

Expansion in production in Fertilizers

288. SHRI F. F. GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a policy decision to expand the production of Fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, which are the new units to be set up and the places where these will be set up; and

(c) whether this will be linked with the production of low costs fertilizer or not?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). In addition to projects already under implementation, action is on hand to set up additional fertilizer capacity based on associate gas from the Bombay High and Basin structures. It is also proposed to set up a plant in Assam based on the gas available there from the oil fields of Oil India Limited and ONGC. Details in regard to the exact location, size, product mix etc. of these plants have not yet been firmed up.

(c) It will be the endeavour of the Government to get the maximum economies of scale so that the cost of production of fertilizers in the new plants is reduced to the extent possible.

सुगलसराय में गाड़ों तथा ड्राइवरों पर हमला

289. श्री राम नरेश कुशवाहा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सुगलसराय में गाड़ों तथा ड्राइवरों के विश्रामालय में कुछ असामाजिक तत्वों ने रेलवे ड्राइवरों पर हमला किया था;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) हमला करने वाले व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

रेल संवर्धन में राज्य संत्री (श्री शिव नारायण) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Splitting up of F.C.I.

290. SHRI R. D. GATTANI:

SHRI S. K. SARDA:

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

(a) whether in view of the severe opposition by a large number of Members of Parliament, the Press and the Public to the proposed scheme of splitting up of the Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. into four organisations the Government are giving second thoughts to that scheme;

(b) what will be the estimated expenditure if the proposed scheme is carried out;

(c) whether the proposed scheme is in consonance with the policy of economy and austerity; and

(d) whether he would like to place a complete white paper on the subject on the Table of Lok Sabha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (d). The Government decision is to reorganise the Fertilizer Corporation of India and National Fertilizers Limited so as to improve the efficiency of operations in their units. The Working Group set up for examining the legal, financial and other matters connected with the