

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 7th April, 1967/the 17th
Chaitra, 1889 (Saka).

The House met at eleven of the
clock, Mr. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*344. [The questioners (Shri A. D. Mani and Sardar Ram Singh) were absent. For answer, vide cols. 2730-31 infra.]

RESEARCH TO MANUFACTURE FERTILIZERS FROM COAL

*345. SHRI M. C. SHAH: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Fuel Research Institute has carried out any research to manufacture fertilisers from coal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Central Fuel Research Institute, Jealgora has developed a process for producing fertilizers by direct fixation of nitrogen in the coal humus by a simple technique. The process consists in subjecting the coal to simultaneous oxidation and ammoniation in a fluidized bed.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: May I know whether, in view of the fact that there are large deposits of low-grade coal in India, this Institute has made any research to convert them to humus acids at comparatively inexpensive costs?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Sir, this process has developed to some extent but it will still take time, another five years or even ten years, to establish the process on scientific lines.

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SHRI M. C. SHAH: May I know whether the Government has assessed what will be the approximate cost of this type of fertilisers compared to the fertilisers available here in the country?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: That has not yet been done but we can at present compare only what we are getting. We can say that it will be cheap, but it has not yet been fully established.

SHRI M. C. SHAH: May I know whether the Government have any idea as to what will be the quantity realised in the first instalment as a result of this method?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Sir, as I said, we are still trying to establish it on scientific lines. All that we can say at present is that it is a very good method. We have made an experiment in some districts of Bihar and the experiments are very promising but it is not possible for us to say anything in detail at present.

SHRI C. D. PANDE: May I know whether the hon. Minister can give any idea as to what will be the price structure, whether it will be sufficiently cheaper than the fertiliser manufactured otherwise?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: As I said before in reply to another question, we hope it will be cheaper as compared to the present fertiliser because it will be from coal and that too from a cheaper type of coal. At present we cannot say anything about the cost structure.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: In view of the great need of providing fertiliser for our agriculturists, may I know why the Government is talking of 5 years or 10 years, why the Government does not take steps to set up a pilot plant and test the commercial utility of this process at an early date, so that our Government may not have to spend valuable foreign exchange in importing fertilisers?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Sir, in 1965-66 we have already a pilot plant producing about 1.5 to 2 tons per day of coal fertiliser, but that is not the point. The point is that scientific data are still being gathered on a large scale. We have established it on a small scale but unless we can produce it on a large scale, we cannot commend it for commercial use.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरड़िया :

क्या श्रीमान यह बतायेंगे कि जो रसायन विभाग के मंत्री हैं, उनका यह कहना है कि कोल बेस्ड फर्टिलाइजर्स के जो प्लांट होते हैं, वे नेप्था बेस्ड फर्टिलाइजर्स के प्लांट के मुकाबिले में मंहगे पड़ते हैं और अन्य देशों के अनुभव के आधार पर उनका ऐसा कहना है कि इस कोल बेस्ड फर्टिलाइजर्स के प्लांट को प्राथमिकता नहीं दी जा रही है, तो क्या इस रिसर्च में हम ऐसी बात खोज रहे हैं कि जिन्होंने कोल बेस्ड फर्टिलाइजर्स को छोड़ना आरम्भ कर दिया है, उनसे हम चीप इसको तैयार कर सकेंगे या उसके लिये हमने दूसरा मैथड निकाला है ?

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : आपने जिस प्रश्न का उल्लेख किया है, यह ठीक है कि अमेरिका जैसे देश में कोयले के आधार पर जो प्लांट है, उनकी जगह उन्होंने दूसरे प्लांट प्रारम्भ किये हैं। लेकिन अभी हमारी लेबोरेटरी में जो अनुसंधान हो रहा है, उसके आधार पर हम कह सकते हैं कि जहां तक हमको खबर मिली है, उसके अनुसार वह उसकी तुलना में सस्ता पड़ेगा। इसलिये हम इस एक्सपेरिमेंट को जारी रखना चाहते हैं।

श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या श्रीमान यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश में चिरमिरी आदि स्थानों में जहां कोयले की खानें अधिक हैं, वहां पर इस प्रकार का कोई प्रयोग किया जा रहा है और अगर प्रयोग नहीं किया जा रहा है, तो क्या वहां पर भी प्रयोग किया जाने वाला है ?

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : अभी तो हम इसका प्रयोग सेंट्रल पयुअल रिसर्च इंस्टिट्यूट में कर रहे हैं और जो हमारे सामने खबर आई है, उसके अनुसार हमने उन स्थानों पर प्रयोग किया है, जहां यह सम्भव है कि उबरक से लाभ होगा। अधिक ढंग पर जब बड़े पैमाने पर इसका बनाना सिद्ध हो जायेगा, तब हम मध्य प्रदेश या और प्रदेशों में जा सकते हैं।

HINDI TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGE IN TRIVANDRUM

***346. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 899 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 1966 and state:

(a) the progress since made in connection with the setting up of the Hindi Teachers Training College in Trivandrum in July, 1967;

(b) whether any building for the College has now been procured; and

(c) whether the Government of Kerala have given any assurance that the College would start functioning in July, 1967?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Necessary steps have been taken for the appointment of teaching and ministerial staff, purchase of Educational appliances and office equipment, books for Library etc.

(b) The State Government is on the look out for a suitable building for the College and hopes to secure it by May or June, 1967.

(c) Yes, Sir.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether the Minister is in a position to assure us that this college will start in July 1967 and it will not meet the same fate as it met last year? It was to start according to the original programme, in July 1966 but the