

Shri Thimmaiah: These two foreign collaborators have submitted their report, and it is being examined. We have not yet decided on the location of the refinery.

Mr. Speaker: Whether the second team has been sent, that was the question.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Fuel (Shri Hajarnavis): Whether the report has been finalised? No decision has been taken on that.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether the location will be decided on the basis of certain principles?

Shri Hajarnavis: On a matter like this, we are guided by the advice of our experts.

Shri Kunhan: May I know whether the Government has received a letter from Kerala to establish this oil refinery there?

Shri Hajarnavis: Every part of India will be taken into consideration in deciding where it should be located.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether Government have assured themselves of the availability of crude oil before setting up this refinery, and if so what is the source?

Shri Hajarnavis: That also is one of the factors to be taken into consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What are the sites under consideration so far as the setting up of this oil refinery is concerned?

Shri Hajarnavis: No specific sites are under consideration.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: May I know whether the Government has already undertaken a study of the various facts to make a final decision about a site for this refinery?

Shri Hajarnavis: Yes, the matter is being considered by our experts in the Indian Refineries Limited.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: How long will the Government take to finalise a decision with regard to the setting up of this refinery and deciding the party to whom this should be entrusted?

Shri Hajarnavis: As soon as possible.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Has the capacity of this refinery been determined? What is likely to be its capacity?

Shri Hajarnavis: Two million tons to start with. It may be increased also.

Movement of Coal by Road

- +
- Shri Umanath:
 - Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 - Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
 - Shri Bhakt Darshan:
 - Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 - Shri Mohsin:
 - *92. Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 - Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
 - Shri R. S. Pandey:
 - Shri S. B. Patil:
 - Shri D. N. Tiwary:
 - Shri Bishanchander Seth:
 - Shri Sarjoo Pandey:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal is being brought from the coal pits by road;

(b) if so, whether this is being done by contractors;

(c) total quantity of coal brought so far by road;

(d) whether wagon difficulty still exists; and

(e) if so, steps taken to improve this position?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah): (a) and (b). Coal movement by road from pits by the consumers and their agents is a regular feature which has been going on for long. No organised movement of coal by road has been made by Government so far.

(c) 3.325 million tonnes in 1962 upto August.

(d) There has been considerable improvement in wagon supply.

(e) Government has taken various steps to move more and more coal and some of these steps are:

(i) Coal is being moved by sea to coastal States and by road to consumers situated near the collieries.

(ii) Coal loading is being done on Sundays and other holidays also.

(iii) Coal production from Central India coalfields, where transport is easier, is being stepped up.

(iv) Coal dumps are being created in different States.

(v) Coal is being moved in BOX wagons in block rakes.

(vi) The railways have increased the supply of wagons very considerably.

Shri Umanath: There was a proposal to introduce 10-15 ton heavy trucks to carry coal by road beyond Moghulsarai. Has any decision been taken on that?

Shri Hajarnavis: The employment of trucks of that size depends upon the condition of roads, and that is one of the matters which is being examined.

Shri Umanath: Is the Government aware of the statement of a spokesman of the Railway Ministry some time back that wagons are lying idle at the coal pitheads because coal is not being loaded sufficiently; if so, what specific measures have been taken, in view of the national emergency, to ensure prompt supplies and clearance of coal?

Shri Hajarnavis: I have not come across any such statement, but the closest possible co-ordination is being maintained among the various organs of Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The Minister is aware that the ordnance factories

in U.P. beyond Moghulsarai have started working round the clock. I want to know what steps have been taken to see that these factories do not fall short of coal, whether any special arrangement has been made for them.

Shri Hajarnavis: Immediately after the emergency arose, enquiries were made from the ordnance factories whether they had adequate supplies, and we have been assured that they have adequate supplies for some time. Government are watching the situation very carefully and the supplies will be maintained to their requirements.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Has Government's attention been drawn to complaints by industrial consumers of coal that the new heavy BOX wagons used are frequently being under-loaded by the collieries because they have not got the equipment for mechanical loading of such wagons; if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter?

Shri Hajarnavis: If a specific complaint is made we will certainly look into it.

श्री बेल्वा : कोयले के सड़क से लाने और रेल से लाने के फ्रेट में कितना अन्तर है ?

श्री हजरनवीस : इस की तफसील मेरे पास नहीं है लेकिन यह जाहिर है कि मोटर से लाने में ज्यादा मंहगा पड़ेगा ।

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: What has happened to the scheme of inviting a foreign expert in connection with the movement of coal? Has he arrived?

Shri Hajarnavis: I have answered previously that we have not yet invited any foreign expert. The World Bank offered us the services of a foreign expert and the matter is being examined.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: As a result of the various measures that have been taken to improve the coal supply, what has been the net result?

How much more coal has been transported every month?

The Minister Without Portfolio (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The position in regard to certain areas, particularly in the section between the Bengal-Bihar coal belt and Mughalsarai, has definitely improved in regard to coal transport. Originally the movement by railway wagons was somewhere about 3440 per day. It has now been stepped up to round about 3830 wagons per day.

Secondly all the coal that is available is being lifted from time to time.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: On this question we want to know not the individual supply to the consumers. We want to know whether the scheme often repeated on the floor of this House by the Mines and Fuel Minister regarding the movement of coal by road and river is being implemented or is put under cold storage.

Shri Hajarnavis: No, Sir. We are working on that scheme. The first steps will be taken within one month: that is what we hope.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: What progress has been made with regard to the project for taking Jharia coal to Mokameh and then to Allahabad?

Shri Hajarnavis: I just answered that question.

Mr. Speaker: Each scheme cannot be taken and replied.

Shri Hajarnavis: We shall be taking the first steps within a month's time. I said that we hoped so.

Mr. Speaker: I am disallowing the question saying that we cannot go into details but the Minister is answering!

Shri Hajarnavis: I express my regret.

Shri D. N. Tiwary: In the last session of Parliament it was given out that coal would be dumped in Patna at two or three places in the lean season. Has that been done and if so what is the quantity?

Shri Hajarnavis: We are thinking about it but about Patna I have no specific information.

Mr. Speaker: He cannot deal with every station in this general question.

Shri Man Singh Patel: Is there any proposal before the Government to form an inter-state road transport corporation to move this coal to the far off places on the western side of the country?

Shri Hajarnavis: That hardly arises out of this question.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Is there any proposal to build up a coal dump at Vizagapatam to take off the load from the road? My question arises like this, Sir. It will facilitate the movement of coal by sea and so it is a relevant question.

Mr. Speaker: It is not relevant because we are on the road; not in the sea.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether any progress has been made in the transport of coal through pipelines?

Shri Hajarnavis: That hardly arises out of this question.

Foreign Exchange Position

+

*93. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Umanath:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Tan Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to foreign exchange; and

(b) whether the position has improved to any extent?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). India's foreign exchange position continues to remain