

nection, he had said something about West Bengal. I do not think there was anything else which he said about this.

Shri Iqbal Singh: May I know whether Government has given instructions that A.R.P. exercises should not be held in towns and, if so, what are the reasons for giving such instructions?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: We said so; but, as I said, it was confined only to two things. It was never said that other measures like enrolment of home guards or dividing the city into wards and having wardens should not be adopted. It was also suggested that volunteers should learn fire fighting, rescue operations, first-aid and also those other steps concerning civil defence were to be practised. They were adopted and they are actually being practised at present.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know if some steps are being taken now to have these civil defence measures in the rural areas also because most of these steps during the emergency were taken in the urban areas?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Well, Sir, rural areas are comparatively safer; yet, so far as enrolment of home guards and their training is concerned the scheme is the same and it has to be implemented in the rural areas also.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या इस योजना के मातहत नागरिकों पर से हथियारों की पाबन्दी हटाने का भी विचार सरकार का है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री : जी नहीं, हथियारों का उपयोग सिखलाने का विचार जरूर है लेकिन पाबन्दी हटाने का नहीं है क्योंकि कभी-कभी तो वैसे ही देना जरूर उर मालूम होता है ।

Private Oil Companies

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- Shri A. K. Gopalan:
- Shri Yashpal Singh:
- *140. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
- { Shri Basappa:
- { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:

Will the Minister of Mines and

Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of permitting expansion of private oil companies in India has been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The private sector refineries have already been permitted to operate at the maximum capacities available with them, which are in excess of licensed capacities. As regards their proposal for substantial expansion, all aspects of the problem including the likely additional demand for petroleum products and the best way of meeting it are under consideration.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know what is the necessity for the expansion of the private sector refineries when the public sector refineries proposed during the Third Plan period together with the existing capacity in the private sector would have met the needs of the oil production at the end of the Third Five Year Plan?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This is so far as the end of the Third Plan period is concerned. We have taken account of all the necessities, and the expansion in the public sector and the private sector refineries has been tuned to meet that demand. But the question which is under consideration is as to what will be our requirements later on in the Fourth and the Fifth Plan periods, and we shall consider all aspects before coming to a certain decision.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether as a condition for allowing the expansion of the private sector the foreign oil companies have agreed to modify the existing refinery agreements?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Unfortunately, they have not agreed to revise the existing agreements, but I hope that as understanding develops between us we

will be able to persuade them and better conditions will then prevail for the oil industry.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि जब तक एसी और बरमा शैल को जो ज्यादा कोटा दिया गया है वह वापस नहीं लिया जावेगा तब तक हमारी सरकार का व्यापार नहीं बढ़ेगा

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : कोई चीज वापस लेने का हमारा इरादा नहीं है। जो कन्सेशन दिया गया है एक्सपैन्शन में बरमाशैल और एसी को वह दे दिया गया क्योंकि उस से फारेन एक्सचेंज की बचत होती है। एंथ्रीमेंट मंजूर करने या नहीं, या रिवाइज करे या नहीं, इस प्रश्न पर बातचीत हो रही है। हम उम्मीद करते हैं कि वह खुद प्रॉपने इंटरेस्ट को देखते हुए उसे मंजूर कर लेंगे।

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the proportion between public sector and private sector and what efforts are being made to step up the proportion, so far as the public sector is concerned?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Recently, it has been decided that the public sector refineries should be expanded so that they may be able to produce by the end of the Third Plan period about 50 per cent. of the petroleum products. As we go into the Fourth Plan, all these questions will be considered, keeping in view the Industrial Policy Resolution, which guides us.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether large-scale expansion of the private sector oil companies will in any way hamper the expansion of the public sector oil companies?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir. Within a time-limit if the private sector refineries are expanded in an unlimited way, surely they are going to affect the economy, distribution and profitability of the public sector refineries. All those questions are before us and, we are quite cautious.

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: May I know whether it is a fact that the cost

of production of the private sector oil companies is less than that of the public sector oil companies? If that is so, what efforts are the Government making to reduce the cost of production in the public sector refineries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is very difficult to compare the cost of production. The refineries that came into being about 8 or 9 years ago, certainly have certain advantages, so far as economy is concerned because the costs are now increasing. Therefore, it is not correct to analyse and compare the costs.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if it is a fact that the private oil companies are allowed to repatriate their depreciation cost and if so the amount?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: According to normal practice, dividends, profits and certain other items are allowed to be repatriated. So far as depreciation is concerned, special funds are presumably provided by the oil companies. So far, perhaps, the oil companies have not repatriated the sums meant for depreciation. They have kept it separately for their use.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether it is a fact that the private oil companies have already been forbidden from expansion of their capacity much beyond that stipulated in the refinery agreement?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, no doubt they have expanded beyond the licensed capacity, because that had some advantages for us because it saves foreign exchange. For every ton of imported petroleum product we have to spend more foreign exchange than on the import of a similar quantity of crude oil. Therefore, we have allowed that.

Indian Education Service

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{ Shri Yashpal Singh;
*141. { Shri Bhakt Darshan;
{ Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to