

(b) if so, the capacity thereof and the increase made so far?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) and (b) The capacity of the Nepal Eastern Canal is proposed to be increased from 614 cusecs to 850 cusecs.

GOLD SOVEREIGNS FOUND AT THE SITE OF THE STATUE OF KING GEORGE V

*451 SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any gold sovereigns were found while removing the statue of King George V from India Gate recently; and

(b) if so, the details of the gold sovereigns found?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO): (a) No, Madam.

(b) Does not arise.

HEAVY CHEMICALS INDUSTRY

*398. SHRI M. R. VENKATARAMAN

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON:

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

(a) whether the study group of National Labour Commission in their report have stated that there is little hope of the heavy Chemicals Industry in the country achieving targets set for it;

(b) if so, the details of the report; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA) :

(a) Yes, Madam.

†Transferred from the 9th August 1968.

(b) The recommendations made in the report of the Study Group are intended to help the National Commission on Labour to come to its own conclusions on various matters. The report is under the consideration of the Commission.

(c) The Commission's report is still awaited.

L.I.C, INVESTMENTS IN THE RURAL AREAS

*452. SHRI N. R. MUNTZWAMY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government to invest in the rural areas only in proportion to the contribution made by them to the L.I.C, funds; and

(b) if not, the circumstances under which the Deputy Prime Minister made a statement recently at a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party to the effect that it would be illogical to spend or invest disproportionately large sums of money in rural areas when the rural areas contributed only 15 per cent of the L.I.C, funds?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) and (b) L.I.C's. investments are : made in the interests of its policy:- holders within the framework of the policy statement made before Parliament on 25-8-58. No proportion is sought to be maintained between rural and urban sectors.

EXPLOSION IN PATEL CHEST INSTITUTE *455. SARDAR RAM SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that three persons were injured seriously as a result of an explosion which occurred recently in the Patel Chest Institute in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that safety regulations in the laboratories are not being followed strictly;

(c) whether Government have any machinery to inspect regularly the different laboratories under their control to ensure that the regulations are adhered to scrupulously; and

(d) if so, what have been the findings of the inspection team during the last one year?