

of Iran, the Finance Minister and other senior Ministers, matters of mutual interest to both countries were discussed generally. From these discussions and those held by the official members of my Delegation with the officials of the Government of Iran, it emerged that there were considerable possibilities for expansion of trade and industrial and economic cooperation between the two countries. These will be followed up. We also took note of Iran's requirements of experts as well as training facilities in a number of fields.]

DEATH OF NAMRUP FERTILIZER PROJECT EMPLOYEE DUE TO ACCIDENT

779. SHRI G. BARBORA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one Shri Pathak, an employee of the Namrup Fertilizer Project, fell down while on duty from a height of about 50 ft. and met with instantaneous death; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by the project authorities to prevent such fatal accidents in future and the amount of compensation that has been paid to the family of Shri Pathak?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA) : (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

ENGINEERS IN KOSI PROJECT

780. SHRI M. ASAD MADANI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that only two of the 209 engineers working in the Kosi Project in Bihar have so far been made permanent while the rest have been working for the last 15 years on a temporary basis; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not confirming them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) Of the 172 Engineers working in the Kosi Project, 3 have already been confirmed as Executive Engineers and 4 as Assistant Engineers.

A proposal for the confirmation of 2 senior engineers as Superintending Engineers and 11 Engineers as Executive Engineers, is under active consideration of the State Government. The State Government have also taken up the question of confirmation of 46 Assistant Engineers with the Bihar Public Service Commission.

(b) The Kosi Project was established in 1954-55 and the Engineers were recruited in the Project at various stages from time to time spreading over different years. It is not, therefore, correct to say that all the Engineers are working in the Kosi Project on temporary basis for the last 15 years. All the posts in the project were initially sanctioned on temporary basis and the question of confirmation of the engineering personnel could be taken up only when some of the posts in the Project were made permanent at a later stage.

सोने का जब्त किया जाना

181. श्री राम सहाय : क्या वित्त मंत्री 23 जुलाई, 1968 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 86 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बम्बई में 5,74,890 रुपए का चोरी छिपे लाया गया जो सोना जब्त किया गया था, उसके सम्बन्ध में कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किए गए और क्या सरकार द्वारा उन पर मुकदमा चलाया जा रहा है; और

(ख) क्या यह सोना सरकार द्वारा जब्त कर लिया गया है ?

†[SEIZURE OF GOLD

781. SHRI RAM SAHAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question No. 86 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 1968 and state:

(a) the number of persons arrested in connection with the smuggled gold worth Rs. 5,74,890 seized at Bombay and whether these persons are being prosecuted by Government; and

(b) whether the gold in question has been confiscated by Government?]

†[] English translation.