

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Monday, 18th August, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Oil Refineries at Barauni and Gauhati

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- *178. { Shri V. C. Shukla;
Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Bibhuti Mishra;
Shri Damar;
Sardar Iqbal Singh;
Pandit D. N. Tiwary;
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 373 on the 21st February, 1958 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the project studies on the proposed oil refineries at Gauhati and Barauni;

(b) if so, the broad features of the same;

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(d) by what date the project studies are expected to be ready?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Four volumes out of six have been received so far. The remaining volumes are expected to be received shortly. Sir, I may be permitted to add here
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that since the answer to this question was finalised, the other two volumes have also been received.

(b) The report is under examination. It is not in public interest to disclose details of the report at present.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know whether it is not a fact that acceptance of the recommendations of the International Petroleum Consultants would immediately save about 13 million pounds sterling in the cost of the refinery and about Rs. 10 crores in the recurring cost of the refinery?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All such figures have been indicated roughly by the consultants of the I.O.C. But taking generality of the situation, the assumption of the Government over these figures is not exactly what the authors have made out.

Shri V. C. Shukla: The agreement of Oil India with the Government of India is only for the extraction of oil and its transportation to the refineries. May I know what is the procedure, organisation and the pattern that is being envisaged or devised by the Government for the transportation of the finished products and their distribution to the consumers?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: When the refineries will be on stream, to begin with the transportation of the finished products is expected to proceed in the routine way, that is by railway as it obtains today. But subsequent to our refineries working, the Government are also considering whether there are alternative methods of transportation of the finished goods or not.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: In view of the fact that a huge expenditure is involved for the preparation of the project reports, may I know the reason why the Government are confined to a package deal with Rumania in regard to the setting up of the Assam Refinery when all the project reports are under active consideration of the Government; and may I know further why the Government of Assam, the State which produces the oil, were not associated in the negotiations carried on with Rumania?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The terms of the project report were quite clear and they tended to advise the Government on the question of pipe-line and also of the distribution system of the refinery. There is nothing contradictory in the fact that Government started probing the question of getting a refinery and also getting the reports from the consultants together.

श्री विमूक्ति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बरोनी में जो तेल शोधक कारखाना खोलने वाला है उस पर कुल कितना खर्चा प्रायेण और क्या सरकार ने साइट को सिलेक्ट कर लिया है ।

श्री.० के० व्हे० न.लव.य. जी नहीं समझी तो मसले पर विचार हो रहा है ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if in the examination of these project studies, some technical persons have been invited and, if so, whether those technical persons are from India or from foreign countries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Technical opinion is being taken from various sources. The majority of them obviously are from outside.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: In view of the fact that there is a surplus of motor gasolene from the three distilleries already existing, will the Government in considering and deciding upon the report give special emphasis for the distillation of kerosene instead of motor gasolene so far as these two refineries are concerned?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, we are considering such schemes.

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether the Government of Assam have submitted a proposal, in consultation with the international experts, to have a single refinery at Assam, and whether it was found feasible to establish a single big refinery at Assam?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir, the Government of Assam have made certain proposals which have the implication of a very big refinery in Assam, instead of the Government proposal of having two refineries at two places.

Shri P. C. Borooah: Is it a fact that oil wells which can produce 4 million tons of oil have been plugged by the delay in starting this refinery?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The question of delay does not arise when an oil well is ready for the production of crude oil. There are other things to do. Besides, the figure quoted by my friend is not correct. We can perhaps produce between 1 to 2 million tons of crude oil if we are ready for transportation of the same, within a few months.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: The hon. Minister of Mines and Oil informed the Assam Chief Minister in July, 1958 that the official delegation was completing the negotiations in Bucharest. In view of the fact that the official delegation has already returned, may I know when the formal agreement will be signed and where?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We are trying to expedite the whole thing.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Is it permissible for the State Governments to deal with foreign Governments?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Usually it does not take place.

Shri V. C. Shukla: The other day the hon. Minister said that there might not be any need of consulting the State Government further. But

last time when the delegation from Assam visited Delhi, the Prime Minister assured them that before a final decision was taken they would again be consulted. What is the present position?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: They have been consulted in the past and, if necessary, they will again be consulted.

Shri Tyagi: He gives assurance to everybody!

Post-Basic Education

*179. **Shri Subodh Hansda:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether the Committee appointed by Government to go into the question of integration of Post-Basic Education with Secondary Education has submitted its report?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): No, Sir

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know when this report will be submitted?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: It will take some time, because they are making detailed investigations.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the syllabus for this integrated course has been finalised?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Well, Sir, the position is that the course for post-basic schools and the course for multi-purpose schools are different. The Committee has been asked to study this problem, to make a comparative study of these institutions and try to bring them closer. Because, we have taken a decision that those schools should not be a separate pattern but one of the types of multi-purpose schools. Therefore, they are making a comparative study and trying to bring them closer.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: In view of the fact that several batches of post-basic students have completed their post-basic course, what arrangements have been made for the recognition of these

studies so as to allow these students to go up to the University if they wish to do so?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The matter has been referred to the Inter-University Board which is mainly concerned with this, and the Board has already appointed a sub-committee to examine this question, and this committee has also been working at it.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this committee will also deal with the syllabus of pre-basic education and junior high schools?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not know to which high school the hon. Member refers and in which State.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The different States have two standards—one, up to class VIII which is called junior high school and the second, up to class XI, which is called multi-purpose school in the secondary education sphere. I meant that I want to know whether that has been considered, because the sphere of basic education ends in class VIII.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This committee has limited functions. It is trying to examine the syllabi of the post-basic schools and the multi-purpose schools, and effort is being made to bring them closer so that there may not be two parallel schemes and there might be only one scheme.

Shri Jadhav: Is it a fact that there are many complaints about the introduction of basic education in the primary schools and the same has been a complete failure?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: There are complaints and complaints, but as far as the Government of India are concerned, they have accepted basic education as the pattern of national education.

Mr. Speaker: There are complaints and complaints with the Government of India, but they are proposing to continue it.