

**Czechoslovakian Scholarships**

494. **Shri Sivamurthi Swamy:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scholarships have been offered by Czechoslovakia for study of specific subjects in that country during 1964-65;

(b) if so, whether some candidates were called for interview for selection; and

(c) whether any candidate for educational planning has been selected and if so, from what State and what is the period of study abroad?

**The Minister for Cultural Affairs in the Ministry of Education (Shri Hajar-navis):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Subsequent portions of the question do not arise.

**Oil Prospects in Bastar District**

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

(a) whether there are any prospects of oil reserves in Indravati Basin in Bastar district; and

(b) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission proposes to conduct any survey of the region?

**The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) The rocks in the area are pre-cambrian to cambrian and do not *prima facie* offer such prospects.

(b) Not for the present.

**Teaching about U.N.**

496. **Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

**Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance**

(a) whether it is a fact that Asian Regional Seminar on teaching about the United Nations held in Delhi in November 1964, recommended the integration of lessons on U.N.O. in the school curriculum; and

(b) if so, whether Government of India have taken any steps to implement this recommendation?

**The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla):** (a) No such recommendation has been received by Government.

(b) Does not arise.

12 hrs.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**(i) EXPLOSION IN SINDRI FERTILIZERS FACTORY**

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Jalore):** Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“Recent explosion in Sindri Fertilizers Factory resulting in stoppage of production.”

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan):** Explosion at Sindri Factory and Stoppage of production. On Tuesday, the 10th November, 1964, there was an explosion in the Ammonia Plant at Sindri Fertilizer Factory around 10.15 p.m. resulting in a complete shut-down of the plants. The water inlet pipe to the turbine led No. 2 Water scrubber pump, ated way at the weld, resulting in action release of water from the scheme under pressure. When once the gas had drained out, the gas through this and there was sion when the gas caught accounts pipe Section was instalcalcs Develop- had been manufactumited firm.

While the fire State in the Minis- and Chemicals the shock crea

[Shri Alagesan]

the gas caused extensive damage to the roof sheetings in the plant. The walls of the electrical sub-station adjacent to the place of the accident were also damaged badly. In all, 10 people were injured (out of this seven had very minor injuries and were discharged the same day from hospital and the other three have also since been discharged from the hospital).

During the current month, the Factory had planned for a 16 hour shut down in Ammonia Plant, on the 12th November, 1964, but due to this unfortunate accident, it was decided to advance the shut-down programme to 11th itself so that the total loss of production could be minimised. After clearing all the debris and checking the mechanical and electrical installation for their soundness, expansion section was started on the 11th afternoon and the load brought upto normal production by the 12th November.

In the old ammonia plant, there was no production on the 11th. The first compressor in this plant was started at 4.30 a.m. on November 12 and the load was progressively stepped upto 3 compressors on the midnight of November 12. On November 14, the old plant went on 4 compressors load and on November 15 the load was stepped upto 6.4 compressors, which is practically normal.

On November 16th production of Ammonium Sulphate was 1003 tonnes and production of urea 40 tonnes. On November 20th production of Ammonium Sulphate was 1165 tonnes and urea 78 tonnes. The double salt plant has been started on the 18th November, 1964.

*Loss of Production:* The total loss of production of ammonia is expected to go upto 830 tonnes.

The corresponding loss of fertiliser production is estimated as follows:

Ammonium sulphate	1860 tonnes
Double salt	.... 450 tonnes
Urea	..... 130 tonnes

*Damage to Building:* Most of the damage has been on the buildings only. All the sheetings in the Water Scrubber Bay building were damaged as also one-third of the sheeting in the Compressor Bay. The wooden covering of the Degassifying Tower had also fallen on the side nearest to the water scrubbers.

The damage to plant and machinery appears to be rather minor. Some of the electrical panels in the Scrubber Bay which had fallen have been re-installed. A few sections of cables also had to be replaced.

The cost of repairs and replacements of the damaged sheets and electrical and mechanical equipment is estimated to be Rs. 1,35,000.

*Committee of Enquiry:* A Committee has been constituted with the Superintendent, Power House, Sindri Factory as Chairman to enquire into the causes of the accident and to recommend precautionary measures to be taken in future.

*Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:* This important factory has been suffering from chronic ailments for quite a considerable time. May I know whether the information furnished by the hon. Minister is just a report from the general manager or he has got it examined by some independent organisation and, if so, what was that?

*Shri Alagesan:* There was a preliminary report by the general manager but now he has appointed a committee with technical people on it and we expect that further facts will be known when that report is available.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (देवास) :  
सिंदरी फैक्टरी में जिस वाटर इनलेट पाइप के फट जाने के परिणामस्वरूप आग लग गई थी, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ उस मौके पर कौन कर्मचारी नियुक्त था, कौन कर्मचारी इसके लिये जिम्मेदार था जिसकी

कि लापरवाही के कारण उपरोक्त घटना हुई ? इसके अलावा कितने उत्पादन की हानि हुई है और उस होने वाली हानि का मूल्य कितना है ?

**पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (श्री हुमायून् कबिर) :** वहां पर कौन कर्मचारी मौजूद था और जिम्मेदार था वह तो मैं नहीं बतला सकता लेकिन वह एक ऐक्सीडेंट था जैसा कि पहली रिपोर्ट में बतलाया गया था कि कभी कभी गैस प्लांट लीक करने से और उस पाइप में से गैस ऐसकेप करने से ऐक्स-प्लोजन हुआ और आग लग गई । कैमिकल प्लांट में इस तरह की दुर्घटनायें ऐक्सीडेंट्स कभी कभी हो जाया करती हैं लेकिन बहरहाल हमें भविष्य के लिए होशियार हो जाना चाहिए । लौस जो बताया गया है वह 830 टन ऐमोनिया का प्रोडक्शन कम हुआ अब उससे जितनी फर्टिलाइजर पैदा होती है उसका हिसाब लगायें तो अन्दाजन 8 या साढ़े 8 लाख रुपये का नुकसान हुआ है ।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** जिसकी देखरेख में था उसके बारे में क्या हुआ ? जिन कमचारियों की लापरवाही के कारण यह गड़बड़ और दुर्घटना हुई उनका क्या बना ?

**अध्यक्ष सहोदय :** गड़बड़ कोई नहीं हुई बल्कि ऐक्सीडेंटली वाटर इनलैट पाइप लीक कर गया ।

Papers to be laid on the Table.

**Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur):** Mr. Speaker, before you proceed, as one concerned that your authority should be upheld may I know what happened to your direction yesterday that the calling attention notices were in arrears.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am putting two notices today; the second one will be

taken up at 5 O'clock. They will all be disposed of very soon.

**Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirapalli):** My calling attention notice also?

**Mr. Speaker:** I cannot say whether I have admitted it or not. I will dispose of those that are admitted within 3-4 days.

**Shri Nambiar:** Kerala now comes under this House directly.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not to be argued here.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur):** Sir, I am not referring to the calling attention notice as such.

**Mr. Speaker:** He refers to it by some other name.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Whenever a strike takes place, there should be specific instructions. Now, what they do is, when the strike is over, they come here and make a statement.

**Mr. Speaker:** Papers to be laid.

12.08 hrs.

## PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

### NOTIFICATION UNDER COMPULSORY DEPOSIT SCHEME ACT

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Compulsory Deposit (Income-tax Payers) Fourth Amendment Scheme, 1964, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1486, dated the 8th October, 1964, under section 16 of the Compulsory Deposit Scheme Act, 1963. (Placed in Library. See No. LT-3442|64).

Annual Report and audited accounts of Pyrites and Chemicals Development Company Limited

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals**