

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: In the context of the demand of these two Companies for a fresh agreement, has the Government made any assessment for the cost or any other responsibility which will follow the agreement?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I really do not understand the question because there is a refinery established under a licence and that refinery will be converted into an ordinary trading unit and it will come under the trading licence. There is no question of any cost.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Keeping in view the huge profits that these two Companies have made and our increasing requirements, may I know if the Government is intending to nationalise these two Companies, and if the answer is in the affirmative may I know what preparations have been made so far?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have already answered this question more than once in this House.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the agreement entered into with these two foreign Companies gave them a sort of a super national status in this country and there was a demand to scrap this agreement, may I know whether the Government are contemplating to effect new agreements with these Companies and bring ESSO, Shell and Caltex under the Industries Development and Regulation Act so that they might function as national bodies, not super national bodies?

Shri Humayun Kabir: No unit can function in this country except according to law. It was under the law that they were given certain contracts and these contractual rights will continue as long as the contracts stand. But the Companies have themselves volunteered to terminate those agreements and this is now under discussion.

Shri Kapur Singh: May I request that Q. No. 857 may also be taken up along with Q. No. 845?

Mr. Speaker: If it is convenient to the Minister, I have no objection.

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have no objection. I will answer both.

Scientists' Pool

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*845. { **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**
Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri Mohan Swarup:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of the scientists' pool maintained by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) the number of persons who left the pool on securing regular employment abroad; and

(c) the number of persons selected to the pool, who have obtained regular employment in India till the end of February, 1964?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) There is no ceiling on the strength of the Pool. The working strength on 1st March, 1964, was 507.

(b) 10.

(c) 790.

Indian Scientists Abroad

*857. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian scientists working in foreign countries together with the name of the country in which each of those scientists is working;

(b) the attempts made or incentives offered to attract them to the service of our motherland; and

(c) how many have so far been induced to return home?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) The names and particulars of 'Indian scientists' who have been abroad after 1st January, 1957 are being published by the National Register Unit of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research in the 'Indians Abroad' directories, copies of which are available in the Library of the House.

(b) The Government have taken certain steps to facilitate employment and utilisation of Scientists and Technologists returning from abroad:—

- (i) A separate register of those scientific and technical personnel who are receiving training or are in employment in foreign countries is maintained.

The particulars of the registrants are circulated to a large number of employers in the public and private sectors.

- (ii) Cases of suitable candidates in the register are brought to the notice of the various employing agencies against their employment notifications.
- (iii) Abstracts of scientific and technical job notifications are printed in the Technical Manpower Bulletin and circulated to the Indian Missions abroad and to a number of foreign institutions for information of our scientists abroad.
- (iv) A Scientists' Pool for temporary placement and utilisation of well qualified personnel until they can secure regular employment in the country, has been created.

(c) According to the information available in the National Register Unit of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, 3896 registrants are reported to have returned to India during the period 1st January, 1957 to 1st January, 1964.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether it is a fact that nearly one hundred scientists are being maintained in this pool for more than one year and also nearly 40 scientists for more than two years, causing thereby a loss to the Government to the extent of Rs. 50 lakhs, and if so, what stands in the way of employing these personnel maintained in the pool?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have got the figures with me of how many have been maintained in the pool. The number of scientists in the pool for less than six months is 216, that for six to twelve months is 151, that for twelve to eighteen months is 59, and that for eighteen to twenty-four months is 32, and that for over twenty-four months is 49.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: What about the cost involved?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I have not got the figures in respect of the costs involved.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: What stands in the way of employing these personnel in regular service?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I may mention the procedure. Every scientist abroad is put in this pool, and he gets an emolument which ranges from Rs. 400 to Rs. 700. We try to place him in either universities or laboratories or institutions. If we cannot and some time has elapsed, even supernumerary posts are created so that he is usefully employed. The difficulty is to find a permanent employment; that is the only difficulty.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether there is a proposal to create an all-India service of scientists in order to give a boost to the scientists' morale?

Shri M. C. Chagla: There is a suggestion.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Are Government aware that there is a large number of trained, and I may say, almost world-renowned Indian scientists working in the service of

other countries and foreign Governments? Is it a fact that while Science Congresses are held in this country, these well known scientists of ours working in the service of other countries are not invited or at least many of them are not invited to those Science Congresses while foreign scientists are invited?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am not aware of any eminent scientist, whatever his nationality and whichever country he may belong to, not being invited to the Science Congresses.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that almost everyone who has been placed in this pool and is being given this honorarium is worth many times more than what the honorarium stands for and they are kept there only because the other Departments of Government do not co-operate with the Scientific Pool authorities in providing proper and permanent jobs with proper salaries to these people?

Shri M. C. Chagla: It is a great tribute to the patriotism of our young men that they come here on salaries which are much less than what they would get in the USA or the UK. We are trying our best to see that they get a salary commensurate with their qualifications, but we are a poor country and we cannot afford to pay them what the USA or the UK would be able to pay.

Shri Ranga: The hon. Minister has not replied to the second part of my question. The other Departments of Government are not co-operating with the result that these poor scientists are obliged to remain in this pool at almost the level of starvation salaries.

Shri M. C. Chagla: There have been difficulties in certain instances, but on the whole we have had co-operation from the universities and other institutions.

Shri Chandrabhan Singh: What is the number of scientists in the Pool who have been selected by the UPSC

but approval has not been given by the Home Ministry?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am not aware of any such case.

Shri Chandrabhan Singh: I will bring it to his notice.

Shri M. C. Chagla: All right.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it not a fact that the Scientists Pool has become a cesspool of anomaly, irregularity and half-heartedness as pointed out by the Public Accounts Committee, and it is because of this that Indian scientists working abroad do not like to come to this country and join the Pool or cesspool, whatever you may call it?

Shri M. C. Chagla: I am afraid the hon. Member is not well-informed. The Scientists' Pool is working very well. The majority of Indians abroad are returning because they are assured now of a salary.

Shri Kapur Singh: Do Government propose to institute a high-level investigation into the problem of the exodus of Indian scientists on the pattern of the one recently done in UK?

Mr. Speaker: He calls it exodus.

Shri M. C. Chagla: There is no exodus. How am I to investigate a problem which does not exist?

Shri Kapur Singh: Exodus and diaspora.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Is it a fact that some of the scientists, after waiting for their turn to come have got so much dejected that they have gone back? If so, what is their number?

Shri M. C. Chagla: That was so sometime back; when the scientists did not get a job and a salary, they went back. Now as soon as they come to India, they get a salary.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: I am talking of scientists registered in the Pool. They could not get their turn and they

could not wait. So they have gone back. What is their number?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The number is very small—if that is so.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: Which is the authority which is empowered to draw incumbents from the Pool for absorption into permanent service?

Shri M. C. Chagla: We know the qualifications of each member of the Pool. He may be a metallurgist, physicist, chemist and so on. We try to place him in a university or in a laboratory where his services will be most useful. That is how it works.

Industrial Complex in Madras

*846. **Shri R. S. Pandey:** Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered ESSO's scheme for establishing an industrial complex in Madras; and

(b) if so, the decision thereon?

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). If the reference is to Esso's offer to participate in the establishment of a refinery and ammonia and lube plants, it is still under examination.

Shri R. S. Pandey: What will be the cost of the industrial complex?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have not used the words 'industrial complex'. I referred to the question of the establishment of a refinery and ammonia and lube plants. It will depend on which offer is accepted because different parties have made different offers.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Do the terms offered by this company compare favourably with those of some other companies like Phillips which has entered into an agreement for starting a refinery in Kerala?

Shri Humayun Kabir: All the offers are being examined. Each has certain attractive features. The House will certainly not expect me to give a reply before a decision is taken.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: The hon. Minister replied that the matter is under examination. How long will it take for Government to come to a decision because this has been hanging fire for the last two years?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I am afraid the hon. Member is misinformed because the last date for receipt of offers was 31st March, which was yesterday. He says that this has been hanging fire for two years. I do not know where he got this information.

Serajuddin & Co. Affairs

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*847. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the magistrate appointed to try the cases connected with the affairs of Serajuddin and Co. has been transferred after the said trial had made considerable progress;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a new magistrate has been appointed for the purpose; and

(d) whether the cases are being heard *de novo*?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Hathi): (a) The Presiding Officer of the Third Additional Special Court Calcutta to which court one case arising out of the affairs of Serajuddin & Co. was allotted by the Government of West Bengal was transferred after the prosecution evidence was recorded.

(b) The Presiding Officer was transferred to the important post of Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate and in view of the emergent situation