

Pali and one other scheme in my reply also. We are going to arrange supply of pure drinking water to the people through those schemes. Secondly, the Government of Rajasthan have not selected the site as yet, due to which our work is held up there. I have already told about the Working Group. We are also pursuing that and as soon as the results are known, we shall see to it that wherever there is saline water, it is made potable.

**SHRI V. TULSIRAM :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now the Hon. Minister has stated in his reply that they are going to set up plants in two villages in Andhra Pradesh also. There is acute scarcity of water there. The State Government are doing boring for supply of water, but at places saline water is found. I congratulate the Hon. Minister that he has ordered to instal machines there for desalination of water. My submission is that the sooner it is done the better it would be, because the people are facing a lot of difficulty for water there. Especially, the farmers are facing a great deal of problem, because they do not get drinking water even for their bullocks, as a result of which they are forced to sell their healthy cows, bullocks and buffaloes for slaughter. Therefore, it would be better if arrangements for water are made as early as possible. It will be so kind of you Ghafoor Saheb if you could arrange for water early; the people of the State would bless you.

**MR. SPEAKER :** The question of Tulsi is got to be replied in poetry.

**THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the supplementaries put by the Hon. Members belonging to different States, it appears that they want to know as to why such plants are not being installed in their respective States. But let me tell them categorically that these eight units are functioning in four States only. For this purpose, we have decided to evaluate its cost for one year. For instance, let me tell you that the cost in Delhi and Bombay is 35 paise and 30 paise, respectively, whereas the cost in these units in Rs. 24 to Rs. 28. The cost in the areas where water is available at a distance of 20 miles would be comparatively,

lower than these units, if water is carried by trucks. Therefore, all these difficulties are before us. What a staggering difference. In the first case it is 35 to 40 paise and in the latter case, the cost is 24 to 28 rupees per thousand litres. Therefore, it is not that these units will spread throughout the country. We are still evaluating it. Figures from all over the country would be called for by the 27th February, 1987 as to where those units are needed and we shall see how cheap it costs when this work is undertaken on a large scale. As such, the Hon. Member will have to wait for another year.

[English]

**Explosion in Bhilai Steel Plant  
melting shop**

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\*916. **SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :**  
**SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH :**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether two workers were killed in an explosion in a furnace in the Bhilai Steel Plant melting shop on April 3, 1986;

(b) whether any inquiry into the causes of the accident has been conducted, if so, with what results; and

(c) the compensation paid to the next kin of the deceased workers ?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT) :** (a) to (c). A Statement is given below.

**Statement**

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The management of Bhilai Steel Plant has constituted a high level Enquiry Committee to enquire into the accident. Government of Madhya Pradesh has also constituted an Enquiry Committee

(c) The following compensation amounts payable to the successors of the deceased under the Workmen's Compensation Act have been deposited with the Compensation Commissioner :

| <i>Name of the deceased worker</i> | <i>Name of Successor</i> | <i>(In Rupees)</i> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Shri Jidhan Raut                | Smt. Mani Bai (Widow)    | 59,868.00          |
| 2. Shri Hori Lal                   | Smt. Geeta Bai (Widow)   | 69,008.00          |

The following amounts due under the Contributory provident Fund Scheme, Gratuity, SAIL's Employees Welfare Association and Life Cover Scheme have been paid :

| <i>Name of deceased worker</i> | <i>Name of Successor</i> | <i>(In Rupees)</i> |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Shri Jidhan Raut            | Smt. Mani Bai (Widow)    | 59,722.00          |
| 2. Shri Hori Lal               | Smt. Geeta Bai (Widow)   | 54,952.00          |

Both the widows have been provided employment by the plant management with effect from April 14, 1986.

**SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** Sir due to lack of safety measures accidents in factories and plants in the form of explosion or any other form have become a regular feature causing loss of valuable life and property. Further every time an inquiry committee is formed it takes many months and in most of the cases the culprits are never punished which leads to more accidents. So I would like to know from the Hon. Minister when will the report of the inquiry committee come and why two inquiry committees were set up? What was the cause of the accident? Was it due to lack of safety measures or due to human error?

**SHRI K. C. PANT :** Sir, two inquiry committees were formed because it was felt that a high-powered inquiry committee should go into these problems. There is a high-powered Safety Department also and because of the reasons which my friend has mentioned a special Safety Officer was being appointed to look into these and other aspects of safety in steel plants.

**SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :** What was the date of the accident? When was the inquiry committee formed and when do we expect the report of the inquiry committee and also why there is delay?

**SHRI K. C. PANT :** There is no question of delay. The accident took place in the beginning of April. This is the beginning of May. So there is no delay. When we receive the inquiry committee report we will act on it.

**SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH :** May I know from the Hon. Minister the amount that has been paid to the victims of the similar accidents over the last five years?

**SHRI K. C. PANT :** I do not have the figures for the last five years. So far as this accident is concerned the figures are given in the written statement.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

##### Provision of drinking water in hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh

\*909. **SHRI GANGA RAM :** Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any concrete effort to provide at least one source of safe drinking water to all the problem villages in hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the total number of problem villages in the hilly districts of Uttar Pradesh where safe drinking water sources have been provided so far and the number of villages which still remain uncovered; and

(c) the time by which they will be provided at least one source of safe drinking water?

**THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (S. BUTA SINGH) :** (a) and (b). As per