

Czechoslovakian Scholarships

494. **Shri Sivamurthi Swamy:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scholarships have been offered by Czechoslovakia for study of specific subjects in that country during 1964-65;

(b) if so, whether some candidates were called for interview for selection; and

(c) whether any candidate for educational planning has been selected and if so, from what State and what is the period of study abroad?

The Minister for Cultural Affairs in the Ministry of Education (Shri Hajar-navis): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Subsequent portions of the question do not arise.

Oil Prospects in Bastar District

495. **Shri R. S. Pandey:** Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any prospects of oil reserves in Indravati Basin in Bastar district; and

(b) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to conduct any survey of the region?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The rocks in the area are pre-cambrian to cambrian and do not *prima facie* offer such prospects.

(b) Not for the present.

Teaching about U.N.

496. **Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance

(a) whether it is a fact that Asian Regional Seminar on teaching about the United Nations held in Delhi in November 1964, recommended the integration of lessons on U.N.O. in the school curriculum; and

(b) if so, whether Government of India have taken any steps to implement this recommendation?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) No such recommendation has been received by Government.

(b) Does not arise.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

(i) EXPLOSION IN SINDRI FERTILIZERS FACTORY

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Jalore): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“Recent explosion in Sindri Fertilizers Factory resulting in stoppage of production.”

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): Explosion at Sindri Factory and Stoppage of production. On Tuesday, the 10th November, 1964, there was an explosion in the Ammonia Plant at Sindri Fertilizer Factory around 10.15 p.m. resulting in a complete shut-down of the plants. The water inlet pipe to the turbine led No. 2 Water scrubber pump, was damaged at the weld, resulting in sudden release of water from the scheme under pressure. When once the water had drained out, the gas escaped through this and there was an explosion when the gas caught. Accounts of the pipe section was installed. Development had been manufactured by the firm.

While the fire was being fought, the State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals had the shock crew