

(b) what are the reasons governing the decision?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission.

Singareni Collieries

*151. { Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Bishancharnder Seth:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 444 on the 23rd January, 1963 and state:

(a) whether any settlement has been reached with the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding the extent of participation in the equity capital of Singareni Collieries Company;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). The details of the financial participation by the Central and the State Governments respectively in the equity capital of the Singareni Collieries Co. are still under consideration. The matter could not be settled yet because the terms and conditions on which the State Government want the Government of India to advance them funds for investment in the Company have not been finalised. In the meantime, the status quo is being maintained i.e., the Andhra Government has been permitted to retain its existing ratio of 60 per cent. in the equity capital of the Company. Further, in order that the Singareni Collieries Co. may go ahead with its development programme, loans totalling Rs. 4.5 crores have already been advanced to the Company direct by the Central Government during the last two years.

Oil Exploration in Assam and NEFA

*152. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:

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

(a) whether there is a scheme for oil exploration in Doom Dooma in Upper Assam and adjacent areas of NEFA;

(b) if so, what is the precise scheme; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken to implement the same?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The scheme is to carry out detailed seismic surveys and follow these up with test drilling in favourable areas as indicated in the surveys.

(c) Preliminary work is in hand to commence the seismic surveys early in March, 1963.

बिहार में तेल की खोज

१९६. श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : क्या खान और ईश्वर मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार राज्य में तेल की खोज के लिये जर्मन और इटैलियन कम्पनियों को लाइसेंस दिये गये हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां तो उनकी शर्तें क्या हैं ; और

(ग) क्या इन कम्पनियों ने अपना काम शुरू कर दिया है और यदि हां तो अब तक की इनकी खोज का क्या परिणाम निकला है ?

खान और ईश्वर मंत्री (श्री के० वे० मालवीय) : (क) से (ग). वर्तमान समय में बिहार प्रदेश में तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस प्रायोग द्वारा तेल-अन्वेषण का कार्य किया जा रहा है। प्रायोग का भारतीय दल आकर्षक, चुम्बकीय