

it is open to the UGC to say with regard to them that they will not give them assistance unless they conformed to that syllabus.

Shri S. N. Chaturvedi: Is it the intention of the Government to bring about a dead uniformity in the courses or there will be some sort of a discretion to universities to vary the syllabus and maintain the standards?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am a great believer of experiments in education. I think a dead uniformity is a terrible thing. But that is not the intention. The intention of the syllabus committee is to tell the universities: look, knowledge is advancing but your syllabus did not come up to that advancement.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: The standard of syllabus and the standard of text-books are an integral part of the whole. What steps does the Minister propose to take to integrate the standard of the text books to the standard of syllabus?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That has been answered; next question.

Fertilizers

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*510. { **Shri B. K. Das:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of **Petroleum and Chemicals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of Fertilizers produced at Sindri Fertilizers Ltd. is very high as compared to imported fertilizers;

(b) if so, the reasons for this high cost; and

(c) how do Government propose to bring down the high cost?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Hamayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The high cost is due mainly to the fact that production in Sindri is based on Gypsum and Coke as raw materials whereas other

countries have generally switched over to natural gas or fuel oil.

(c) By increasing the volume of production and progressive change over to a direct neutralization process.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether the inadequate working of the coke-oven plant and gas plant also contributed to the rise in cost?

Shri Humayun Kabir: This is also one contributory factor.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know whether in respect of two other products, urea and double salt, there is high cost?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The overall position is this. There was some short-fall in production in 1961-62. But between 1962-63 and 1963-64, especially 1963-64, the position has improved and we hope the plant will now be able to produce at full capacity. When it does so, naturally the overhead costs would be distributed over a larger volume of production and to that extent the cost will be reduced but the initial disadvantage is there, that is to say, we are using there gypsum and coal whereas in modern factories natural gas or fuel oil is used. In addition there was deterioration in quality of gypsum. Originally it was estimated that for every ton of ammonia, 0.76 ton of coal, 0.486 ton coke and 1.50 tons of gypsum would be required. In fact the amount required now is 0.895 of coal, 0.487 of coke and 1.86 tons of gypsum. That means the cost has gone up. We are doing our best to adopt new processes.

Shri Subodh Hansda: The hon. Minister stated that the cost of production will go down when the volume of production increases. If that is so, what is the Government's plan to increase production?

Shri Humayun Kabir: In 1958-59 the production was 3.35 lakhs. In 1959 it went down. In 1961-62 it was 2.84 lakhs and in 1962-63 it was 3.23 lakhs. We hope to raise the production so that the cost will be reduced.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Who were the consultants who advised us to set up this fertiliser plant which is very uneconomical?

Shri Humayun Kabir: In 1958-59 this went into production. It means that it must have been planned about 1952-53. My hon. friends should remember that the development of petro-chemical industries in America and in England is a matter of development for the last ten years or so. I do not know who were the advisers but I am sure they gave us the best advice that was available at that time.

श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी : योजना में निर्धारित लक्ष्यों के अनुसार कब तक हम इस सम्बन्ध में सेल्फ सफिशिएंट हो जायेंगे और हमको इम्पोर्ट करने की आवश्यकता नहीं पड़ेगी ।

श्री हुमायून् कबिर : जितनी सीमा तक फर्टिलाइजर को बढ़ाना हमारे लिये पासिबल होगा हम उसको बढ़ायेंगे और हमें उम्मीद है कि थर्ड फाइव इयर प्लान के आखीर तक हम कम से कम आधा मिलियन टन अमोनिया प्रोड्यूस करेंगे या शायद उस से भी ज्यादा हम कर सकेंगे लेकिन जितनी ज्यादा अमोनिया हम प्रोड्यूस करेंगे उतनी ही उसकी मांग भी ज्यादा हो जायेगी ।

Shri H. V. Koujalgi: What is the period by which Government propose to bring down the cost by applying the new processes?

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is very difficult to give any time-limit with regard to these mechanical and chemical processes.

Shri P. R. Patel: What is the cost of production of fertiliser per ton and at what price do we sell it? What is the cost of imported fertiliser per ton?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is only about the Sindri fertilisers. Shri K. C. Pant.

Shri K. C. Pant: Since the imported fertiliser is cheaper than the indigenous fertiliser, may I know if the

Government is taking advantage of this fact to revise the pool price of fertilisers and, if not, how much profit has the Government been making in selling this fertiliser every year?

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is true that at the moment the imported price is lower than the price of the fertiliser produced within the country. But there must be a pool price because we do not want to be dependent for fertilisers on foreign imports alone. When all these new fertiliser factories go into production, and especially when, in the case of new factories, we are going to use naphtha and gas as the base for the production of the fertiliser, I hope that within about three years we shall be able to achieve a fairly reasonable balance between the imported price and the price of the fertiliser produced within the country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Question is over.

Shri K. C. Pant: The Question is whether....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Age Limit for Entry into Universities

*505. { **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**
Shri D. N. Tiwary:
Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have suggested to the State Governments for prescribing a uniform age limit for entry in universities; and

(b) if so, the reactions of the State Governments in this regard?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). The question of fixing the age of entry into