

that there is no medical evidence that air-borne lead from motor vehicles is harmful to health. So far as our country is concerned, the present lead concentration in the gasoline marketed in India is much lower than the limit specified by the Indian Standards Institute. It is much lower than that of in most of the Western countries and with the fairly low level of present consumption of gasoline, there it does not appear to be any need to impose restriction on the refinery units to eliminate lead in our country. I said, it depends on the circumstances of each country. So far as we are concerned, the lead content is much less.

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA : I do not know how he has come to this decision without making any research or study. I do not know. The permissible limit that is quoted here, taking the international standard, as I am told in England, is 0.43 grams. They have decided to reduce even that limit to 0.41 grams. In the light of these things, is the Government is prepared to accept 0.41 grams as standard and try to reduce the lead content? Will the Government take action to reduce that also?

SH. P. SHIV SHANKAR : So far as we are concerned, we are guided by the study of the Indian Standards Institute. When I said, no study had been taken up, that was with reference to the fact whether it has posed a serious danger to the children. Now the Indian Standards Institute has compared from time to time the Octane content and also the lead content in petrol and they have come to certain conclusion.

Well, the suggestion that my Hon. friend is giving as to what is prevailing in England and whether we should not accept the lead content to be only up to that level, is a matter which deserves consideration.

Setting Up Coal-Based Fertiliser Plants

*232. **SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH :** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any progress has been made in regard to the setting up of coal-based fertiliser plants in the country ;

(b) whether Government have chalked out any plan for the purpose ;

(c) which are the States where such plants will be set up ; and

(d) expenditure involved in each project ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) and (d). Two coal based fertilizer plants, one at Ramagundam and the other at Talcher went into commercial production with effect from 1-11-1980. The latest approved costs of these projects are :

Ramagundam	Rs. 224.06 crores
Talcher	Rs. 223.14 crores.

(b) and (c). The question of setting up new coal based fertilizer plants can be considered only after adequate experience becomes available from sustained operation of the Ramagundam and Talcher fertilizer plants.

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने एक जगह अपने उत्तर में कहा है :—

“The question of setting up new coal based fertilizer plants can be considered only after adequate experience becomes available.”

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उन्हें एडीक्वैट एक्सपीरिएंस 1980 से अब तक प्राप्त हुआ है या नहीं? अगर नहीं, तो वह कब तक प्राप्त हो जायेगा? और...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : एक ही सवाल एक वक्त में।

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : एक ही सवाल है।

मैं यह भी पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उन्होंने कोई तलवार कमेटी नियुक्त की थी और उसकी रिपोर्ट तलवार की धार पर आयेगी? अभी रिपोर्ट आई है या नहीं? अगर आई है तो क्या उसपर विचार किया जायेगा?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Sir, on the question of adequate experience from 1980, I must submit that this is a fairly new technology as far as these two plants are concerned. There is only one other plant in the world of the same dimension and that is in South Africa. Therefore, I cannot say whether we have attained adequate experience from commissioning it from 1980 with reference to the coal based fertilizer plants.

We could consider then for having further such plants.

As for the Talwar Committee Report, it is still awaited. It has not been submitted to the Government.

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : कब तक यह आयेगी, इसकी कोई उम्मीद है क्या?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Well, that is a matter which I must ask Mr. Talwar himself.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप यह क्यों नहीं कह देते कि उम्मीद पर जहाँ कायम है?

श्री राजेश कुमार सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतायेंगे कि इन दो प्लांट्स में अब तक कितने ब्रेक-डाउन हुए हैं और क्या वे ब्रेक-डाउन एक्विपमेंट की खराबी की वजह से हुए हैं या अव्यवस्था की वजह से?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : My Hon. friend has asked with reference to the break-downs of these two Plants. I must submit that both the Ramagundam and Talcher Plants have faced many teething problems since they went into commercial production. The main problems faced were break-down of raw gas compressor due to choking and corrosion, leakages in the heat exchanger of the absorption refrigeration system in the ammonia Plant, air separation units, heat exchanges of Rectisol Sections, the frequent failures of blades of steam turbine of air turbo compressors, power interruptions and power cuts. At Talcher, besides the above problems, the quality of coal has been a major problem.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government is considering to establish the coal-based fertiliser Plant in Raniganj where the coal is available in abundance.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : I have already made the submission. Based on the experience that we might gain from these two Plants, we might consider future plants.

SHRI SATYASADHAN CHAKRABORTY : You are giving an assurance that if the result is positive, you are going to establish the Plants.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Then your suggestion would also be considered.

SHRI SUNIL MAITRA : The Hon. Minister says that this coal-based fertiliser Plant has new technology. In view of this statement of the Hon. Minister, may I ask whether the Government is aware that as far back as 1964 or 1965, a delegation of engineers of Sindri Fertiliser Project submitted a Plan to the Government of India for setting up coal-based fertiliser plants in India?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : I am not aware of this 1964 report. I am sorry I am unable to say. You are asking about 1964 Report. I do not know it.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : Perhaps the Hon. Minister is aware that 80% of the total coal reserves in this country is located in Bihar and sometime in 1966-67, the Government of Bihar had prepared a feasibility report about the coal-based fertiliser Plant at Ramgarh, Hazaribagh.

In the light of this, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether he has any Scheme under consideration to set up coal-based fertiliser Plant in Bihar and what happened to the feasibility report which the Bihar Government has prepared regarding this Plant at Ramgarh in Hazaribagh district?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : I have already answered that only after having adequate experience, it would be possible for us to consider the other Plans. I have said that this is a very special technology and there is no other Plant of this dimension except in South Africa.

Television in the Hilly Areas

*233. **SHRI DIGAMBER SINGH :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the schemes for expansion of Television in the hilly areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : Television Relay Centres are proposed to be set-up at the following hilly areas, in the Sixth Plan :

- (i) Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh)
- (ii) Kodaikanal (Tamil Nadu)

In addition, a scheme for extensive coverage to North-Eastern region by setting-up a number of low-power transmitters is under consideration.

श्री दिगम्बर सिंह : क्या मंत्री महोदय यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में भी कहीं, और विशेष रूप से मथुरा में, जो देश का ही नहीं, पूरे विश्व का एक महत्वपूर्ण नगर है, कोई इस तरह की दूरदर्शन के विस्तार की योजना है ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्री वसंत साठे) : यह सवाल पर्वतीय क्षेत्र के बारे में आप ने पूछा था। उस का जवाब आप को दिया। अब आप पर्वत से मैदान में आ रहे हैं। तो मैदान की बात पूछेंगे तो मैदान की बात बताएंगे। वह कह रहे हैं मथुरा में लगाने के लिए.. (व्यवधान)

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY : The question does not say 'hill areas'; it says 'hilly areas'. There is a difference—like the Malabar Hill in Bombay.