

same as they existed earlier? In other words, when their man was using it in the earlier period, their pedigree conscience never bothered about it. Now, I want to know whether or not the bills have been paid.

**SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA:** The rules are the same and they have not been amended recently. So far as the payment of the bill is concerned, one bill is required to be paid. It is sent.

**Disaster at stone quarry at Mahipalpur village, Delhi**

\*243. **SHRI S. KUMARAN:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some workers and a child were killed in an accident at a stone quarry at Mahipalpur village near Mehrauli, Delhi on 30th October, 1980;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the victims;

(d) whether it is also a fact that this was the third mine disaster in Delhi during the past two months; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by Government in the matter?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY):** (a) and (b) On 30-10-1980 while some persons were removing stones in an area under Mahipalpur Village in Delhi, an overhanging side collapsed causing death to two persons including a child of three years and injuries to two others. Enquiries made by the D. G. M. S. and Delhi Administration authorities revealed that they were removing stones without any permission or lease from the State Authorities.

(c) Delhi Administration is considering making *ex-gratia* payment to

the injured and to legal heirs of the deceased.

(d) and (e) One other accident took place in a stone quarry in the past two months. This was on 5-9-1980 at Rangpuri Stone Mine resulting in death to one person and serious injuries to another. Enquiries made by the Directorate General of Mines Safety into the accident on 5-9-1980 reveal that the management was responsible for the accident. The level of responsibility and the question of taking legal action under the law is being determined by the Director General.

**SHRI S. KUMARAN:** May, I know from the hon. Minister whether the Director of Mines Safety has repeatedly warned that the method of quarrying these mines in Delhi is highly dangerous and, if so, what measures are being taken to improve the conditions? My second question is whether it is a fact that after a series of major accidents in the mines, the Delhi Administration has ordered the takeover of the mines in Delhi some time in August 1980. If so, what are the reasons and justification for the non-implementation of the orders and continuing the same old method of private contractual system?

**SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY:** These mines are under the Delhi Industrial Development Corporation. Periodically, the DGMS has written letters to the Chief Secretary, Delhi Administration, to take necessary action to remove the overhanging portion so that such accidents do not take place and necessary action is being taken. With regard to the first one, regarding stone quarrying, what has taken place is illegal mining and, so, nobody was responsible because it comes under theft. Those four persons have gone there and it was illegal mining and, therefore, no responsibility lies with the Delhi Administration also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question. Question No. 244. Nobody is here. Question No. 246. Hon. Members are not here. Next question.

\*244. [The Questioners (Shri Pyarelal Khandelwal and Shri Sunder Singh Bhandari) were absent. For answer vide col. 34 *infra*].

\*245 [Transferred to the 8th December, 1980]

\*246. [The questioner (Shri Robin Kakati) was absent. For answer vide. Col. 36 *infra*].

### Production of heavy water

\*247. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:†

DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken to expedite the production of heavy water at Tuticorin, Baroda, Nangal, Talcher and Kota;

(b) by what date these plants are likely to go into production of heavy water; and

(c) what is the quantum of heavy water which is likely to be exported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS (SHRI C. P. N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The Heavy Water Plants in Nangal, Baroda and Tuticorin are already in operation. Pre-commissioning activities at the Heavy Water Plants in Talcher and Kota have commenced. Subject to the availability of synthesis gas from the Associated Fertilizer Plant, the Heavy Water Plant at Talcher is expected to be mechanically completed by the end of this year and go into production by mid 1981. The testing of auxiliaries of the Heavy Water Plant at Kota is

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bishambhar Nath Pande

likely to be completed by the end of this year. The plant is expected to start production in the last quarter of 1981. All possible steps are being taken to complete both Talcher and Kota plants according to the above schedule.

(c) Considering the requirement of the country's Nuclear Power Programme we do not envisage the export of heavy water.

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Sir, is it a fact that the new heavy water plant at Talcher is mechanically ready and is awaiting power for its trial runs? Sir, the heavy water plant at Baroda went out of commission in December, 1977. What was the reason for its going out of commission and has it resumed working in a routine manner?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH: Sir, there was certain leak testing that was done and the mechanical completion of the plant is likely to be over by December, 1980.

SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI: He talked about the Baroda plant also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He asked about the Baroda plant also.

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH: Sir, the Baroda plant also will be starting, it will be recommissioned, very soon. This also had a number of problems regarding power as the honourable Member mentioned earlier.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Pande.

SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE: Sir, Mr. Kakkar, the General Manager of the Nangal plant made a statement that when the two plants at Talcher and Kota are commissioned, India would be in a position to export heavy water. Is it a fact?

SHRI C. P. N. SINGH: I think our needs are far more and we should first look into our internal needs and then think of exports.