

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when this report was submitted and how long the Government will take to arrive at a decision?

Shri Alagesan: The report was submitted only recently and we have not taken any unduly long time over it. We may take some more time.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know at what level this report is being considered—at a departmental level or some extra-departmental people are also associated with the consideration of this report?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know what the hon. Member means by extra-departmental level. The matter was discussed by the production committee of Secretaries fairly well. Now it will be discussed by the Economic Committee of the Cabinet and then the decision will be taken.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बेरवा : मैं जानना चाहूँगा कि इस कार्यकारी दल में कितने सदस्य थे और क्या इन सदस्यों में कोई विदेशी सदस्य भी था ?

Mr. Speaker: Are any foreigners included in that?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: How many members were there?

Shri Alagesan: Ten members.

Dr. Ranen Sen: A few months back it was reported that in regard to the petro-chemical industry the Government of India sought the assistance of French experts. Are the reports of the French experts combined with the report of the Working Group or is it a different report?

Shri Alagesan: The French experts submitted their report and then the Working Group went into the recommendations of the French experts' report and then made their own recommendations. Under the changed conditions they had something new to say also.

Shri Jashvant Mehta: May I know whether this report was discussed by the Economic Committee of the Cabinet and, if so, what is its reaction to it?

Shri Alagesan: Not yet; it will be discussed.

Shri A. P. Jain: Are any of the schemes included in the Fourth Plan being anticipated and preliminary action being taken and, if so, on what petro-chemical industry?

Shri Alagesan: As far as the Bombay group of industries is concerned, several industries have been either licensed or approved. One in Bombay, one in Barauni and another in Assam have already been approved.

Shri Heda: In view of the new dimension given to the petro-chemical industry by Mr. Khrushchev in his recent statement by saying that they are useful and helpful for agricultural production, may I know whether the consideration of this report would be expedited?

Shri Alagesan: I have already said that they are considering it.

Oil Concessions in Iraq and Kuwait

*8. **Shri J. B. S. Bist:** Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efforts made by Government to get oil concessions in Iraq and Kuwait have succeeded; and

(b) if so, to what extent and the estimated supply of crude oil from these sources?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Alagesan): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri J. B. S. Bist: When is it expected to be finalised?

Shri Alagesan: We are in the midst of talks and discussions. As far as Kuwait is concerned, we have sent a delegation and their representatives

also visited this country. We are still talking with them. As far as Iraq is concerned, we have just now started talking about it. We have not reached any definite stage.

Dr. Ranen Sen: During the last Budget session the hon. Minister, Shri Kabir, had said that negotiations with the Kuwait authorities for exploration and for establishing petro-chemical industry were progressing well. Now what is the actual position today?

Shri Alagesan: That is what I said, namely, that we are still in the midst of our discussions and negotiations. We want to enter into partnership with that country for exploration purposes and they have also expressed interest in participating in our refinery projects here. All these things are under consideration.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether these negotiations are with the Government of Kuwait and Iraq or with the foreign companies that are exploring oil here; if it is the latter, what is the position in regard to seeking some concession for us in case negotiations are accepted by the other parties?

Shri Alagesan: In Kuwait we are talking with a company in which the Government has major interest. So, in that way Government is interested in the Kuwait National Company. In Iraq we are barely at the stage of starting the negotiations. When we are able to talk to them, we will know the present position.

Shri J. B. S. Bist: Can we know the name of the company in which the Government has major interest and also to which area will exploration be limited?

Shri Alagesan: The name of the company is Kuwait National Petroleum Company.

Shri J. B. S. Bist: The other part of my question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: He has not heard that. Shri Jadhav.

श्री कुलस्रीदत्त जाधव : अपने देश में कितना पेट्रोलियम लगता है ? यहाँ कितना पैदा होता है और बाहर से कितना आता है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह एक बहुत जनरल क्वेश्चन है ।

State Education Ministers' Conference

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Shri Muthiah:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
*9. Shrimati Savitri Nigam:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Bal Krishna Singh:
Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri Tan Singh:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1340 on the 6th May, 1964 and state:

(a) the recommendations made at the Conference of State Education Ministers held in New Delhi in the last week of April, 1964; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to implement them?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) and (b). The report of the Conference is under finalization and a copy of the conclusions reached will be placed on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Shri Muthiah: May I know whether the State Education Ministers agreed in the conference to the ultimate adoption of the 12-year school course and to the gradual transfer of the pre-university classes from the college stage to the school stage?

Shri M. C. Chagla: The decision was this. It was accepted as an ultimate target that there should be a 12-year course and three-year agree course. But some States have got a pre-