

SHRI D. THENGARI: In view of the fact that Government is going to take quite some time for arriving at a decision, will the Government consider declaring an *ad hoc* interim payrise for these employees?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, the reply to my question is rather beautifully vague. He has not said why the Government has not taken any decision on the matter in spite of the failure of the tripartite deliberations which, he disclosed, were held some time towards the end of 1965. This means that about nine months have elapsed and the Government have not taken any decision on the quantum of interim relief to the people. Unless there is a valid reason, which he is prepared to give, this is an extremely unsatisfactory state of affairs in the Ministry of Labour.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : Sir, this report was received round about the Middle of August this year and we are examining it. As I said earlier, we have to consult the other Ministries concerned, and we will make sure that there is no undue delay.

#### INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT OF FERTILIZER TECHNOLOGY

♦847. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS:  
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press conference held by the Managing Director of the Fertilizer Corporation of India as published in the *Times of India* of August 24 last, in which he is reported to have said that indigenous development of fertiliser technology would receive a set back, if India went in for collaboration with foreign countries for the establishment of fertilizer factories;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter;

(c) whether Government propose to entrust the Planning and Development division of the Fertilizer Corporation of India to undertake establishment of two factories annually as they claim to possess the requisite capacity; and

(d) whether Government propose to change this policy with regard to fertilize

industry and to depend upon indigenous know-how ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SARDAR IQBAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The report is not correct. Government have already allotted two large-sized fertilizer projects at Durgapur and Cochin to the Fertilizer Corporation of India and F.A.C.T. They intend utilising the services of these two organisations for setting up similar fertilizer projects in than our military and it is the feeling of future also.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : Sir, about 1,100 scientists, engineers and other technical personnel are working in this field. As was stated by him in the press conference, they have the capacity to design and implement two projects every year. May I know, Sir, from the Minister whether it is a fact that those engineers and scientists have that capacity and whether the Government of India is going to provide them work so that this capacity can be fully utilised ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : It is fairly correct that the technical organisation, which is called the Planning and Development Division, is capable of taking care of two plants, about that number, every year. That is, at a particular time they will be able to handle about six plants in various stages of construction—it is true. Uptill now this Division was doing only parts of a fertilizer project; they were not entrusted with a full project. In Rourkela they were engaged on a nitric acid plant. Elsewhere also they were engaged on something like that. Now in March last, for the first time, they were entrusted with two big-sized fertiliser project in full at Durgapur and Cochin, and they are engaged on them. Though we decided originally to proceed with the two projects purely financing them from our own free foreign exchange, fortunately, latterly we got Italian credit for these two projects to the extent of 30 million dollars and we may I have to spend another Rs. 10 crores of free foreign exchange. So this job is on I hand and it is going on, and it is progress-

ing well. Now, Sir, in order to feed this organisation with work, I am intending to entrust them with two more projects.

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : According to the Draft Outline of the Fourth Five Year Plan which was presented here, it has been categorically stated that whatever indigenous technical know-how existed in India would be fully utilised during the Fourth-Five Year Plan period. May I know from the Minister whether the fertiliser collaboration agreement that we have entered into does not in any way impede the utilisation of the technical know-how we have in this field of fertiliser technology?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As far as the development of process know-how goes, these two organisations, namely the Planning and Development Division of the F.C.I. and also the Engineering and Design Organisation of F.A.C.T. in Kerala, these two have done a good job. The Planning and Development Division have developed a large number of catalysts and thereby saved quite a big amount of foreign exchange. The other organisation, which I mentioned, has also developed a process for the manufacture of ammonium sulphate using by-products gypsum. This is a process which they themselves have developed, and I think they have patented it also. So this work of developing various process know-hows is a thing which continuously goes on and these two organisations are engaged in it. But at the same time there are certain processes which we have to purchase, which we have not so far developed. We have recently purchased the processes for urea synthesis and ammonia synthesis from Messrs. Montecatini of Italy. We have also purchased the process for gas synthesis from another firm called the Power Gas Corporation of U.K. So, Sir, it is a two-way processes. While we are going on developing our own processes we are not waiting until our people develop all the processes; we are also purchasing some, and it is much better and more economical now to purchase these processes rather than wait for these processes to be developed by our own people in course of time. So we are purchasing then and also developing as many processes as possible indigenously. All the processes that they

have purchased will be ours to be put to use in our future plants.

SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU : May I know on what principles Government make the selection of sites for the establishment of these fertiliser plants and secondly, whether any priority or special importance is given to places where the consumption of fertilisers is very high?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I can straightway say that at present we are going in for fertiliser factories based on naphtha feed stock and we propose to set up these factories in the vicinity of the refineries. This is one criterion. Sir, it was also long ago declared by the Government of India that we should have at least one fertiliser factory in every State, and we are trying to reach that objective, Sir. Then the port towns are much more convenient for various purposes and therefore port towns are also considered. But that does not mean that we neglect the inland sites. These sites also we take care of.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question Hour is over.

#### SHORT NOTICE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

#### OBJECTIONABLE PASSAGES IN U.P. TEXT BOOKS

13. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : DR. GOPAL SINGH: SHRI G. RAMACHANDRAN : SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN : COL. B. H. ZAIDI: PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA :

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the objectionable passages in some of the text books prescribed for schools in Uttar Pradesh, which are likely to hurt the religious feelings of various communities in India and which are also against the spirit and the Directive Principles enumerated in the Constitution of India; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

••The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA.