

Panoli terminal has been breached at some places;

(b) the approximate quantity of oil that has leaked from the pipe each day;

(c) the reason for the breach in the pipeline; and

(d) action taken against those responsible for breach in the pipeline?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) A leak had been observed at one point, Sir.

(b) About 100 tons in all most of which has been collected.

(c) Perishing of the flange gasket.

(d) No responsibility for this can be ascribed to any individual.

Shri Yajnik: May I know the reason for the breach in the pipeline? My impression is that these pipes have been welded only a few months before, and I do not see any reason why the pipe should have broken and the leak should have taken place.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not know; normally, the pipes are not broken; sometimes, the gaskets perish or they decay within the pipeline. It is a usual thing with pipes in oil-fields. There is nothing unusual which has happened here.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know the party which was responsible for the construction of this pipeline, whether the construction was done by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission or by some contractor, and whether any action has been taken against those people who were responsible for the construction of this pipeline?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No action need be taken against anyone.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Who is the gentleman who was responsible for the construction?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Oil and Natural Gas Commission was responsible for the construction of this pipeline, and they do it generally by small

contracts. These things are part of the game. Sometimes when some trouble is discovered in an oil-field, and it is found that oil is leaking; attempts are made to recover it. It might be that a ton or two might have been lost. In the early stage of these installations and organisation of the oil-field, these troubles should be expected.

Shri Yajnik: May I know for how many days the leak continued?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not know; I have not got that information with me.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Scholarships to poor students

*557. **Shri Bassappa:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) how many poor but meritorious students have been given scholarships in 1961-62; and

(b) whether this number is going to be raised in 1962-63?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 3].

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Rourkela Steel Plant

*559. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 44 on the 15th March, 1962 and state:

(a) whether the investigation into the breakdown of the Blooming and Slabbing Mill on the 6th December, 1961 at Rourkela Steel Works has been completed;

(b) if so, the reasons for the breakdown; and

(c) whether any inquiry has also been held into the reasons and responsibility for delay in obtaining the

necessary spare parts from West Germany?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Orders for spare parts were placed in time but there has been some delay in respect of supply of some items and this is being looked into by Hindustan Steel Limited.

Manufacture of Helicopters

*560. { Shri M. R. Krishna:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have entered into agreement with foreign firms for the manufacture of helicopters; and

(b) whether any of the countries from which Government have purchased helicopters have in their agreements proposed the manufacture of helicopters for India?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) No, Sir. Negotiations are in progress.

(b) Yes, Sir.

High Pressure Boiler Plant in Madras

*561. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Namblar:
Shri Balakrishnan:

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state the progress made so far with regard to the scheme for setting up a High Pressure Boiler Plant in the public sector in Madras?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): Preparatory work for the construction of the High Pressure Boiler Plant has

been taken in hand. Land required for the project has been taken over. Levelling and dressing of the site is in progress. Six Indian Engineers are associated in the preparation in Czechoslovakia, of the Detailed Project Report.

Copper Smelter Plant

{ Shri Morarka:
*562. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

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

(a) whether any decision has been taken on the Project Report submitted on copper smelter plant at Khetri;

(b) when orders are likely to be placed for the above; and

(c) what progress has so far been made in this project?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). No, Sir. According to the time schedule given in the Project Report the procurement action will be completed within a period of 24 months from the date of communication of the decision on the Project Report to the Consultants.

(c) The following progress has been made, namely:—

- (i) Drilling for further confirmation of reserves of ore upto a depth of 2,500 feet is in progress.
- (ii) Bid documents, drawings and specifications for the shafts to be sunk have been received from the Consultants and are under examination by the National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd.
- (iii) Investigations of ground water in the Singhana and Jodhpura areas to meet the requirements of the project are in progress.