

श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद वर्मा : मंत्री महोदय बताएं कि क्या वह इस बात की जांच कराएंगे कि इस बारे में भ्रष्टाचार है या नहीं।

श्री बुटा सिंह : यहां तो कोई भ्रष्टाचार नहीं है क्योंकि मामले कचहरी के सामने हैं।

SHRI R. L. BHATIA: The Rehabilitation Department built 56 markets for the refugees and they were handed over to the refugees. But there are nine markets which have not been handed over to the refugees, but have been taken over by the New Delhi Municipal Committee, and a representation has been made. They say that since there is a lot of income the market cannot be given to the refugees. When these markets were built for the refugees and their claims have not been settled as yet, why have these markets not been handed over to them?

SHRI BUTA SINGH: That is a separate question. In this question information about the colonists was being asked by the hon. Member. If the hon. Member wants to have some information on the markets meant for the refugees, he can give me a separate notice. In case he has got a case, he may kindly refer it to me. I will have it looked into.

Disposal of Oil Sludge at Uran terminal

*245. **SHRI E. BALANANDAN:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proper arrangement to dispose of the oil sludge at Uran Terminal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are two sludge lagoons provided at the Uran Terminal where the sludge is collected. The sludge collected is disposed off by inviting tenders, the last sale of 3500 Tonnes being at Rs. 555.55 per m.t. plus taxes & excise.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: The ONGC is a prestigious public sector concern which is doing very good work. But at the same time, we should not neglect if any lapses occurred there. We have to find out and remedial action should be taken.

It is reported in the *Blitz* dated June 19, that the ponds or conveniences available for collecting the sludge are very little and a large quantity of the excess sludge is dumped into the sea. If that is so some remedial steps are to be taken immediately. I want to know whether it is a fact.

Also, it is said in the same report in the *Blitz* that during the last two years four mishaps occurred in this Uran Terminal. They are, bursting of a 5,000-tonne tank, tilting of a 6,000-tonne storage tank, explosion of an air compressor and malfunctioning of the turbine due to defects. Altogether, a loss of Rs. 7 crores is said to have been incurred by the ONGC. May I ask whether this is a fact, and if so whether any departmental inquiry has been conducted about these mishaps? Also, are there sufficient facilities for discharging the sludge?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as on today there is no information except what has appeared in the *Blitz*, that as alleged by my friend, some of the sludge has been dumped into the sea. My information from the Department does not confirm this news.

On the other question with reference to the accidents, that would not form part of this question because this is with reference to the sludge lagoons.

About phase I of the Uran terminal itself, if a separate question is put, perhaps I shall be able to furnish the information.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Regarding the lagoons itself, sufficient storage facility is not there.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: It is there and we are going to have one more lagoon.

SHRI E. BALANANDAN: This Uran Terminal is far away from the original Bombay High Head Office. Therefore, the workers there are finding difficulty in getting their day to day matters sorted out. If they want to take leave, they will have to wait for 20 days. This kind of inconvenience is being experienced by the workers. Will the Minister look into that and take remedial steps?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: I do take notice of the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : In reply to part I of the question, the Minister has indicated the arrangement which is already there whereby the contractors remove the sludge. Have there been complaints from various fishermen—shore fishermen as well as offshore fishermen—that the sludge is dumped at a place which is not proper? The contractor is not responsible. He removes the sludge and dumps it anywhere else creating a lot of pollution in the sea. If so, what arrangements have been made for disposing of this sludge properly?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: This sludge is deposited in the brick-lined sludge ponds. It is not as though it is taken somewhere. There are already two such ponds. We are making arrangements for constructing third one also.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Both the ponds are leaking and the sludge is going back to the sea.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: That is news to me.

Therefore, the question of dumping does not arise. So far, there has not been any report even with reference to the leakage of the lagoons, as has been sought to be made out. On the question of environmental aspect and pollution control, various steps have been taken and they continue to be taken. There is an advisory committee for that ONGC is also taking necessary precautions to check water and air pollution. All possible steps are being taken so far as ONGC itself is concerned.

गुजरात में तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग के तेल के कुओं से तेल की चोरी

*247. श्री नरसिंह मकवाना : क्या पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री विमन-लिखित जानकारी दर्शाने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गुजरात में तेल तथा प्राकृतिक गैस आयोग के तेल के कुओं में से गत एक वर्ष के दौरान कितनी मात्रा में तेल चुराए जाने का पता लगा है, और पुलिस ने कितना चुराया हुआ तेल बरामद किया है ;

(ख) गैर-कानूनी रूप से कुओं की सील तोड़कर की जाने वाली तेल की चोरी को रोकथाम के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ;

(ग) क्या स्थानीय पुलिस तेल की चोरी रोकने के लिए सहयोग दे रही है और यदि हां, तो इस चोरी के न रोके जाने के क्या कारण हैं और पुलिस में कितनी शिकायतें दर्ज कराई गई हैं ; और

(घ) तेल की चोरी रोकने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ।

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) The quantum of oil reported to have been stolen from the ONGC oil wells in Gujarat during the year 1981 was about 186 tonnes, out of which approximately 154 tonnes was recovered.

(b) Prevention of thefts of crude oil is kept under continuous review by the