

RAJYA SABHA

Friday the 25th March, 1966/श्री अथ
चौधरी, 1888 (Saka)

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

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

FOREIGN EXCHANGE FOR FERTILIZER INDUSTRY

*743. SHRI RAM SINGH: Will the
Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMI-
CALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been
made regarding the amount of foreign
exchange that will be required for the pur-
chase of instruments, raw material etc. for
fertilizer industry during the next five years;

(b) if so, whether it would be possible to
meet the total foreign exchange require-
ments; and

(c) if reply to part (b) above be in the
negative, what steps have been taken to
obtain equipments on deferred payment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINIS-
TRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS
(SARDAR IQBAL SINGH): (a) According to the
tentative assessment made the foreign
exchange required during the Fourth Plan for
fertilizer industry on capital account would
be of the order of Rs. 136 crores and for raw
materials and spares Rs. 195-5 crores.

(b) and (c) In order to meet these re-
quirements all avenues like international
credits, supply of equipment on deferred
payment basis, barter deals, trade agreements
and free foreign exchange are being
explored. The foreign exchange requirements
of private sector projects are expected to be
met from foreign equity participation and
long term loans.

SHRI RAM SINGH: May I know the
countries which have been approached for the
setting up of the machinery for the
fertiliser industry on a deferred payment
basis? M 37 RS/66-2

SARDAR IQBAL SLNGH: Italy and
Japan.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरडिया :
क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलायेंगे कि चौथी योजना
में जो इतना रुपया मशीनरी के लिए फारेन
एक्सचेंज में लगने वाला है, तो उससे कितने
फर्टिलाइजर प्लान्ट लगने वाले हैं ? एक बात ।
दूसरी बात यह है कि ये प्लान्ट नेफ्था वेस्ट
होंगे या कोल वेस्ट होंगे और उनके लिए
कितनी फारेन एक्सचेंज की जरूरत पड़ेगी ?

SARDAR IQBAL SINGH: Mostly, Sir, the
plants will be naphthabased. The total
capacity will be 2-4 million tons and the
production capacity wiH be 2 million tons of
nitrogen and 1 million tons of phosphates.

SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: How many plants
?

SARDAR IQBAL SINGH: There are
different plants of different sizes. Some will
be of about 100 thousand tons, others will
be of 200 thousand tons, because day by day
technology is changing, and we are having
bigger plants so that the cost of production
may come down.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: How much is
going to be spent on the two plants that are
sought to be installed in the country without
any foreign collaboration and with Indian
money?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The hon.
Member refers to Cochin and Durgapur
plants about which the hon. Finance
Minister made an announcement that day.
The total cost of each plant will be about
Rs. 27 to Rs. 28 crores and the foreign
exchange cost of each plant may be
between Rs. 7 and Rs. 9 crores.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if this
estimate of foreign exchange involved in
establishing the fertiliser plants during the
Fourth Plan also includes the much awaited
and the least expected foreign private
capital?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: This has been answered sufficiently on the floor of the House. I had occasion to point out that about one-third capacity that we propose to establish up till the end of the Fourth Plan will be in the private sector.

SHRI SYED AHMAD: Will the hon. Minister please check up the figures about the Durgapur and Cochin plants because, if I remember correctly, the Finance Minister stated the other day that the plant would cost something between Rs. 13 and Rs. 15 crores and may go up to Rs. 20 crores? Today he is giving the figures as Rs. 26 or Rs. 27 crores.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The figures are somewhat like this: I said the total cost of each of the plants will be Rs. 27 to Rs. 28 crores and the foreign exchange cost of each plant will be Rs. 7 to Rs. 9 crores. The hon. Finance Minister referred to the foreign exchange cost of both these plants and said "It is calculated at present to be Rs. 15 crores and it may go up to Rs. 20 crores." So, Sir there is no contradiction.

SHRI OM MEHTA: Is there any proposal before the Government to reduce the sale price of the fertiliser at present?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That is our object. In fact that is the object of our new policy which I explained the other day in the House. With improved technology and with large-sized plants we hope to bring down the cost of production and make fertiliser available at a much lesser cost than what it is today.

SHRI DAYALDAS KURRE: May I know the places where new big plants are being installed in the Fourth Plan?

SARDAR IQBAL SINGH : They are Namrup, Gorakhpur, Durgapur, Cochin and Madras.

744. [The Questioners {Shri A. D. Mani and Shri Niren Ghosh} were absent. For answer, vide col. 4491 infra.]

EXTENSION OF C. H. S. SCHEME TO TEACHERS IN DELHI

*745. SHRI V. M. CHORDIA: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to extend the benefits of the Central Health Service Scheme to the teachers in the aided schools in Delhi and elsewhere?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI M. C. CHAGLA): No, Sir. Even the teachers employed in Government schools in Delhi are not, as such, covered by the Central Government Health scheme except those who live in certain localities and are covered in the same way as the General public.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया :
क्या श्रीमान् बतलायेंगे कि अध्यापकों की ओर से इस बारे में कोई मांग आई है ? अगर आई है तो कब आई और क्या शासन ने उस पर विचार कर के कोई अन्तिम निर्णय ले लिया है कि उनके लिए यह योजना लागू नहीं की जायेगी ?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: Sir, we have been considering this question and we are most anxious that this facility should be extended to our teachers but it is a very large question which affects a large number of people and it has its financial implications. But we will give the demands of the teachers our most sympathetic consideration.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया :
क्या श्रीमान् बतलायेंगे कि इस तरह की बड़ी बड़ी समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए जब आप सरीखे विद्यमान हैं, तो ऐसी स्थिति में उस पर शीघ्र निर्णय हो सकेगा, उसके लिए क्या आप कोई कदम उठा रहे हैं ?

SHRI M. C. CHAGLA: As the hon. Member knows, so far the scheme is largely confined to Central Government servants and the people residing in certain localities. I take it that the scheme will be extended as soon as possible and cover as many people in Delhi as possible.