

Assam's Natural Gas

*126. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Llladhar Kotoki:

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

(a) whether there is a possibility of turning Assam's still largely unutilised natural gas reserves into foreign exchange earner;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step in this direction; and

(c) if not, the difficulties therein?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) to (c). Possibility of export of products based on Assam natural gas cannot be ruled out. As any exports would be determined by internal demand, it is too early to say whether export of products based on gas would be a desirable or a feasible proposition. Steps that may be necessary will be taken at the appropriate stage.

Royalty on Assam Oil

*127. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that following the dispute between Oil India Limited and the Assam Government over the question of royalty to be paid by the former to Assam, the Assam Oil Company also declined to make payment of royalty for exploration by that company at the rates prevalent hithertofore;

(b) if so, whether some arrears of payment had accumulated on this account and if so to what extent; and

(c) whether the differences have since been resolved and if so, what are the terms of the settlement?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No, Sir. Assam Oil Company has not declined to pay royalty at rates prevalent

hitherto. Assam Oil Company have however differences, with Assam Government regarding the basis of calculation of well head value for purposes of determining royalty. These differences do not follow from the dispute between Assam Government and Oil India Limited.

(b) Assam Oil Company paid Rs. 324,041 as royalty for the second half of 1961 whereas Assam Government have claimed Rs. 523,683.

(c) The differences have been referred by Assam Oil Company to the Governor of Assam for arbitration in accordance with provisions in leases granted to them by Assam Government.

National Institute for Women's Education

*128. **Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up at Delhi a National Institute for Women's Education for research work etc.;

(b) if so, at what cost;

(c) what is the progress in the implementation of the project so far; and

(d) by what time it is likely to be established?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Approximately Rs. 20 lakhs during the Third Five Year Plan period.

(c) and (d). The proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Steel Plant in Madras

*129. **Shri Umanath:** Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state the present stage of the scheme to locate a steel plant in Madras State based on the Iron Ore of Salem and Neyveli Lignite?

The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam): At the instance of the State Government necessary tests are being conducted both in Norway and the German Democratic Republic to determine the technical and economic feasibility of the project. Some tests are also being carried out by the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur. The results of these tests are being awaited.

तैल की पाइप लाइन

- *१३०. { श्री प्रकाशचौर शास्त्री :
श्री बिद्याचरण शुक्ल :
श्री अ० क० गोपालन :
श्री कुन्हन :
श्री हेम बरुआ :
श्री प्र० चं० बरुआ :
श्री अ० सि० सहगल :

क्या खान और ईंधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नतकटिया से नूनमती तक बनाई जाने वाली प्रस्तावित पाइप लाइन अपने नियत समय पर नहीं बन सकी और उस में कुछ बाधा आ गई है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस से कारखाने की क्षमता पर भी कुछ प्रभाव पड़ा है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस विलम्ब के फलस्वरूप कितनी हानि हुई है;

(घ) यह पाइप लाइन बनाने वाली कम्पनी कौन थी तथा किन कारणों से वह अपना काम यथासमय न कर सकी; और

(ङ) भविष्य के लिये क्या व्यवस्था सोची गई है जिस से कारखाने में पूरा काम होता रहे ?

खान और ईंधन मंत्री (श्री के० दे० भास्कराणी) :

(क) जी हां ।

(ख) तथा (ग). फ्रायल इण्डिया लि० और भारतीय शोधनशालाओं लि० के तकनीकी विशेषज्ञों द्वारा इन तथ्यों का परीक्षण किया जा रहा है ।

(घ) मैमर्स बर्मा फ्रायल कम्पनी (पाइप लाइन) को नाहरकटिया से बरीनी तक सम्पूर्ण लाइन का अभिकल्पन (designing) और निर्माण कार्य सौंपा गया था । पाइप लाइन के निर्माण के लिये मुख्य ठेकेदार मैमर्स मन्नेसमन्न-मैपेम (Mannesmann-Saipem) है ।

ठेकेदारों द्वारा पाइप लाइन के निर्माण में होने वाली सूचित की गयी देरी के निम्न-लिखित मुख्य कारण हैं:—

(१) १९६१ में विशेष रूप से अधिक तथा असामयिक वर्षा का होना;

(२) ब्रह्मपुत्र नदी में असामान्य बाढ़ों के कारण उत्पन्न होने वाली यातायात सम्बन्धी कठिनाइयाँ; और

(३) रेल द्वारा कम सुविधाओं की प्राप्ति ।

(ङ) पाइप लाइन और तत्सम्बन्धी सुविधायें पूरी हो चुकी हैं और शोधनशालाओं की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा किया जायेगा ।

Kolar Gold Mines

*131. **Shri Hanumanthaiya:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state to whom the gold produced in Kolar Gold Field was sold:

- (i) prior to nationalisation;
- (ii) after nationalisation; and
- (iii) at what rates?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Gold produced in these mines was being sold in the open market at the prevailing market prices both before and after nationalisation. From July 1958, the entire output is being taken over by the Central Government at the international parity price of