

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to know the reasons.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: All the three reasons—mismanagement, lack of finance and the machinery being very, very old.

SHRI S. C. DEB: May I know, Sir, whether any of the mills has been closed down because of the system of automatisation?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: No Sir, in these cases the machinery is very old. As the House is aware, the Indian cotton textile industry is the oldest in the whole world and some of the machineries are also the oldest in the world. Actually they should be the most modern and that is why we are forcing the pace of modernisation.

AWARDS FOR STORY AND SCREENPLAY WRITERS

*77. **SHRI ARJUN ARORA:** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to institute awards for story and screenplay writers; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): (a) and (b) Suggestions have been made that the State Awards might provide for recognition of story writers. But Government have not come to any conclusion regarding the question.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know, Sir, when the Government hope to come to conclusions about this important subject?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Well, Sir, the most important awards have already been decided. I am not sure whether this is probably more important than the other awards. This question was broached only recently by some of the

script writers and the representatives of their association had come here. Our difficulty is that it is not possible for us to think of giving awards for every single aspect of the industry's work, because there will be no end to it, and there will come the best actors, the best actresses and the best music writers and a number of other things will go on increasing and then all insisting on getting cash prizes. So the financial aspect also has to be considered. But we are considering the question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The hon. Minister said that the number would go on increasing. May I know, Sir, if he is afraid if the numbers of artistes and story writers of this kind go on increasing and if that is so, whether it is in line with the policy of the Government that they should freeze these?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: I am afraid the hon. Member has neither understood my reply nor listened to it. As I said, the number of prizes will go on increasing if a number of persons were included.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: If the number of writers goes on increasing, it is a good thing, and may I know, Sir, why the Government is not accepting a scheme of this kind—appoint proper advisory boards—so that incentive is given to these writers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will awards be given to those who put the largest number of supplementaries? Next question.

FALL IN PRODUCTION AT SINDRI FERTILIZERS FACTORY

*78. **SHRI SATYACHARAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of ammonium sulphate and ammonia, gas and coke by the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd.

has been decreasing from 1957-58 and 1958-59 respectively;

(b) whether it is a fact that clinkering trouble affecting production of gas at Sindri started after 1954 and has been increasing for the last five years affecting not only the output but also the life of the generators; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take action against those responsible for allowing the plant to deteriorate?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) There has been decrease in production of ammonium sulphate and ammonia, gas and coke in Sindri Fertilizer Factory during 1959-60 as compared to 1957-58 and 1958-59 as may be seen from the figures given below:—

Year		Ammonium Sulphate	Ammonia	Gas		Coke
				Raw	Converted	
		(Tons)	(Tons)	(M. cu. ft.)		(Tons)
1957-58	. .	3,32,031	96,144	11,830	15,379	2,29,013
1958-59	. .	3,30,122	94,151	11,339	14,659	2,28,596
1959-60	. .	2,85,248	72,631	9,186	11,428	2,24,332

(b) It is true that clinkering troubles started after October, 1954 when coke produced at the Coke Oven Plant installed at Sindri began to be used in the Gas Generators. The intention in putting up the Coke Oven Plant was to make use of slightly inferior coals instead of metallurgical coals. The coke produced at the Plant, though hard and dense, clinkered in the generators creating mechanical troubles. These troubles further increased after the installation of the Expansion Plants, when high volatile coals had to be used to maintain the gas reformer plant at a proper level of production. With a view to bring out a compromise between the requirements of the Gas Generators and those of the Expansion Plants, the Sindri Management conducted tests during the period 1955 to 1957 using cokes made from different blends of coals. As a result of these tests, a particular composition of various grades of coal was determined as most suitable. This included certain quantities of metallurgical coals. So long as regular supplies of the different grades of coal

were available, the clinkering troubles were reduced to the minimum. The supply of metallurgical coals was, however, stopped in November, 1958 when these were diverted to the Steel Plants. The coals supplied in lieu did not produce coke of the required quality with the result that production of gas was seriously affected. The supplies of good quality coal were resumed in February, 1960. The improvement was however not satisfactory because in the meantime the mechanical condition of the generators had deteriorated by the continued use of coke made from inferior coals. It was found that without overhauling the generators, better results could not be achieved. Steps have, therefore, been taken to overhaul the generators.

(c) The fall in output and the deficiencies in the plant, it will be seen, cannot be ascribed to lapses on the part of individuals; these have stemmed from difficulties of a technical nature, which are being dealt with to the best of Management's ability.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: I have gone through the statement just now hurriedly, and it shows it was because of the defective coal used in the Sindri Fertiliser plant that the generators deteriorated. May I know, Sir, when it was detected in 1954, why did it take full six years to institute an enquiry—it was instituted in 1960—in the meantime allowing the generators to deteriorate to that level that they are not fit to work even after the supply of good coal?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: If the hon. Member looks into the statement more carefully, he will find that in 1954, when Sindri put up its own coke ovens and began to produce the coke, there was some temporary difficulty. It was overcome and, in fact, the maximum production was achieved within the next three or four years. This new trouble came in 1958 when the coal supplied to Sindri was suddenly changed and they got inferior quality coal.

SHRI SATYACHARAN: In the Estimates Committee Report it is frankly admitted that "it is difficult to understand why they kept quiet for so long without looking into the condition of the plant and allowed it to deteriorate so markedly." That was the real point on which I laid emphasis, and I would like to have an answer to that particular aspect of the whole question.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: We will have to explain to the Estimates Committee the exact position.

DR. H. N. KUNZRU: May I know our target for the production of ammonia in the Sindri factory and when this target is expected to be realised in view of the present conditions prevailing there?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Original Sindri plant began to produce the maximum possible quantity and it

maintained production for three or four years. Since 1959-60 there has been deterioration, because the generators require overhauling. Supply of good quality coal has now been restored and it will take about a year and a half to complete the overhauling of all the eight sets of generators—about two to three months each.

DR. H. N. KUNZRU: Are efforts now being made to increase the capacity of the Sindri factory for the production of ammonia?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Yes, Sir, Sindri has been recently expanded by 60 per cent. and the new expanded plants have already gone into production.

DR. H. N. KUNZRU: Has the maximum production been reached already in respect of the additional 60 per cent?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: No, Sir. They have just gone into production—a few months back—and it will take about a year or two to obtain optimum production.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if in this connection, some time back, Government received any memoranda or documents—call it what you like—regarding some kind of mismanagement that was there in the Sindri Fertilisers, and some kind of departmental wranglings amongst certain officers?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: These are two entirely different things—mismanagement and rivalry; they have to be kept apart. There was some rivalry; there were reports like that, but on enquiry we found that most of the people had left either on superannuation or had obtained better service elsewhere.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know, Sir, what the shortfall of fertilisers has been on account of these causes, and what it meant in

terms of the agricultural production of this country?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, as against the maximum production of about 333,000 tons that was reached at one time, the production in 1960-61 was 3,00,000 tons. So there has been a considerable drop. We are trying to rectify the defects. But they are not due to individual lapses; they are due to technical reasons—diversion of the supply of good quality coal and deterioration of generators—which are being attended to now.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if it is not a fact that in the notes, documents, memoranda, etc. which were supplied to the Government from quarters they know very well, it was pointed out that as a result of this kind of mismanagement—not rivalry; I did not say that; I said 'wranglings among the various officers' and so on—the production was suffering and certain aspects of the plants were also being neglected? Can he deny this?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I said that there were some reports inspired by officers who were due for superannuation and had to leave the factory. They were of this view that extension should be given to them. There were lots of things said at one time but nothing has been established.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if there was any enquiry made into these serious allegations that were made in their long memorandum? That is what I want to know.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: On receipt of the memorandum we made an enquiry and found that complaints were from officers who were due for superannuation.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: The hon. Deputy Minister said that there were

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some defects due to superannuation of the generator. Is that so?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not superannuation of generators but superannuation of some people who said that everything was wrong there.

दस्तकारी उद्योगों के लिये विदेशी विशेषज्ञ

*७६. **श्री राम सहाय :** क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दस्तकारी उद्योगों के विभिन्न पहलुओं पर परामर्श देने के लिए चार विशेषज्ञ कितने-कितने देशों से आये हैं और उन्होंने अपना कार्य भारत में कहाँ-कहाँ प्रारम्भ किया है?

†[FOREIGN EXPERTS FOR HANDICRAFTS]

*79. **SHRI RAM SAHAI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the names of the countries from which four experts have come to advise on various aspects of handicrafts and the places in India where they have started their work?]

उद्योग मंत्री (श्री मनुभाई शाह): ऐसा अनुमान है कि माननीय सदस्य का आशय उन चार विशेषज्ञों से है जिनका जिक्र वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्रालय के १९६०-६१ के वार्षिक प्रशासन प्रतिवेदन के ११वें अध्याय के १३वें पैराग्राफ में किया गया है। इस सम्बन्ध में एक ब्योरा सभा की मेज पर रखा जाता है।

विवरण

जिन देशों से दस्तकारी के विभिन्न अंग पर परामर्श देने के लिये चार विशेषज्ञ आये हैं तथा भारत में जिन स्थानों पर उन्होंने कार्य प्रारम्भ किया है उन के नाम इस प्रकार हैं:—

†[] English translation.