

Production of Gypsum and Cement by Fertilizer and Chemicals Travancore Limited

7712. SHRI A. A. RAHIM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment proposed by Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd., for the conversion of by-product gypsum in Cochin Division and the consequential production of cement;

(b) the annual production of the various products contemplated in the schemes;

(c) the defects noticed by his Ministry in the scheme; and

(d) whether FACT has been directed to resubmit the scheme by a particular date, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL):

(a) The company submitted a feasibility Report in August, 1978 for conversion of gypsum into Ammonium Sulphate at an estimated cost of Rs. 13.55 crores. The production of cement was not envisaged in this proposal. However, it would generate by-product calcium carbonate which could be used for production of cement.

(b) The scheme was for the conversion of part (2.2 lakh tonnes per annum) of the by-product gypsum to get 135,000 tonnes of Ammonium Sulphate per annum.

(c) The scheme submitted by the company in August, 1978 was found to have the following defects:

(i) This would afford only a partial relief since it would cover only one half of the total gypsum output and the other half would still have to be dumped.

(ii) There were doubts whether the chalk from by-product gypsum from the type of phosphoric acid plant set up in Cochin would be

able to yield cement of acceptable quality.

(iii) The scheme was linked up with supply of excess carbon dioxide from Cochin Phase-I plant. The continuous availability of this carbon dioxide was in question as the plant, at the time, had not settled to steady production. An issue was also raised whether even in case such excess was assumed, it would not be better to use it to push the Phase-I urea plant to its full capabilities rather than put it for the less remunerative use of ammonium sulphate production.

(iv) FACT was asked to examine whether alternative sources of Carbon dioxide and ammonia could be located for the scheme. FACT was also asked to carry out Research and Development work on use of by-product gypsum for applications other than ammonium sulphate production.

(d) FACT has not been asked to resubmit the scheme by any specific date. It was asked to revise its proposal in the light of Government's remarks and come up to Government with a viable project. This is under the examination of FACT.

Transfer of claim and compensation record to National Archives

7713. SHRI ACHARYA BHAGWAN DEV: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether claim and compensation record of the Department of Rehabilitation (Settlement Wing) is being transferred to the National Archives of India;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether thousands of compensation cases are still pending for finalisation with the Department of Rehabilitation (Settlement Wing); if so, the number of cases (Region-wise);