

Health Hazard posed by Dye and Dye Intermediate Units

*491. SHRI K. MALLANNA:
SHRI N.E. HORO :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has requested the Government to take note of the serious health hazards posed by the 'almost uncontrolled proliferation' of dye and dye-intermediate units;

(b) whether Government are aware that the country is 'littered' with these units, haphazardly grown, where workers are exposed to grave risks to their health from toxic substances without proper occupational safety measures ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In its report, submitted in June, 1981 on the proposal of M/s. Amar Dyechem Ltd. for the manufacture of dye intermediates at Vapi, Gujarat, the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission has made these remarks. The Commission has gone on to refer to the need to enforce rigorously the existing legislative measures aimed at containing toxic effects and damage to ecology caused by units engaged in the manufacture of dyes and dye intermediates. The report has also suggested that the Government should consider enactment of a law on the lines of the Toxic Substances Control Act, 1976, of the United States of America.

(c) A decision on the suggestions made by the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission in

regard to legislative measures, will be taken keeping all relevant aspects in view.

By its very nature, the production of dyes and dye intermediates involves discharge of pollutants, particularly liquid effluents. It is necessary to treat the effluents suitably so as to prevent pollution. Water pollution is regulated under the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Air pollution is regulated under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. These are administered by the State Governments concerned. The State Governments are being requested to enforce the provisions of these Acts rigorously.

Indo-Nepal talks on Exploitation of Water Resources

*492. SHRI G. NARSIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Nepal has agreed to have joint ventures with India for exploitation of water resources between the two countries as a result of talks held between the two countries.

(b) if so, whether any positive proposal for creating reservoirs in Nepal for rivers which cause floods in India was discussed ;

(c) whether the question of construction of Hydel Projects with joint endeavour also figured in the talks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes Sir. India and Nepal have agreed to joint investigations of certain river valley projects.

(b) to (d). Preliminary agreements between India and Nepal have been reached on Hydel Projects, proposed on the river Sharda (Mahakali) at Pancheswar on the Indo-Nepal border and the river Karnali (Ghagra) in Nepal. These Hydel Projects when fully commissioned would have power generation capacities of 2000 and 3600 megawatts respectively. In addition they would provide benefits by way of irrigation and flood regulation to downstream areas in both India and Nepal.

Government of India have also proposed to His Majesty's Government of Nepal the construction of a High Dam on the river Kosi at Barakshetra in Nepal. This High Dam would not only provide primary benefits in respect of flood control but also considerable benefits by way of irrigation and generation of hydro-electricity. The response of His Majesty's Government of Nepal to this proposal is still awaited. In addition Government of India and Nepal have also been discussing the construction of a multi-purpose dam on the Western Rapti in Nepal.

Indian Delegation's Visit to China

*493. SHRI R.P. GAEKWAD:
SHRI S.B. SIDNAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation from India had discussions in Beijing recently on the normalisation of Sino-Indian relations ;

(b) whether the two countries evolved any formula for settlement of disputes between the two countries; and

(c) the outcome thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes Sir.

A detailed statement has already been made in the House on December, 17, 1981.

(b) It was not our anticipation that it would be possible to make substantive progress in the first round. Fairly wide differences persist, but it is hoped that the exchange of views could result in a better understanding of each other's positions.

(c) In the light of the report of our delegation we are considering how we can take this matter forward. We may, however, regard the fact of the meeting the first on this subject in 20 years, as a positive step. This, we understand, is also the Chinese view.

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद् द्वारा राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान प्रतिभा प्रतियोगिता

*494. श्री बी. डी. सिंह : क्या शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्री निम्नलिखित जानकारी दर्शाने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक, अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद् प्रति वर्ष "राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान प्रतिभा" प्रतियोगिता आयोजित करती है;

(ख) क्या इस योजना के अन्तर्गत छात्रों को छात्रवृत्ति दी जाती है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उन छात्रों की संख्या कितनी है जिनको हर वर्ष छात्रवृत्ति दी गई और गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान कुल कितनी धनराशि की छात्रवृत्ति दी गई; और

(घ) इस योजना के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न आय वर्गों के कितने-कितने छात्रों को लाभ मिला ?

रत्न तथा शिक्षा और समाज कल्याण मंत्रालयों तथा संसदीय कार्य विभाग में उप-मंत्री (श्री मील्सकाबुर्न) : (क) राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान तथा प्रशिक्षण परिषद् 1977 तक "राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान प्रतिभा" प्रतियोगिता आयोजित किया करती थी। मात्र से इस प्रतियोगिता का क्षेत्र व्यापक बना दिया गया है और इसका नाम बदलकर "राष्ट्रीय