

Sir, the hon. Member wanted to know whether the parts that are produced are the one of a particular category alone so that the money we have paid for the quantum is taken care of by that volume. Sir, I would like to make the point again that 27,600 items are being made by us. Our indigenisation has reached that level. Therefore, our requirements in certain categories are met by us through indigenisation.

SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA: Sir, I have two very serious questions on the basis of some information that was provided to us recently. I would like to know whether the spare parts that are being ordered are on the basis of drawings and specifications that are provided by the Ministry or they are just on an ad hoc basis. My information is that translation from Russian to English has not been completed, or drawings and specifications do not exist with the Depots that are ordering these spares.

My second question is whether the spares which are lying there worth thousands of crores of rupees meet the specifications or they are just junk. Sir, I understand that they do not meet the specifications. They are just lying there and cannot be utilised. These are two specific questions on the basis of specific information provided to us by the seniormost officers in the Armed Forces.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman. Sir, I require notice to answer this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. He needs notice to answer your question.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Defence Minister has agreed that indigenisation is being carried out by two ways. One by manufacturing and the other by purchasing goods within

the country. But the manufacturers in India are actually facing some practical difficulty. The practical difficulty is that there are three separate quality control cells which are being maintained by the Defence Department for the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. There are three separate quality control mechanisms. They have laid down criteria and norms for each cell. I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister whether the Government would come forward to assure this House that they would amalgamate these three quality control cells into one cell for the benefit of the manufacturers in the country.

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a suggestion which can be considered.

श्री लालूपत राय : सभापति महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि एयर फोर्स की ओर से समय-समय पर पार्ट्स और इन्विन्टेन्स के आर्डर आते हैं मांग आती है और यह भी मालूम होता है कि ऐसी मांगें जो होती हैं, वह टाइम बाउण्ड होती हैं, मगर इन्वेन्टेन्स नहीं जाती हैं। इसके क्या कारण हैं और इसके क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं ताकि मांगें ऐसी न हों ?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a separate question. I need notice for this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. Next Question No. 250. Shrimati Kamla Sinha.

Potable water in Aurangabad village

***250. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:** Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the Indian Express, dated the 13th October, 1998, regarding self-immolation of person for failure of his efforts to secure potable water in Aurangabad village, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Rural Water Supply is a state subject. State Governments have been implementing Rural Water Supply Schemes under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Governments only supplements the efforts of the State Government by providing central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).

The news item referred to in the question had come to the notice of the Government and averting to it, the Government of Maharashtra reported that the rural water supply scheme of Sunderkhed village in Taluka and District Buldhana was designed for an estimated population of 1900 at the ultimate stage 2006, and the existing population of the village was around 5000 being it close to the district Head Quarters. As the population of the village has been growing rapidly and due to large number of private water connections, the supply of water to the Sunderkhed village was adversely affected. Shri Devidas Lahane, aged 65, resident of the Sunderkhed village was also given a private water connection.

In order to secure adequate potable water, Shri Lahane immolated himself on 5-10-98 at Zilla Parishad office, Buldhana. He was admitted in the Medical hospital Aurangabad with 95 per cent burns but he died on the same day. An amount of Rs. 50,000 has been released from Chief Minister's relief fund to his legal heirs. On receipt of the preliminary

inquiry report, five persons *prima facie* found responsible for neglecting the problems related to water supply in Sunderkhed village have been suspended. Sufficient drinking water is now being supplied to the village.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, since there are only five minutes left, I will try to be very brief. The answer given by the Minister is rather vague. Sir, one person, Mr. Lahane immolated himself because there was no drinking water available in his village. The answer contains quite a few grey areas. For example, the estimation of the population was 1,900. The population grew to 5,000. So, the plan was not formulated accordingly. They could not visualise the explosion of population in our rural India.

I would like to ask another question. The Minister said, "On receipt of the preliminary inquiry report, five persons *prima facie* found responsible for neglecting the problems related to water supply." Who were these five persons? How were they responsible? Will the Minister reply?

SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the problems of that particular village is that there are many private water connections, even though there is no provision for giving private water connections. So, the problem became acute and severe. So, that person had approached the Zilla Panchayat, engineers and other responsible persons. Then, he had committed self-immolation. An inquiry was held. The persons who were held responsible for giving private water connections were suspended.

श्री जितेन्द्र प्रसाद : मान्यवर, ये क्या जवाब दे रहे हैं ? यह बड़ा गंभीर प्रश्न है । यह सिर्फ औरंगाबाद का मामला नहीं है, देश के कई हिस्सों में पानी की बहुत बड़ी कमी है और कहीं पर जलाया जा रहा है और कहीं

इमोलेशन हो रहा है। कम से कम इस पर चर्चा कराइए और इसी सेशन में चर्चा कराए।

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: May I put my second supplementary?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Yes, put your second supplementary.

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: As my honourable colleague, Mr. Jitendra Prasada, said it is a very serious problem.

पूरे देश में 3 लाख गांवों में पीने का पानी नहीं है। क्या हर गांव से एक-एक व्यक्ति को अपने को जलाना पड़ेगा पीने के पानी के लिए? सरकार सीधे-सीधे जवाब दे....
(व्यवधान)...

श्री सुरेश पचौरी: महोदय, इस पर हाफ-एन-आवर डिस्कशन होना चाहिए...
(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then, you give notice for a half-an-hour discussion.

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी: यह आपके 50 साल के विकास का नतीजा है....
(व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please give notice for a half-an-hour discussion. Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

*242. **SHRI KARNENDU BHAT-TACHARJEE:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the three divisions of Indian Oil Corporation viz. Pipelines Division, Marketing Division and Refinery Division follow different rules in regard to transfer of employees and observance of gazetted holidays; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not following uniform rules in all the three divisions when the Indian Oil Corporation is under one Chairman?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY): (a) and (b) The considerations for transfers in different Divisions of IOC relate to the specific requirements of that Division in regard to organisational, technical and managerial skills and the development of the potential of the employees through exposure to different functions, technologies and work environment. The holidays differ slightly among the three Divisions and take into account the local practice and the understanding with the employees' collectives. These are finalised in consultation with the officers' and employees' unions.

Quality of diesel manufactured by public sector refineries

*243. **DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the diesel manufactured by the public sector Indian Refineries is 250 times dirtier than the world's best; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to improve the diesel quality?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY):

(a) Purity of diesel (HSD) is normally measures in terms of Sulphur content. Most of the advanced countries like USA and European countries have Sulphur specification in diesel at 0.05 weight percent maximum. In India, Public Sector Indian Refineries produce diesel strictly as per BIS specifications, which is currently 1 percent maximum and is to be 0.25 per cent