

due to steep decline in sugarcane production, has created a psychology of storage in the market.

(c) and (d) Sugar factories are furnishing the figures of sugar production, stocks, sales, despatches etc. in the prescribed form. In case of default legal action will be taken against the defaulting factories.

Air pollution in and around Connaught Circus

1658. SHRI MANPHOOL SINGH CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air pollution in and around Connaught Circus, New Delhi has reached a dangerous level due to the Indraprastha Power Station fly-ash spilling into the town which also leads to citizens inhaling the dust from DESU; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) It is a fact that the dust emitted through the chimneys of the Indraprastha Power Station of D.E.S.U. is one of the contributory factors causing air pollution particularly in the surrounding areas of this power station. However, the extent of the air pollution so caused and the localities affected therefrom are largely dependent upon the direction and velocity of the wind.

(b) In order to examine and advise the measures for reducing pollution caused as a result of discharge of fly-ash contents alongwith smoke through the chimneys of the Indraprastha Power Station, the Government of India in the Ministry of Energy, appointed a High Power Technical Enquiry Committee in 1976. In pursuance of the recommendations of this Committee, an Electro-static Precipitator of 99.3 per cent efficiency has

been completed in January, 1979 in Unit No. 1 and the work in respect of the remaining four units is in progress. With the completion of the above anti-air pollution project at a total cost of about Rs. 8 crores, the dust emission level is likely to be brought down below the level of 150 mg/NM³ which is the acceptable standard.

Separate P and T Circle for J and K

1659. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the date when the separate P and T circle for J and K was sanctioned and opened;

(b) the contribution made by the State Government for getting the circle sanctioned;

(c) whether the circle was sanctioned on the basis of work load or was allowed to be sanctioned on some other basis; and

(d) the nature and quantum of the work load at the time of opening of circle?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) P & T Circle for J & K was sanctioned on 10-2-1966 and created with effect from 1-4-1966.

(b) Prior to sanction of P & T Circle for J & K, the Office of the Director, Telecommunications was already functioning in a departmental building at Srinagar. The State Government provided residential accommodation at Srinagar to the Director, Telecommunications. On creation of a new Posts and Telegraphs Circle, the Circle Office was accommodated in the same departmental building.

(c) Considering the need of a separate Circle for the J & K State, this P & T Circle was sanctioned.

(d) At the time of opening of P&T Circle for J & K, it comprised of 2 tal Divisions i.e. Jammu and Srinagar,