

Effluent from Barauni Refinery

734. SHRI B. D. BARMAN :
 SHRI BHOLA PRASAD :
 SHRI JAGJIT SINGH AN-
 AND :
 SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :
 SHRI YOGENDRA SHAR-
 MA :
 DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the continuing pollution of the Ganga by the effluent from the Barauni Refinery in Bihar; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken or have been taken by Government to prevent the pollution of the river?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation have taken adequate steps to treat the effluent discharged from the Barauni Refinery into the Ganga so as to ensure that the effluent meets the standards prescribed by the Indian Standards Institution.

Value of Shares

735. SHRI B. D. BARMAN :
 SHRI L. MAHAPATRO :
 SHRI S. G. SARDESAI :
 SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
 SHRI JAGJIT SINGH AN-
 AND :

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

(a) the percentage in value of the shares held by the Government institutions like Life Insurance Corporation and Unit Trust of India in the National Rayon Corporation;

(b) whether it is a fact that from July, 1974 onwards the Kapadias have gained a majority on the Board of Directors of this Corporation;

(c) whether Government are aware of certain serious allegations against the Kapadias; and

(d) if so, the nature of such allegations and action taken on them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDA-BRATA BARUA) : (a) According to the information available with the Department, the Unit Trust of India and Insurance companies hold 22.5 per cent of the shares in National Rayon Corporation Ltd.

(b) It is not possible to give a definite answer for the following reasons :

(i) Until the results of the poll taken at the 27th Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 28-6-1974 are available, it would not be possible to say whether the candidates sponsored by Unit Trust of India or those sponsored by Kapadia group will be elected.

(ii) The question whether the 4 directors elected at the 26th Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 11th May, 1973, whose appointment was not confirmed by the Company Law Board, can be validly considered to be Members of the Board of Directors from July, 1974, raises a legal issue.

(c) and (d) The allegations made by the Unit Trust of India in a position presented in April, 1974 under Section 408 of the Companies Act dealt with the unhealthy practices indulged in by Kapadias in acquiring controlling voting power in National Rayon Corporation Ltd., the undesirable conduct of nominees of Kapadia group on the Board of Directors in this company and the unsatisfactory performance of certain companies under Kapadia management.

The Company Law Board heard the petitioner and other interested parties on 20-6-1974. The various issues arising out of the petition are under consideration of the Company Law Board.