

yet taken any decision in this respect. Several times I have submitted to the House that we are awaiting some information.

**SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:** Let him not consider it at all.

**SHRI SURESH KALMADI:** Why is he talking in a general way? He should give replies to whatever we have asked for.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** His view is that all these matters are under consideration.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** You withdraw the reply.

**SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:** Let him not consider it at all. Let it be withdrawn.

**SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:** Under your authority as Chairman withdraw that paper. We do not mind You say that the paper was inadvertently supplied to the Members.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** Last Monday I submitted, Sir that we had not taken a decision on this point. I submitted to you; Sir 54 MPs are supporting and 58 were opposing.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** This cannot be an answer. Mr Minister, what you said earlier that all these objections would be considered will stand. Is that correct?

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** Yes, Sir.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Next Question. (Interruptions).

**SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE:** One minute, Sir, Will it be in the inter-session period or within the Session?

**SHRI SURESH KALMANDI:** You allow half-an-hour discussion on this.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** You please write a letter. Now next question.

#### Shortage of cement in Sikkim

\*204. **SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the shortage of cement, all the development works in Sikkim have been affected;

(b) if so, how much cement quota has been allotted the State during the last two years and from where;

(c) what is the ex-factory rate fixed per bag by the Government;

(d) whether any subsidy has been granted for transportation etc. in view of the industrial backwardness and remoteness of the State of Sikkim; and

(e) how much of the cement quota has already been lifted by the State Government so far for the last two years?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):** (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) No such report has been received from the State Government.

(b) The details regarding the allocation of cement made to Sikkim (under State Category) during the last two years are given below:

Period	Allocation (State Quata)	Allocation (Irrigation & Power)
1984-85 . . . . .	51,624 M.T.	8,720 M.T.
1985-86 . . . . .	52,224 M.T.	10,100 M.T.

The allocations were on cement factories located in Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Penden Cement Factory in Bhutan.

(c) The current ex-factory price of levy cement payable to the cement producers is as follows:—

Price of Ordinary Portland Slag Cement	Rs. 375 per M.T.
Price of Portland Pozzolana Cement	Rs. 360 per M.T.

The above price is exclusive of the excise duty of Rs. 225 per metric tonnes and packing charges which differ from quarter to quarter. The packing charges for the current quarter are Rs. 96.99 per metric tonne.

(d) Under the freight equalisation system the FOR price of levy cement is fixed uniformly all over the country so that the freight from ce-

ment supplying factory to the serving rail head is adjusted under the Cement Regulation Account. Further, in the case of Sikkim, subsidy is also allowed from the Cement Regulation Account for movement of cement by road from the last serving rail read namely. New Jalpaiguri to the District Headquarters in the State in the following manner:—

(per tonne)

	Rs.
Gangtok	169.50
Namchi	182.00
Gyalshing	239.25
Mangan	308.00

(e) The actual despatches to the State during the last two years were

as follows:—

Year	Despatches (State Quota)	Despatches (Irrigation & Power)
1984-85	23,251 M.T.	3,410 M.T.
1985-86	27,673 M.T.	7,584 M.T. (Prov)

**SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING:** During the rainy season all the roads to National Highway No. 31A leading to Gangtok are closed. In view of this will the Minister consider to allow the maximum quota of cement to the State of Sikkim during the dry season?

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** Yesterday, the Chief Minister of Sikkim came and met me. I told him that we will certainly supply it during the dry season. There is no difficulty of transport. Even on that we are giv-

ing subsidy. Now, the Chief Minister is satisfied with my reply and there is no trouble.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** No, the Member must be satisfied. (*Interruptions*).

**SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:** Sir, the Member has to feel satisfied.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** I have told the Minister.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** Sir, we are supplying it to the State Govern-

ment. The Chief Minister came and met me yesterday and discussed about this point. We assured him that we will give sufficient supply to the Sikkim Government.

**SHRI LEONARD SOLOMAN SARING:** I want an assurance from the Minister if the maximum quota will be given during the dry season when the road will be opened.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Will the quota be given during the dry season?

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Sir, it is the State Government which has to lift the allotted quota. They have not lifted it. That is the problem.

**SHRI JERLIE E. TARING:** In case the State Government does not lift the quota, I would like to know whether the Central Government would like to have any other agency so that the cement reaches to the consumers of Sikkim.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** No, Sir. We have allotted it to the Government. The Government must lift it, not the private parties.

**SHRI JAGESH DESAI:** The allocation is about 52,224 metric tonnes. It is supplied from the factories located in Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal and Penden Cement factory in Bhutan. Since quantity is very small, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether all the supplies will be given from West Bengal so that this State which is very backward, at least can get some solace by way of less freight charges.

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** We have not received any complaint or anything like that from the State Government. If a complaint like that comes to use, we will definitely consider it.

### Compensation to the Bhopal Gas Tragedy Victims

\*285. **PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:†**

**SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any substantial progress has been made in the settlement of claims of Bhopal Gas victims with the Union Carbide;

(b) what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any offer has been received from the Union Carbide for an out-of-court settlement in the matter and if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a high power team of officials of Central Government and Madhya Pradesh Government recently visited United States in this regard and if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what is the outcome of their visit?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH):**

(a) and (b) Government is making all possible efforts to get fair and reasonable compensation for the Bhopal victims and the case filed in this regard in the court of District Judge, Bhopal is being followed up vigorously.

(c) and (d) Government had rejected and offer of settlement made by the Union Carbide when the matter was before a US Court. No further offer for negotiations has been received thereafter. Therefore, there was no question of deputing any delegation to USA in this regard. The

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Prof. C Lakshmanna.