

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Friday, April 24, 1959 Vaisakha 4,
1881 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Barauni Oil Refinery

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- *2023. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tandia:
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri Ramam:
Shri Damani:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shrimati Lia Palchoudhuri:
Shri L. Achaw Singh:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Supakar:
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shri M. R. Krishna:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

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

(a) whether negotiations with any
foreign country in regard to assist-
ance for the setting up of Barauni
refinery have been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to
the Minister of Steel, Mines and
Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha):
(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

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Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I
know whether the attention of the
Government has been drawn to
pamphlets widely circulated to all
hon Members of Parliament and to
officials also stating that the delay in
establishing the oil refinery at
Barauni is due to the lethargy of the
Government of India and that the
contract for the supply of materials
has not been finalised as yet?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: As far
as the pamphlet is concerned, I have
not got any knowledge personally.
As far as the delay is concerned,
there has been no delay. I have al-
ready said that negotiations are going
on with different countries including
USA, USSR and so many other coun-
tries. It cannot be said that there
has been any delay as far as the com-
ing establishment of the refinery is
concerned.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I
know

Mr. Speaker: Only one question can
be asked by one hon Member. There
are 20 hon Members here

All right Pandit D N Tiwary

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know
whether land for the purpose of es-
tablishing this oil refinery has been
purchased and when the negotiations
are going to be finalised?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: I
have already said that negotiations
for this Barauni oil refinery are going
on with different countries including
Russia. Unless the negotiations are
finalised the question of acquiring
land does not arise.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know if
the estimated cost of setting up this
refinery has been worked out? If
so, what is that?

Mr. Speaker: Has the estimated cost of setting up this refinery been worked out and, if so, what is that?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): The estimated cost of the proposed refinery at Barauni depends upon the ultimate negotiations with the USSR Government. As soon as the final picture of the negotiations is before us, we can easily formulate the final picture.

Mr. Speaker: As yet nothing has been formulated?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We have got two or three proposals to consider. Suppose, they do not accept one and we have to modify it, then the whole estimate will change.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: What are the final recommendations of the American firm of consultants to whom the project studies of this refinery were entrusted?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The report of the American consultants, who have produced the preliminary project report for production, has been generally based on our own requirements. We wanted to produce about 60,000 tons of lubricants and also some aviation spirit. Now all these questions have got to be examined in detail.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: The hon. Parliamentary Secretary just now stated that negotiations with Russia and some other countries are still going on. May I know the names of the other countries?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I may supplement the answer given by my hon. colleague by saying that we have now passed that stage of negotiating with several countries. The position is that we are now negotiating in the final stage with the USSR Government for the refinery at Barauni.

Shri Bose: May I know whether the preliminary ground work for erecting the refinery at Barauni, such as, communications etc., have been taken up by the Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir. Not yet.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What percentage of money required for this refinery will be available from our own resources and what percentage is sought to be acquired from foreign assistance?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We can report to the House about this break-up between the foreign assistance that is required and our own assistance when the negotiations are completed. Our effort is to get assistance from abroad with regard to all equipments, machinery and the erection of the refinery. That is the sums involved in foreign exchange.

Shri M. B. Krishna: May I know whether the Government have finally decided to have the support of the USSR Government in fulfilling this project because the other countries have not met the requirements or because their conditions are not acceptable to the Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Obviously the conditions appear to us to be more favourable in our final examination of the terms offered by the USSR Government.

Shri Supakar: The negotiations apparently have progressed a little. May I know if it has been possible to fix a target date by which the refinery will be actually in operation?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We have already indicated that target date, which is sometimes in the early part of 1962. But we do not know whether a slight deviation this way or that way may have to be made.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether any further talks with the Government and, if so, on how many occasions, were held subsequent to the talks Shri Malaviya had in Moscow? If so, what is the progress so far made?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All these are matters of detail. I am afraid, I cannot answer that.

Mr. Speaker: It does not advance our knowledge by an inch

Shri Hem Barua: Subsequent to that there were talks.

Mr. Speaker: How many times talks were there? We will assume that he says, "Ten times" How are we benefited?

Shri Hem Barua: What is the progress of those talks? That was my question

Shri Tangamani: How many project reports for this Barauni refinery have been prepared and which of the project reports is now being pursued?

Shri K. D Malaviya: I only referred to the preliminary project report by one American consultant in this connection

Small Scale Blast Furnaces

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*2024. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:
Shri M. R. Krishna:
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Sardar A. S. Saigal:
Shri Warrior:
Shri Kadiyan:
Shri F. C. Borooah:
Shri Subblah Ambalam:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal to send an expert team to China to study the working of small scale blast furnaces,

(b) if so, whether the team has been sent,

(c) the composition of the team;

(d) whether it will submit its report to Government; and

(e) if so, when the report is expected?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir The Team left for China on the 18th March, 1959.

(c) The Team consists of a representative each of

the Department of Iron and Steel,

the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur,

the Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravati,

the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and

an Indian Consulting Engineer

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir The Team is expected to submit its report on return

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether before sending the delegation to China Government had some information about these blast furnaces?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Government got information through papers coming from China and a statement made by responsible people there

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the iron ore and other minerals which are distributed in our country will be beneficial for the kind of blast furnaces that are prevalent in China?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: In China, as has already been said by the hon Minister on the floor of this House, they have got the advantage of having metallurgical coal deposits dispersed in different parts of the country, which we lack here Therefore we are trying to have an experiment with light shaft furnace which is very popular in East Germany too We wanted to get some