

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: I am sorry. This is an assumption. If any specific case is made out, I will certainly look into it.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA: Will the hon. Minister inform the House as to whether the Government knows that there is rampant corruption prevalent in all such corporations.

MR. SPEAKER: That does not arise.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA: The question has not been drafted properly. The question was about intermediary interest, that is what was meant. I would like to know whether the Government knows that there is rampant corruption in these corporations. What are the steps the Government proposes to take to eliminate corruption?

MR. SPEAKER: The question asked was whether the name was 'distributor' or 're-seller'. This question should not have been allowed. Anyway it has been done.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER GUPTA: The question was about intermediary interest.

उर्बरकों के उत्पादन में कमी

* 27. श्री अनन्त राम जायसवाल: क्या पेट्रोलियम, रसायन और उर्बरक मंत्री 1 अगस्त, 1978 के अंतरांकित प्रश्न संख्या 2198 के उत्तर के संदर्भ में निम्नलिखित जानकारी दर्शाने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे कि :—

(क) सरकारी क्षेत्र के उन कारखानों के नाम क्या हैं जिनके उत्पादन में कमी हुई है और उसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ख) विभिन्न सरकारी, गैर-सरकारी तथा सहकारिता क्षेत्र के कारखानों में जनवरी 1978 से 31 अक्टूबर, 1978 तक के दौरान 1977 की उसी अवधि की तुलना में नाइट्रोजन तथा फास्फेट्री उर्बरकों का कितना उत्पादन हुआ ; और

(ग) सरकारी क्षेत्र के उन उर्बरक कारखानों के प्रबंध में, जिनके उत्पादन में कमी हुई है, सुधार आगे के लिए सरकार द्वारा (उन कारखानों के प्रबंध

प्रबंध के लिए यदि कोई कार्यवाही की गई है तो उसके सहित) क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं, और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):

(a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) During January—June, 1978 the production of Nitrogen in the following public sector fertilizer factories was lower compared to the production during the corresponding period in 1977:—

1. Sindri
2. Namrup
3. Durgapur
4. Barauni
5. Trombay
6. Nangal
7. Cochin
8. Rourkela

The only fertilizer factory where there was a light shortfall in production of phosphate was Trombay.

The shortfall in production was generally due to a variety of reasons such as power interruptions, labour problems, mechanical break-downs and planned shut downs for carrying out modifications.

(b) The production of nitrogen and phosphatic fertilizers in the different factories during January, 1978 to October, 1978 vis-a-vis the same period in 1977 is given in Annexure I.

(c) The shortfall in production during January—October, 1978 was also mainly due to the reasons given in the answer to part (a) of the Question. Many of these shortfalls arise from factors over which Management has little control and so the question of taking any action against the management does not arise. Government is, keeping a close watch on the per-

formance of all the fertilizer units and steps are being taken, wherever necessary, to remedy defects and to improve production. The major steps taken in the recent past include re-

organisation of FCI and National Fertilizers Ltd. into five companies and the decision to provide captive power facility wherever necessary.

ANNEXURE I

(b) Production of Nitrogen and Phosphate during Jan-Oct., 1977 and Jan.-October, 1978.

(1) Nitrogen

(000 tonnes)

(A) Public Sector	Jan. 77- Oct. 77	Jan. 78- Oct. 78
Sindri	14.5	0.2
Gorakhpur	71.0	77.3
Namrup	39.8	31.7
Namrup Exp.	43.4	49.7
Durgapur	60.0	16.4
Barauni	28.8	29.3
Trombay	73.0	69.7
Trombay IV	10.4
Nangal	51.8	53.8
Nangal Expansion	23.9
Bhatinda
Panipat
Udyogamandal	41.0	42.3
Cochin I & II	73.4	75.4
Rourkela	69.8	58.5
Neyveli	39.6	39.9
Madras	116.8	129.1
By-products	17.7	17.0
TOTAL (A)	734.6	725.6
(B) Private Sector		
Varanasi	3.9	4.3
Ennore	7.1	6.9
Baroda	130.5	129.3
Vizag	54.6	52.0
Kota	99.4	81.7
Kanpur	160.0	153.8
Goa	125.0	121.2
Tuticorin	124.8	123.7
Mangalore	61.3	82.6
By-products	2.8	2.3
TOTAL (B)	769.4	737.8

(A) Public Sector	Jan. 77- Oct. 77	Jan. 78- Oct. 78
(C) Co-operative Sector		
IFFCO	166.9	182.9
G. TOTAL (A + B + C)	1670.9	1666.3
(2) Phosphate		
(A) Public Sector		
Trombay	33.6	30.6
Trombay IV	..	10.2
Udvyogamandal	22.8	22.6
Cochin II	19.0	31.9
Madras	73.2	91.3
Sindri	..	1.1
Khetri	-	4.4
S. S. P. Units.	11.5	13.9
TOTAL (A)	160.1	206.0
(B) Private Sector		
Ennore	8.8	8.8
Baroda	27.7	29.1
Vizag	60.1	52.7
Goa	26.1	25.5
Tuticorin	7.6	24.6
S. S. P. Units	109.2	116.4
TOTAL (B)	239.5	257.1
(C) Co-operative Sector		
IFFCO	118.9	147.3
GRAND TOTAL (A + B + C)	518.5	610.4

श्री धनन्त राम जायसवाल : मंत्री महोदय ने जो विवरण रखा है, उससे पता चलता है कि दुर्गापुर, सिन्दरी और राउरकेला आदि कई कारखानों में जनवरी-अक्तूबर, 1977 की तुलना में जनवरी-अक्तूबर, 1978 के दौरान नाइट्रोजन खाद का उत्पादन कम हुआ है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस का कारण क्या है।

श्री हेमवती लखन बहुगुणा : यह कुछ हद तक सही है कि कुछ कारखानों में जनवरी-अक्तूबर, 1977 के मुकाबले में जनवरी-अक्तूबर, 1978 की अवधि में उत्पादन कुछ कम हुआ है। उदाहरण के लिए सम्बरी का पुराना कारखाना बिल्कुल बन्द कर

दिया गया है। इसलिए वहाँ उत्पादन कम नहीं हुआ है, बल्कि बिल्कुल बन्द हुआ है। उत्पादन कम दिखाया गया है लेकिन वह कारखाना अब चलने वाला नहीं है। उसी तरह गोरखपुर में तो बढ़ा है। 71 से 77,000 टन हुआ है। दुर्गापुर में लम्बी हड़ताल चलने के कारण और बिजली की इन-स्टेबिलिटी के कारण उत्पादन में कमी आई है। इसी तरह नाम रूप में भी थोड़ी कमी आई है। उस में बिजली की और कुछ उस के जो उपकरण हैं उस की कमी के कारण कमी आई है।

श्री धनन्त राम जायसवाल : नाइट्रोजन खाद के क्षेत्र में सरकारी क्षेत्र में कारखाने लगभग दुबने

हैं लेकिन पैदावार का मुकाबिला करें तो सरकारी क्षेत्र में कम है और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र में 77 और 78 दोनों में ज्यादा है। तो क्या मंत्री महोदय बताएंगे कि दोनों की प्रलग प्रलग शक्यता क्या है और दोनों में लगा हुआ कैपिटल बैरीड और फिक्स्ड प्रलग प्रलग गया है तथा दोनों का नेट मुनाफा क्या है ?

श्री हेमवती नन्दन बहुगुणा : इस के लिए तो मुझे नोटिस की जरूरत होगी ।

SHRI DWARIKADAS PATEL: May I know from the Hon. Minister whether IFFC made a profit of 30 crores out of a sale worth Rs. 146 crores and this profit has been transferred to losing fertilizer factories? These factories are making luxurious expenditure at the cost of the poor cultivators. May I know whether the Hon. Minister will look into the matter and save the poor cultivators?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: The Hon. Member wants to know whether we will reduce the prices for the cultivators?

SHRI DWARIKADAS PATEL: The IFFC Factory has made a profit of Rs. 30 crores out of a sale of Rs. 146 crores. other factories are losing and so this profit is transferred to other factories. But those factories are making luxurious expenditure although they are losing and they are making a profit at the cost of the cultivators. May I know whether the Hon. Minister will look into the matter?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: It is not correct to say that IFFC is making a profit and others are making losses because of some luxuriant expenditure made by them. The hard fact is that, fortunately, IFFC has been wise in its choice of technology, equipment, etc. while some of the public sector factories fell into some other wrong track. Therefore, there has been loss of production in those factories compared to the capacity established and therefore, the pricing pattern or profitability has been different with regard to IFFC and the other factories. But, in the totality of it, all fertilizers

go to the cultivators. If the prices are not pooled and things, ultimately, are not done in that way, it will mean that there will be a number of prices for different types of fertilizers and some will cost much higher than expected. Therefore, the net result will not be in favour of the peasants.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:

Part (c) of the question refers to steps taken by the Government for bringing improvement in the Management and it also refers to the action, if any, taken against inefficient management. In answer to part (a) of the question, the Hon. Minister has referred to various supposed causes for the fall in production, except management problems and, in answer to part (c), he has completely exonerated the Management. The answer was obviously prepared by the Department the persons against whom there are charges of inefficiency, have prepared the answer and exonerated themselves, and the Minister has repeated it here. Has he undertaken any study in depth or even otherwise, as to whether inefficient management has anything to do with the fall in production because this has become a regular complaint from the employees and other persons. It is very unfair, at this stage, to give a complete clearance to the Management. I would like to know how the Minister came to this decision.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: So far there has never been any complaint of a general nature involving all the factories, charging them with inefficiency? There is even an Hon. Committee of this House, on Public Undertakings, as a watch-dog of this House, to say what it has to with regard to the efficiency or inefficiency of the Management. I am not neither trying to hide nor trying to bolster up anybody on this country. All that I would like to say is that there is nothing of the type, of a general, nature. Specific cases of failure of administration, are always taken note of.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: If the answer is 'Yes', I want a clarification from him. The question of taking action against the management does not arise..... (*interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: No, no. Mr. Ravi.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Certain fertiliser units continue to be sick for the last many years. The hon'ble Minister is aware of the FACT as well as the Cochin Plant and naturally the production has not improved so far. But the price of fertiliser will increase. The farmers will be affected by this increase in price. Again this increase in fertiliser price will further increase the agricultural produce. Ultimately the consumers will be affected. It is a chain reaction. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what concrete steps are taken to improve the production of these factories—FACT as well as Cochin Plant—not only in regard to machinery but managerial also.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: I am happy to see that Cochin Plant has started looking up and many defects have been removed. Technical defects have been identified and removed and Cochin Plant has started looking up and we expect it to be performing much better than it was before. So far as the Udyog Mandal is concerned FACT is concerned, we have a problem in this age of the plants in FACT. The plant has aged and it will require renovation, expansion and diversification and all those points are under consideration.

Contracts for Off-Shore Drilling

*28. **SHRI SARAT KAR:**

SHRI AINTHU SAHOO:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil India or ONGC have sought clearance from Government for awarding contracts for drilling work in its 12,000 square km.

offshore concession off the Orissa coast and 68 km. area on-shore in Mahanadi Basin;

(b) if so, whether the company has concluded negotiations for drilling contracts with foreign firms and has left the final selection of the party to Government; and

(c) if so, whether its plan is also to set up own data processing facilities at Paradeep in Orissa for its on-shore concession and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) Oil India Limited has been awarded concession for oil exploration in Mahanadi Delta over an area of 6800 sq. kilometres on-shore and 12,000 sq. kilometres off-shore. The company proposes to carry out exploratory drilling in the off-shore area.

(b) Oil India Limited has received a number of offers from drilling contractors/firms which are in the process of being evaluated.

(c) The company proposes to set up its data processing facility at Dulaijan in Assam.

SHRI SARAT KAR: While thanking the Government that it has been decided to explore the off-shore and on-shore area of Orissa coast, I would point out that the answer given by the hon. Minister is not specific. The question was specific. Part (b) of the question states: "if so, whether the company has concluded negotiations for drilling contracts with foreign firms and has left the final selection of the party to Government?" I would like to know whether the finalised evaluation is at the end of the Ministry or at the end of the company so that the drilling work can start earlier.