

(b) whether the team had submitted any report on the safety measures;

(c) if so, what were the recommendations;

(d) whether these recommendations were implemented or not; and

(e) if not, what are these specific reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) to (e) Last visit to the Bhopal Factory of M/s. Union Carbide was made by one expert of M/s. Union Carbide Corporation, in April 1985, who remained present when the tank, from which gas leakage occurred, was opened and samples were collected. This expert did not submit any report.

According to the information made available by Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL), the Union Carbide Corporation of USA had conducted an internal Operational Safety Survey of the Bhopal plant during May 1982. UCIL have claimed to have implemented the findings of the Safety Survey.

Identification of the killer gas at Union Carbide Plant, Bhopal

1240. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that killer gas at Union Carbide Plant, Bhopal was Hydrogen Cyanide; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard??

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) In the Union Carbide plant, Bhopal liquid MIC was being produced and stored for conversion to pesticides. Leakage of MIC gas occurred from one of the MIC storage tanks. Under very high temperature conditions of 400°C.

MIC could decompose and small quantities of hydrogen cyanide gas* could result from such high temperature decomposition. According to our experts, however, it does not seem probable that such high temperatures were reached in the said tank.

Production of cement

1241. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to increase the productivity of the cement industry;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to increase the production of cement during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) the target of production of cement, if any, fixed for the Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) and (b) Every effort is being made to improve the productivity and increase production of cement by better utilisation of existing capacity and sanctioning additional capacity.

(c) The Working Group on Cement Industry for the Seventh Plan period appointed by the Planning Commission has projected a production target of 50.77 million tonnes by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan period.

खादी ग्रामोद्योग के अध्यक्ष तथा उपाध्यक्ष के विरुद्ध शिकायतें

1242. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या उद्योग और कम्पनी कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खादी ग्रामोद्योग के वर्तमान अध्यक्ष तथा उपाध्यक्ष के विरुद्ध संसाधनों का दुरुपयोग करने के संबंध में कोई शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं ; और