

31st March, 1979, 24 have been reserved for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The places have been identified where these agencies will be given.

*105. [The questioner (Shri F. M. Khan) was absent. For answer, vide col. 35-36 infra.]

Fertiliser production in the Namrup Unit of the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited

*106. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly production of fertilizers in the Namrup Unit of the Hindustan Fertilizers Corporation Limited at present;

(b) whether the Namrup Unit has been running at a huge loss; if so, what is the extent of loss per month; and

(c) what are the reasons for this loss?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Monthly production of Namrup Units I and II during 1978-79 is given below:

(000 tonnes of Nitrogen)

Month	Namrup I	Namrup II	Total
April	3.2	6.5	9.7
May	3.7	5.9	9.6
June	3.1	5.5	8.6
July	3.9	4.8	8.7
August	2.1	6.2	8.3
September	3.9	2.8	6.7
October	3.6	4.1	7.7
GRAND TOTAL	23.5	35.8	59.3

(b) The loss in Namrup Unit I and II plants during the period April, 1978 to October, 1978 is Rs. 420 lakhs which works out to an average of Rs. 60 lakhs per month.

(c) The loss mainly in Namrup II unit which has been facing since its inception, process problems, power interruptions and mal-functioning of equipment, resulting in low capacity utilization. Action is on hand to overcome these problems and step up capacity utilization.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, in the statement, reasons have been given about the loss in this particular unit. May I know whether factors like mismanagement, misuse of manpower and wrong marketing arrangements are responsible for this huge loss in this fertilizer unit? In regard to the management, the very fact that the Managing Director is at Delhi, far away from the fertilizer unit under his control, this also is a factor for the great loss in this particular concern.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, I do not agree with the hon. Member that the Managing Director's location in Delhi is the cause for the loss in the Namrup fertilizer plant. After all, the Managing Director runs not one unit, but a number of units, and his location cannot be at one unit. This has to be at a place from where all the units can be looked after. But so far as the General Managers are concerned, they are the men responsible for running the plants and they are located in the different plants. There are some major reasons, which the hon. Member may like to know. One is, deficiency in the process gas cooler which failed time and again due to defective design. The second is boiler feed pre-heater which failed time and again. The third is, breakage of interlocks saddled in regenerator. Then, failure of boiler water circulation pump on several occasions.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA:
Why?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Because of wrong processes and equipment selection which was done long long ago. This is not something which we can correct today. What we can do now is to replace these wrong types of things now. We have identified these during the last one and a half years and we are now trying to remove these deficiencies by bringing in a better type of equipment, more effective equipment so that these things will not happen again. But one more reason has been the fluctuation in the voltage of power supplied to these plants, which is of the utmost importance in a normal plant. We have, therefore, decided to give it a captive power plant so that this situation does not come up again. However, it will take anywhere between two to three months before we can correct the situation in this plant. !

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Sir, my specific point is whether the mismanagement has anything to do with this loss. Supplement to it, may I ask whether any high-powered committee was asked to go into this loss and if so, whether any report has been given by this committee?

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: Sir, I concede that there was lack of proper selection of plant, equipment and process knowhow. To that extent, there has been mismanagement done by people who were responsible for selection of technology, plant and so on which happened many years ago. So far as the second question is concerned, about the high-powered committee, the identification of these deficiencies which I read out, which are of a high technical nature, have been given to us by a technical committee, which we constituted to go into the whole thing and they have said that these things have got to be done before the plant can run a normal life.

Imposition of President's Rule in States before elections

U07. SHRI YOGENDRA
MAKWANA:
SHRIMATI SAROJ
KHAPARDE:
SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the views, reported to have been expressed by the Chief Election Commissioner of India recently, that President's Rule should be imposed in the States and the Union Territories before every Assembly elections and that the election to Panchayats and local bodies should also be conducted under the aegis of the Election Commission; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take on the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The suggestions made by the Chief Election Commissioner are being examined by Government.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KUL-KARNI: Sir, how is it that Mr. Dandavate is answering this question?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has been allowed because the Law Minister is not well. He has written a letter. It has been allowed.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KUL-KARNI: The Railway Minister replying to the question concerning the Law Minister?

MR. CHAIRMAN: With the permission of the Chair.

SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA: That is the beauty of it.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Yogendra Makwana.