

UNREST IN NANGAL UNIT OF F.C.I.

1709. SHRI JAGAN NATH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a great unrest amongst the workers of Nangal Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation of India over the unilateral and sudden decision of the Board of Directors for payment of bonus by switching over to corporation-wise from unit-wise system; and

(b) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to pacify workers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b). The workers of the Nangal Unit of the Fertilizer Corporation were being given bonus/ex-gratia payments on the basis of the performance of that unit. The other units of the Corporation were, however, pressing that such payments should be made not on a unit-wise basis, but with reference to the performance of the Corporation as a whole. After careful consideration of the legal and other aspects, the management decided to switch over to payment of bonus on the basis of the performance of all the units of the Corporation from 1970-71 onwards. This has reportedly created a feeling among the workers of the Nangal Unit that they are likely to lose if the Corporation-wise concept of bonus, which is a fair and equitable proposition, is accepted.

INDIA'S PARTICIPATION AT FOURTH ASIAN CONGRESS OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE, BANGKOK

1710. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report published in the Amrita

Bazar Patrika on 1st February, 1973, to the effect that India was poorly represented at the Fourth Asian Congress of the Pharmaceutical Sciences organised by the Federation of the Asian Pharmaceutical Association held in Bangkok in the first week of December 1972; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve the drug trade in the light of the deliberations of the said Congress?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Government have seen the report published in the Amrita Bazar Patrika on 1st February, 1973. The Fourth Asian Congress of Pharmaceutical Sciences was organised by the Federation of the Asian Pharmaceutical Association, which is a non-official body representing the interests of Pharmacists. The professional non-official Associations representing the interests of Pharmacists in the South East Asian Countries were invited to attend the Congress. Apart from such invitees, personal invitations were also extended to leading pharmacists in the South East Asian countries. 15 delegates from India attended the last Asian Congress held in Bangkok in the first week of December 1972, out of which three were representatives of the Indian Pharmaceutical Association. The remaining 12 delegates including the Drugs Controller (India) attended the Congress in their personal capacity.

(b) The objective of the Federation is to develop pharmacy both as a profession and as an applied science. The items for consideration in the congress related generally to problems of pharmacy as a science. It is the constant endeavour of Government to increase the production of drugs and pharmaceuticals in the country and to promote exports.