

Transport of Cambay Oil

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 Shri Indrajit Gupta:
 Shri P. K. Deo:
 Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Shri Wodeyar:
 Shri Hem Barua:
 Shri P. R. Patel:
 Shri M. M. Gandhi:

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

(a) whether Cambay oil is going to be transported to the Bombay refineries by rail, sea, or pipe lines; and

(b) the relative advantages of these methods?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The matter is under examination.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether it is a fact that transport of oil from Cambay to Bombay would be most advantageous if it was done by rail? May I also know whether it is a fact that the railways have demanded Rs. 58 per ton for carrying this oil, which is a very exorbitant rate?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Regarding the first part, rail is not the most economic method of transport. There are alternative cheaper methods. Regarding the second part, it is a fact that this question is being examined between the Railway Ministry and our Ministry. It is also a fact that the Railway Ministry are *prima facie* indicating a higher charge than what we can bear so far as price of crude oil is concerned. The question is under examination.

Shri Khimji: In view of the fact that the Government have already taken a decision to establish an oil refinery at Cambay, may I know why it is considered necessary to put up a pipeline to Bombay?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This question has been very frequently posed by

our Gujarati friends. I have answered it many times and I will repeat it. Both the things have got to go on—transportation of crude oil from Cambay to Bombay for supply to the refineries and also to instal a refinery in Gujarat. The whole question is still under examination as to what quantity of oil is to be transported to Bombay to save the spending in foreign exchange.

Shri Khimji: May I know what quantity is expected to be transported to Cambay and its value in rupees?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: For the first six months, we are proposing to send for transport about 1500 tons of crude oil daily in order to establish the quantity of oil that is to flow from Cambay and Ankleshwar and to test the capacity of the oil field. Later on, we cannot say as yet how much we will transport.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: It is stated that Cambay oil is very thick and its paraffin content is very high. So, it is difficult to carry it though the pipelines. May I know whether Government will consider that aspect?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That aspect is being examined.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has suggested that the Commission should lay pipelines between the oil fields and the Bohrr rocks, where ships of deep draft can easily come in, and if so, whether the Minister is deeply impressed with this proposal?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not remember to have received any proposal from the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. There are various proposals which are being examined by our technicians and those who are interested in it.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the Chief Minister of Gujarat has made a counter-proposal that there should be pipelines between the oil fields and Dahej, 70 miles away, because there is a minor port in that

area and from there oil should be transported by tankers?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This was primarily proposed by us to our technicians whether oil can be transported to an appointed place near about Dahej and thereafter transported by sea. All these questions are still under examination; we are still in a liquid state in regard to that.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions. At this stage what more is needed? Next question.

'People's Car'

- *408. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri M. R. Krishna:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Defence propose to undertake the manufacture of a small "people's car";

(b) if so, whether this will be done in collaboration with any foreign country; and

(c) the year from which production is likely to start?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramaiah): (a) No, Sir. The project of manufacturing a low priced vehicle is under consideration by a Committee appointed by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

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

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that two cars said to be manufactured in Ahmednagar and Hindustan Aircraft Limited were exhibited in Delhi? May I also know whether similar baby cars are to be undertaken for manufacture by the defence establishment and if so, when?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): Those two vehicles

are developmental projects. As for the rest, the matter is in the hands of the committee.

Shri Mahanty: Is it a fact that an Admiral of the Indian Defence Forces had discussions with the Commerce and Industry Ministry officials regarding the production of the people's car?

Shri Krishna Menon: He is a member of the Committee. He is the Controller General of Defence Production.

Shri Mahanty: Then the question arises.....

Mr. Speaker: If he is a member of the Committee, he will know what is happening there.

Shri Mahanty: I wanted to know whether it was a discussion in the committee or it was a private discussion across the table.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has categorically stated that the proposal is under consideration by the Commerce Ministry and there is no other proposal. What more does he want?

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether it is a fact that Mr. Reddy, formerly of Praga Tools and now of HAL, designed one of the cars which was exhibited here and, if so, whether his services will also be made available to the sub-committee which is going in for the mass production of such cars?

Shri Krishna Menon: That is a matter for the committee. I do not deal with it.

Shri Tangamani: Here is a man who has some knowledge on the subject. I want to know whether the Ministry of Defence has made some suggestions about this particular gentleman who has designed the car which has proved to be successful, because it was exhibited?

Mr. Speaker: Why does the hon. Member think that the hon. Defence Minister and the hon. Commerce Minister do not know about this?