

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) Precise information is not available. However, a small percentage of employers ranging between 2.4 to 3.4 have been reporting shortages of professional and technical personnel in the quarterly employment returns obtained from them under the Employment Market Information Programme

(c) The required information is as follows :—

Occupation	No. on the Live Register as on 30-6-66	No. placed in employment during the year ended 30-6-66
Civil Engineers ..	203	45
Mechanical Engineers	139	30
Electrical Engineers	149	60

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : May I know, Sir, from the hon. Minister whether all the recruitment of these personnel is done through the Employment Exchange or directly by the undertakings either in the public sector or in the private sector and then recorded in the records of the Employment Exchange ?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The vacancies are notified to the Employment Exchanges. Whenever any of them asks for people we send up the names. But many of them make direct recruitments also.

SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA : On the one hand technical personnel are always complaining that they are not getting proper jobs but on the other hand, from personal knowledge, I can say that most of the undertakings are starving for good personnel for the technical jobs. May I know, Sir, from the hon'ble Minister if any study has been made as to what exactly is the position ? May I know, Sir, the cause why both the parties, those who want employment and those who want

persons to work for them, are not happy and satisfied ? There is always a gap in the understanding between the two.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : Yes, Sir. A study was made in Delhi in respect of graduate Engineers. The study revealed that in a large number of cases which were registered with the Employment Exchanges people were actually in employment but they were looking for better prospects and hence registered their names. We also found that the employers have insisted on long terms of experience. They want engineers with experience of three to four years which the new graduates do not have. That is the reason for this conflict.

SHRI CHITTA BASU : May I know, Sir, from the Government whether it is incumbent upon the employers to compulsorily notify their vacancies to the Employment Exchanges ? If so, may I know whether the Government is satisfied that that particular provision has been fulfilled by all the employers in Delhi ?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : Yes, Sir. Under the Employment Exchange (Compulsory Notification of Vacancies) Act, 1959 they have to do that. We enforce it.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN : The Minister has just now stated that in many undertakings there is a small percentage of shortage of technical personnel. And we have had it confirmed by an industrialist here. Yesterday we had a long discussion about surplus engineers who were thrown out of jobs from Bhilai. May I know, Sir, whether some machinery will be evolved so that these engineers are absorbed in appropriate vacancies as and when they are declared surplus ?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : If all the concerns which are experiencing shortage register with us and ask the Director General of Employment Exchanges we will make necessary arrangements for them.

TROMBAY FERTILIZER PLANT

279 SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that production in the Trombay Fertiliser Plant is far below the scheduled norm;

(b) if so, the extent of shortfall of production; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) Trombay Fertilizer Project is still in the commissioning stage. The Ammonia and Urea plants have been proved and are functioning well. Nitrophosphate Plant is still having teething troubles but these are being overcome in consultation with the suppliers.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : May I know, Sir, whether a second hand and obsolete machinery has been furnished to the Trombay Fertiliser Plant by the foreign collaborator and as a result there is a shortfall in production there?

SARDAR IQBAL SINGH : There is no complaint like that. The shortfall was due to some technical defects and those are being looked into and the suppliers have also sent a team to examine the whole project. The project has been split into ammonia and urea plant and nitrophosphate plant. They are being looked into and the technical defects are being removed.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : From the report in the press it appears that the Ministry considers that it is due to technical defects. What are those defects? Are there any reasons to suspect that the foreign technical collaborators are out to sabotage the production in this plant so that the hold on the fertilizer industry by the U.S. private capitalists continues?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : It is unfortunate that this nitrophosphate plant has had a lot of teething trouble and it is not able to give its full performance. The American company concerned have taken note of the various defects because they were in charge of designing, engineering and getting the supplies and making the deliveries here. They have taken note of the various defects and they are now sending equipments so that we hope when the new equipment is fitted on, it will be able to give a proper performance. There is no reason for the point that the hon. Member suggested, namely, that the company is wanting to sabotage the plant

willfully. There is no reason to suppose it.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : As a result of this shortfall in production, will the Minister assure the House that there will not be any increase in the price of fertilizer products so that the agricultural production can go on unhampered?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : As the answer stated, the ammonia plant and the urea plants have been working well but they were entrusted to another company. The nitrophosphate plant was entrusted to a different company. Now they have planned a production target of 79,860 tons of urea for 1966-67 of which till 23rd July we have been able to produce 16,903 tons. So I think it is going on properly, as far as ammonium and urea are concerned. The same thing cannot be said about the nitrophosphate plant. The production is about 15 per cent. now but they have some time till December by which time the company can restore this plant to normal working and I hope full production will be available.

SHRI A. D. MANI : May I know whether the working of this plant is going according to the schedule or whether there has been a lag behind the schedule and further where there is any obligation for the Government to provide a part of the foreign exchange components for this plant or whether the entire foreign exchange component is being supplied by the foreign collaborators?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : The collaboration is not a financial collaboration. The collaboration is only a technical one. The entire foreign exchange has been met by D.L.F. loan. Regarding the question whether there has been a sliding in the schedule, I think there has been a delay of about six months. The plant was actually started in November 1965.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : I hope the Minister is aware that there is a feeling in the country that there has been a let down in the fertiliser schedule. About the six months delay that he has mentioned, was it the first change in the schedule or there were many more changes made earlier to that and as a result of these changes, may I know how much is the increase in cost

and how much, in terms of fertiliser production, has the country suffered ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : As I have said, there are two parts. The ammonia and urea form one part of it and nitrophosphate forms another part. As far as ammonia and urea are concerned, they are producing to the full capacity. So it cannot be said that it has been a let down. It was entrusted to one firm. Another firm was in charge of the nitrophosphate part of it. Unfortunately that firm has not come up to the expectations. The equipment has been defective. Many wrong things had been supplied. So we have had several meetings with them and they are trying to make up for the deficiency by sending fresh equipment. The fresh equipment is being put on.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : How much has the cost gone up ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I do not think the cost will go up.

SHRI C. D. PANDE : May I know if in the collaboration agreement there are any terms which bind the collaborating company in case it fails to do the required production within a certain time, that it would be liable for a deduction in their remuneration or there is no penal clause of this nature ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : That is what I am pointing out. The company has still time. The plant went into production in November last. They have got 13 months from that time. They have time till December 1966. We are hoping that they will set it right by December this year.

SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL : May I know if it is true that the suppliers have been paid fully for the supplies of equipment and for the removal of the defective ones they are asking extra money ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : According to the contract, we have paid them 95 per cent.

*280. [Transferred to the 11th August, 1966.]

*281. [The questioner (Shri Abdul Ghani) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 1568-69 infra.]

PAYMENT TO WOMEN CARRYING ADDITIONAL MAIL

*282. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that women employed in carrying additional mail along with postmen in the Nagpur Division of the Maharashtra State are paid only 80 paise each a day under the orders of the Post Master General; and

(b) if so, what is the principle involved in fixing that rate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH RAO) : (a) Whenever postmen have to carry heavy mail women mazdoors are engaged in Nagpur City post office and Nagpur G.P.O. to assist the postmen in the delivery work. They are engaged for only about three hours for which they are paid 80 P.

(b) Male Mazdoors in other Branches of the Department at Nagpur are paid Rs. 2.15 for eight hours work on the basis of the prevailing market rate. Thus the women mazdoors who are engaged for work for about three hours are paid proportionately 80 P.

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : We have set up before us a democratic socialistic State . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : I dare say we have but what is the question ?

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : I am now coming to it. We have enacted an Act namely, the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 where it is very clearly defined what should be the minimum wage for anybody who is employed. As this happens to be a Central Government office, the Central pay structure with a minimum of Rs. 70.85 should be observed. Either the minimum wage according to the Minimum Wages Act or the Central pay scale should have been given to these women workers. Why is it not being followed ?

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO : The work is only for three hours. Proportionately she is paid 80 P. The prevailing market rate is Rs. 2.15 for eight hours.