

Shri Tribid Kumar Chaudhuri: That was not my question. My question was whether the Orpheus-3 which powered the HF-24 in its first test flight last year was expected to be a supersonic engine or a sub-sonic engine?

Shri Krishna Menon: I have answered that question. It is capable of supersonic performance. That is why the engine was put into it.

Mr. Speaker: Was it expected? That is the question.

Shri Krishna Menon: Yes.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it not a fact that on that occasion there was wide publicity in all the Indian newspapers to the effect that the aircraft had developed supersonic speed; and that the Minister himself was present on the occasion. Is the House now to understand that it did not attain supersonic speed and the press reports were wrong?

Shri Krishna Menon: No one has said that it attained supersonic speed. It was a supersonic plane in the sense that it was designed for supersonic speed.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry.

Shri Hem Barua: I do not want to put a question. I want to make a submission. Nothing has been clarified. We just wanted to know whether HF-24 was provided with the engine for supersonic speed and whether it attained that speed. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: It has been clarified. The hon. Member has other sources to get a clarification if he wants further clarification. Next question.

Oil At Sanad (Gujarat)

*1210. **Shri Man Singh Patel:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Commission has found another oil strata at Sanand near Sertha (Kalol) in Gujarat State;

(b) if so, how many sites are fixed for drilling near about Sanand; and

(c) whether Government have taken any precaution to continue or take up this work in monsoons?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) A large anticlinal structure has been discovered north-northeast of Sanand. It is not possible to say at this stage whether this structure is oil bearing.

(b) Four sites have been fixed for drilling on the structure north of Sanand.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Shri Man Singh P. Patel: May I know whether the road from Sanand to the drilling site is available in the monsoon?

Shri Thimmaiah: In order to see that the work is not interrupted during the monsoon, we are trying to complete the construction work at the site so that drilling may continue.

Shri Man Singh P. Patel: Is it not a fact that tenders for the road were advertised but were subsequently dropped by the Government?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): This work is undertaken by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. It is within the day-to-day activity of that Commission so that the Government have no direct responsibility in the matter.

Shri P. R. Patel: It was said that four sites have been selected for drilling. May I know the sites and in what villages they are situated?

Shri Hajarnavis: I would not be able to say the exact location just now. If the hon. Member writes to me, I will give him the information.

Shri Yajnik: Is it not a fact that the well that had been dug in the proposed Gandhi Nagar had been given up, that it was closed with cement,

and it is again being probed now for oil exploration?

Shri Thimmaiah: It does not arise out of this question. This question relates to Sanand.

Prohibition

*1211. { **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 194 on the 26th April, 1962 and state:

(a) the loss in excise revenue to each of the States of Mysore, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Kerala, if total prohibition was introduced there;

(b) the cost of enforcement of prohibition in each of the aforementioned States; and

(c) the cost of rehabilitation in each of those States?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) to (c): The information is being collected from the State Governments.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This matter was raised some days ago also in the House. Notice of that question was given ten days before that. How long will this process of collecting information continue? It is nearly a month now.

Shri Datar: The hon. Member will understand this what was decided was that there ought to be a phased programme and total prohibition before the end of the third Plan. It depends upon the various State Governments to determine the phases by which they will have total prohibition and then they will work out the financial implications also.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Has the Union Government decided that it would reimburse those State Govern-

ment which ask for assistance to the fullest extent or only to a partial extent?

Shri Datar: Fifty-fifty basis.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Have the State Governments agreed to that proposition?

Shri Datar: Some States have not agreed. They are asking for cent per cent help.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Which States have agreed and which have not?

Mr. Speaker: Before I allow the hon. Member, he puts the question and the Minister also answers. I am helpless. Shri Hem Barua.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the nation is bleeding on account of heavy taxes, may I know whether it is in the contemplation of Government that much relief could be assured to the people if prohibition is scrapped?

Shri Datar: I do not accept this position at all.

Mr. Speaker: He did not expect an answer; he only wanted to put the question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He expected an answer also.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: The Minister stated that all these facts are being collected. May I know how the Government tried to advise the State Governments to go in for total prohibition without these valid facts before in the possession of the Government?

Shri Datar: What the Government did and what the Central Prohibition Committee did was to take a decision that before the end of the third Plan, there ought to be total prohibition.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Unwise.

Shri Datar: This was accepted in principle by all the representatives of the State Governments. Then they were requested to work out the various phases through which this has to be