

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 13th August, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Rumanian Aid for Oil Refinery

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*71. { Shri V. C. Shukla:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Sarju Pandey:
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to the supplementaries on Starred Question No. 2105 on the 9th May, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the preliminary information asked for by the Government of India before the Rumanian delegation arrives here, has since been received; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) Yes, sir.

(b) An Indian delegation was recently deputed to Rumania to conduct further discussions and its report, since received, is under examination.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know whether it is a fact that the International Petroleum Consultants have recommended that a single big refinery

with a crude pipeline from the oil-fields to the refinery and a refined products pipeline from the oil refinery to the consuming centre will be the most economical proposition, and if so, what decision has the Government taken on this particular recommendation?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): A report has been received from the consultants of the Assam Oil Co., and that report is still being examined by the Government.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know whether the Government of Assam have moved the Central Government for a single and a bigger refinery in Assam, and if so whether the Government of Assam would be consulted before a final decision is taken by the Central Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as consultations with the Assam Government are concerned, we have had several discussions with them, and there is particularly no occasion now to consult them. The reports are there, we have practically considered everything. Last minute considerations are going on, and I suppose the Government will take a decision very soon.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the International Petroleum Consultants have recommended a bigger single-unit refinery in Assam, may I know why negotiations were carried on with the Rumanian Government before the project report was submitted by this international firm of consultants?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The succession of events has not been very correctly depicted by my hon. friend.

The talks for the refinery with the Rumanians were held before this international company was perhaps constituted, and therefore there are several other factors which are before the Government, and taking everything into consideration, I suppose the Rumanian offer has got to be considered very seriously.

Shrimati Masida Ahmed: May I know the reason or reasons why the Government of India accepted the Rumanian offer without a project report, which is an imperative necessity for installing a refinery?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Rumanian offer has not yet been finally accepted, but the case for very favourable consideration is that it is a very attractive offer.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the report of the Refinery Location Committee originally constituted by the Government of India, which is till now a confidential document, recommended a single-unit big size refinery in Assam, why is it that the Government thought it or considered it fit to split up the refinery into two and proceed accordingly with its negotiation with the Rumanian Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: My hon. friend knows....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is perhaps going into too many details which may not be answered in reply to a question. I pass on to the next.

Scholarships to Technical Students

*72. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme for awarding scholarships to students in Technical Institutes has not yet been finalised; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Some

research scholarships have been in existence since 1949-50, some post-graduate scholarships were instituted, in 1953 and some for undergraduate studies are now in process of implementation.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the number of students granted scholarships during 1957-58?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Under which category?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Technical aid.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I have given the break-up, that there are research scholarships and postgraduate scholarships. For the research scholarships there are 680 who are enjoying scholarships at the moment.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether the scholarship is being extended to students of the Marine Engineering College, Calcutta?

Shri Humayun Kabir: Twenty institutions have so far been selected for these postgraduate scholarships, and I would have to go through the whole list to find out whether this particular college is there or not.

Shri Tangamani: It is not postgraduate. There is only one college of its kind—in Calcutta, with some 50 students each year. I would like to know whether the scholarship includes the students of the Marine Engineering College.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That list will have to be gone into to see whether this particular institution is included in that or not.

Shri Tangamani: It is a very important institution. There is only of its kind.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I ask a question?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have passed on to the next question. I am sorry the hon. Member did not rise in time.