took the initiative;

(c) how far the help of I.L.O. was available; and

(d) whether the results have been assessed?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra):

(a) Two advanced work study courses were organised in Bombay.

(b) The Productivity Centre of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

(c) Three I.L.O. experts helped to design and organise the first course. The second organised on the same lines as the first, was run by the staff of the Productivity Centre.

(d) The courses were appreciated by the State Governments and industry, but quantitative assessment of results has not yet been planned.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that productivity project reports were published in 1956 and 1957, and if so, how far was it helpful in 1958?

Shri L. N. Mishra: They were published and placed in the library also. They were certainly of help.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether productivity projects for members of the Engineering Associations were thought of?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Yes, it was held for the Engineering Association only last year, in Bombay.

International Friendship Associations

*1724. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many mushroom international friendship associations have been formed recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that many of them were formed on the eve of visits of foreign dignitaries; and

(c) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Several international friendship associations have been formed recently but it is a matter of opinion as to whether they are mushroom bodies.

(b) Yes.

(c) Government do not propose to take any action.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether Government is aware of the working and functioning of these associations?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: Yes; we have an idea as to how they work.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that some of these associations are financed by foreign countries?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: We have no information on that.