

trend of distorting the female image in the media, a better health delivery system to improve the health status of both the mother and the girl child, and treating the girl child as an important human resource in society, were mentioned as critical factors in promoting and developing the growth of the girl child.

Talcher Fertilizer Plant

676. SHRI JAGADISH JANI; Will the Minister* of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the details of the steps so far taken by Government to remove the bottlenecks in the functioning of the Talcher Fertilizer Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): The coal-based fertilizer plant at Talcher in Orissa, which was commissioned in November, 1980, suffers from inherent design deficiencies and equipment problems/imbalance. The production in this plant has also been adversely affected due to prolonged power cuts. Based on identification of the problems by a Technical Study Group, the following short-term remedial measures have already been taken to improve the plant performance.-

(i) Provision of NO_x Removal System to prevent choking and corrosion in the Heat Exchangers;

(ii) Replacement of raw gas pre-coolers with SS coolers;

(iii) Replacement of collecting electrodes with SS electrodes;

(iv) Epoxy lining of the new gas line; and

(v) Replacement of 1st stage distiller tube bundles of Urea plant with improved material.

To overcome the problem of power shortage, a 30 MW Gas Turbine

Generator Set has also been installed.

Premature retirement of Gazetted Officers

677. DR. H. P. SHARMA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six Gazetted Officers of his Ministry were prematurely retired in September in a bid to root out corruption; and

(b) if so, the names of the officers and the charges for which they have been prematurely retired?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) and (b) The following six officers of this Ministry were prematurely retired from Government service in August, 1985 -under Fundamental Rule 56(j) in public interest;

1. Shri P. D. Achari, Administrative Officer, All India Radio, Panaji, Goa.

2. Shri H. G. Alagh, Superintending Engineer, CCW, All India Radio, New Delhi,

3. Shri/ R. N., Prasad, Administrative Officer, All India Radio, Ranchi.

4. Shri J. N. Gupta, Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer, DAVP, New Delhi.

5. Shri V. M. Amalraj, Assistant Distribution Officer, DAVP, Madras.

6. Shri B. C. Mohanti, Administrative Officer, DFP, Raipur.

The decision to retire the above mentioned officials was taken on the basis of assessment of their conduct and performance.