

[English]

Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers

6643. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA :
SHRI RAM NAIK :

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a leakage of toxic gases from the factory of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF) in Bombay, recently;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into this incident;

(d) if so, the findings thereof;

(e) the compensation paid to the affected persons and the steps taken to prevent such incidents in future; and

(f) the number of incidents of ammonia leakage detected at RCF, Bombay during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS, AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b). There was an accidental release of ammonia gas on 13.4.1995 for a very short duration at the Trombay plant of Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited (RCF) due to malfunctioning of control valves/transmitter.

(c) to (e). Since the release of ammonia gas was accidental and for a very short duration, causing no loss of life or property, the question of ordering an enquiry into the incident by the Government or payment of compensation does not arise. With a view to avoiding recurrence of such incidents, the control valve has been modified and the company has undertaken study of the plant to identify any possibility of leakage from any other point.

(f) One ammonia emission incident has occurred on 8.6.1994 from another plant of RCF due to process upsets, but there was no loss of life or property.

[Translation]

Uri Hydel Power Project in Kashmir

6644. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uri Hydel Power Project on Jhelum with capacity of 480 MW is under construction in North Kashmir region;

(b) if so, whether the original construction cost of the project has increased;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the said project is likely to be completed within the stipulated period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Project was sanctioned in June 1989 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1632.62 crores. The present estimated cost of the project is Rs. 3070.67 crores.

(d) and (e). The project was originally scheduled to be commissioned by November, 1995, but the progress on the project has been affected by the law and order situation in Jammu & Kashmir and it is now expected to be commissioned in May '97.

[English]

Manufacturing of Cans

6645. SHRI RAM NIHOR RAI : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up small scale industries for manufacturing of cans required for food processing industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI) : (a) to (c). This Ministry does not set up units for can manufacturing directly. Presently, a good number of small units are producing cans and containers other than Open Top Sanitary cans which are required for packaging of certain varieties of food product; and, Open Top Sanitary cans which are required for packaging specified varieties of food products are being produced in few large scale units. There are also a few units producing aluminium cans for use in food industry.

Road Accidents

6646. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :
SHRI N. DENNIS :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to take some effective steps to curb the rising incidents of roads accidents; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to check the rising trend of road accidents, the Government have started a massive public awareness campaign. This includes strengthening of driving training facilities, conducting of Essay competitions among the school children, helping on road safety marches and other publicity measures through Press and Media. Besides certain amendments have been made in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 with a view to provide for stringent punishment for violation of traffic related rules. The Government has also been providing assistance to the State Governments in cash and kind to strengthen their road safety measures. It has also been decided to observe the year 1995 as Road Safety Year and further strengthen the road safety programmes in the country.

[Translation]

Bridges in Maharashtra

6647. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

- the number of bridges constructed on the National Highways in Maharashtra during 1994-95;
- the details thereof, location-wise and name-wise; and
- the total expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) Fifteen.

- Details are given in the Statement attached.
- Rs. 13 crore.

STATEMENT

S.No.	N.H.	Details of work
1	2	3
1.	3	Reconstruction of Minor bridge across Deori Nalla in Km.329/900
2.	3	Nagaon bridge at Km.253/200
3.	3	Major bridge across Godavari river in Km.415/200
4.	4	Flyover bridge on westerly diversion of Pune city at ch.29/139 to ch.29/396
5.	4	Viaduct to flyover bridge of Westerly diversion outside Pune city at ch.28/1739 to 29/139 on ch. 29/396 to 29/521
6-8	4B	Three minor bridges at ch.800, ch.1820 and ch. 4049

1	2	3
9.	6	Minor bridge in Km.504/565
10.	6	Minor bridge in Km.166/200
11.	6	Minor bridge in Km.172/1000
12.	6	Major bridge across Nalganga river in Km. 351/1000
13.	7	Minor bridge in Km.48/500
14.	7	Minor bridge in Km.154/800
15.	9	Bridge on Pakni Nalla in Km.230/800
Total		15 bridges

Diamond Mining

6648. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA :
SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state .

- the location and other details of diamond mines in the country;
- the profits earned/losses suffered by these mines during the last three years, year-wise;
- whether incidence of diamond and alexandrite has been located in Manipur and in Devbhog area in Raipur, Madhya Pradesh; and
- if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) The only diamond mine in the country is located in Panna district of Madhya Pradesh and is operated by M/s. National Mineral Development Corporation. The mine produces 18,000 carats of diamonds per year. Some private operators however, also recover diamonds on appermit system for shallow mines in Panna District of Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Profits/losses suffered during the last 3 years is as under :

Year	Profits	Losses
1990-91	51.07 lakhs	-
1991-92	79.51 lakhs	-
1992-93	-	80.76 lakhs

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. As per investigation carried out by Geological Survey of India and Directorate of Geology and Mining, Madhya Pradesh, possibilities of occurrences of Diamond and Alexandrite are found in some parts of Raipur district (Madhya Pradesh). Kimberlite bodies are discovered at Behradih, Payalikhand, Jhangra and Kodamali. Occurrences of other precious stones like alexandrites, garnet etc. are also confirmed from these areas.