

Organisational Gaps in Fertiliser

6622. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the high level action Committee of experts on public sector undertakings has pointed out "organisational gaps" in fertiliser units and suggested immediate introduction of scientific measures for inventory control to enable them to pick up production;

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the recommendations made in the Report; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). The Experts Committee on public undertakings in its Report on the fertilizer sector has made some recommendations covering different aspects of materials management. These include centralization of materials management function, creation of a cadre for materials management, proper application of ABC analyses etc. Government proposes to take suitable action after fully studying the Report.

Leakage of official secrets to outsiders

6623. SHRI A. U. AZMI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has drawn any lesson from the recent arrest of an Official working as a P.A. to a Director for the alleged leakage of official secrets to outsiders;

(b) if so, what and the measures he has ordered to be taken to prevent such cases arising in future by fixing

the level of Officers who can take official files home; checking of the brief cases of staff at lower levels dealing with public firms such as drug, chemicals, man-made fibre and other vulnerable subjects;

(c) what action he has taken to prevent the entry of Resident Representatives/Liaison Officers of various Houses to the Branches/Sections/Rooms of P.A.S. to Officers particularly of those who had at one time been working in his Ministry; and

(d) whether he would consider the desirability of exercising a surprise check over the brief cases of such private firms' personnel and those of his Ministry upto the level of Section Officer and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) This will have to wait till full details of the manner of leakage become available.

(b) Adequate instructions already exist for safeguarding the security of Government documents. These instructions have been and are being brought to the notice of the officers of this Department from time to time.

No one except a gazetted officer can take Government records out of the security zone without a proper permit. The Security Staff of the Ministry of Home Affairs who are on gate duty at the Department can, in case of suspicion, search the belongings of any person at the time of his exit from a security zone.

(c) The Resident Representatives/Liaison Officers are not allowed to visit the Sections and the rooms of P.As. They can, by appointment, visit officers of the level of Under Secretary and above.

(d) According to the existing instructions, in case of suspicion, the security staff can search the belongings of any person at the time of his exit from the security zone.