

Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th July, 1973, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Orissa Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1973, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th July, 1973, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

17.57 hrs.

RELEASE OF MEMBER

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the House that the Speaker has received the following communication dated the 26th July, 1973, from the Superintendent, Central Prison, Bombay:—

"Shri Jambuwant Dhote, Member, Lok Sabha, has been released today, the 26th July, 1973, from the prison on payment of fine"

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior): The privilege issue would stand cancelled then?

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): That will be decided by the Privileges Committee.

17.58 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

DELAY IN COMMENCEMENT OF PRODUCTION AT THE DURGAPUR FERTILIZER PROJECT

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai): The Durgapur Fertiliser Project failing to be

commissioned not only in time but even after about three years of its scheduled has become almost a big scandal. Similarly, the Cochin fertiliser project has also become another big fertiliser scandal. I want to add more and say that the Barauni and projects which were also to be commissioned by 1970 are also going to be near-scandal. For the Durgapur Fertiliser Project and the Cochin Fertiliser Project, the design, engineering and construction are almost the same. Not only the chemistry of fertiliser production, namely from naphtha to urea, is same, but these two projects were jointly undertaken by FACT and the FCI. But, unfortunately these two projects have completely failed in the sense that the time-schedule for production could not be maintained. The Durgapur fertiliser project has not yet reached even the stage of gassification of naphtha. In the Cochin fertiliser, a few k.g of urea was perhaps produced, but that also had failed subsequently. In Durgapur, Cochin, Barauni and even in Namrup the source material is not naphtha, but the end product is urea. If these projects could be commissioned to production, it would meet nearly 33 per cent of the country's requirements. If these Rs. 240 crores worth of projects could be commissioned for production in time, they would have saved our national exchequer foreign exchange to the tune of about Rs 100 crores, it not more. But since no time-schedule for production of urea was maintained by these projects under construction for the last two years and there was no production, we had to import fertilisers. Even in the Eastern European countries, from where we are importing fertilisers, fertilisers have become scarce, and the price of fertiliser is now double there, and as a result, I am ashamed to say that we are begging from one door to another in foreign countries to import fertilisers. But strangely, these four fertiliser projects which were to be completed by 1970 have completely failed.

18.00 hrs.

In the case of the Durgapur project, the foundation-stone was laid by