

62 countries presented their findings during the Congress. The special features of the Congress were:

- six plenary lectures, including two by Nobel Laureates;
- 75 symposia on various topics;
- two-day special programme for the young scientists;
- 13 Satellite Symposia at eight centres;
- Symposia to encourage greater interaction between industry—academic institutions—National Labs.

The feed-back received on the conclusion of the Congress indicated that:

- quality and level of research in the areas of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry has enhanced considerably in the country during the last decade.
- there is need to have greater interaction between Industry—Academic Institutions—National Labs.
- large number of young scientists are engaged in research in frontier areas of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry.

[Translation]

Plastic Manufacturing Units

1172. SHRI BHEEM SINGH PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small scale plastic manufacturing units are in deep crisis due to continuous rise in the prices of P.V.C. resin;

(b) whether P.V.C. resin manufacturers are arbitrarily increasing the prices of P.V.C. resin; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to contain the prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS 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) to (c) PVC Resin is under open general licence for imports. The Small Scale Industry as well as organised Sector units therefore have the option of importing PVC or buying the same locally based on their commercial judgement. Prices of PVC Resin and their raw materials are not under price control and are governed by market forces.

International as well as domestic prices of PVC resin have increased during the last 6/8 months. It is reported by PVC producers that this is because of increase in international prices of their raw materials some of which have to be imported.

Explosion in Ammunition Factory, Khadki

1173. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some persons were killed recently following massive explosion in the ammunition factory at Khadki near Pune;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the outcome of the inquiry conducted into the circumstances leading to the explosion; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Nine workmen lost their lives in an explosion that took place in one building of the Ammunition Factory, Khadki on 10 October, 1994.

(c) and (d) The findings of the Board of Inquiry constituted for the mishap and the comments of the Ordnance Factory Board thereon are expected to be received shortly.

[Translation]

Government land occupied by land mafia

1174. SHRI B. L. SHARMA PREM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Government land is under occupation of land mafia in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof, as on 1.12.94 and its market price; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to reclaim such land and the area of land reclaimed during 1993-94 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) Delhi Development Authority and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi have reported as under:—

Delhi Development Authority:

No comprehensive survey has been conducted in respect of unauthorised occupation of land under the management of DDA. However 1329 acres of Nazul land as per details given below has been reported under encroachment.

Jhuggies	459.00 acres
Religious institutions	84.51 acres
Commercial	67.00 acres
Under litigation/Stay orders	278.70 acres
Others	439.79 acres

No evaluation to assess the market price has been done.