

Chief Ministers Conference Decisions on Harijans and Adivasis

102. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
SHRI T. P. SHAH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any programme for giving a fair deal to the Harijans and Adivasis was chalked out in the meeting of the Chief Ministers held recently in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI PHULRENU GUHA): (a) and (b). At the Conference of Chief Ministers held in May, 1968, problems relating to the maintenance of law and order and the development Policy for Scheduled Castes and Tribes were discussed. It was agreed that the entire weight of the administration should be on the side of the weaker sections of society. It was also emphasised that:—

- (i) The Scheduled Castes should have a proper share in normal developmental activities;
- (ii) efforts must be stepped up to reinforce the representation of Scheduled Castes in the services. The Ministry of Home Affairs has appointed a High Powered Committee with the Home Minister as the Chairman to look into this question. The State Governments may also consider appointing similar committees;
- (iii) special steps may be taken to settle landless Scheduled Castes on surplus and waste land;
- (iv) the Departments of Harijan Welfare in the States should be given due importance;
- (v) periodical meetings between the State Chief Ministers and the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled

Tribes should be held so that the follow up action on the recommendations made by the Commissioner could be taken up quickly.

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Prospects of Fertilizer Production

103. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
SHRI T. P. SHAH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prospects for increased fertilizer production are dim on account of collapse of negotiations for the proposed projects with foreign collaboration;

(b) if so, the proposals which have collapsed and which are still being pursued; and

(c) the alternative steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND OF SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI RAGHU RAMAIAH): (a) and (b). No Sir. The total capacity of the fertilizer projects which did not make progress due to the parties having withdrawn their proposals amounted to only 302,000 tonnes of nitrogen. These relate to the establishment of fertilizer factories at Haldia for a capacity of 142,000 tonnes by M/s. Phillips Petroleum Company and at Ghaziabad for a capacity of 160,000 tonnes by M/s. Rohm & Hass in collaboration with Modi Industries.

The parties to whom letters of intent/licences issued for establishment of fertilizer factories at Goa, Mangalore Mirzapur, expansion of Vizag and Maharashtra are expected to finalise negotiations shortly.

(c) Negotiations for establishing a fertilizer factory at Haldia are underway.