

Shri Ranga: Will there be any Members from both Houses of Parliament on this Committee?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I do not think Members of Parliament are on this Committee. The main purpose in making selection of Members was to get Members who have special knowledge of libraries.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister said that the Government of India will finance not merely libraries in the capital cities, but also in the districts. I want to know whether this committee has been asked to make recommendations regarding the increase of grants given to Library Associations which are functioning well, as for example, the Granthsala Sanghom of Kerala.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The whole plan was prepared in consultation with the State Governments and the Planning Commission and the Education Ministry and the grants will be given according to this plan and according to the needs of the State Governments.

Aeromagnetic Survey of Punjab

*328. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the term of foreign oil experts who carried out aeromagnetic survey of the Punjab has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, what are the possibilities of oil deposits there?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The report of the aeromagnetic survey has just been received and is being studied.

Shri D. C. Sharma: In which regions of the Punjab has this aeromagnetic survey been carried out?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The aeromagnetic survey in the Punjab was car-

ried out in the Jaisalmer area, on the northeast and southwest of Jaisalmer. These two portions were marked out for the survey.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know from which country this team of oil experts was drawn?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: They were not so much of oil experts. A team from Canada came to conduct an aeromagnetic survey of the Indo-Gangetic basin, a portion of Rajasthan and a very small portion of Punjab which incidentally came in the way of their survey. The object of this aeromagnetic survey was to assess the depth of the earth right from what we call the mother rock up to the surface where we stand. And these depths which are properly assessed by aeromagnetic instruments can go to help us a lot in the subsequent oil prospecting programme.

Shri Amjad Ali: How long will it take to revert to the seismic and geological survey, after the aeromagnetic survey is completed?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We do not wait for the results of the aeromagnetic survey to start our own investigations, both gravimetric and seismic. We had already started some prospecting work in the Jaisalmer area and also in the Punjab area, but not in the U.P. area.

We were waiting for the results and the interpretation of the results of this aeromagnetic survey. Now that we have got them, we shall either have to pin-point all those areas which are further indicated by the aeromagnetic survey, or we may have to abandon certain areas.

That is why I said that these reports are being studied, and a specific programme, modified according to the aeromagnetic survey can only be formulated after a certain time.

Shri C. D. Pande: Has this aeromagnetic survey been found to be infallible and accurate, according to the experience of other countries, or has

it to be substantiated or be followed by drilling, as we have done in the Jwalamukhi area? In drilling absolutely necessary, even after the aeromagnetic survey?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Nothing is final except the drilling. It is all to be confirmed by a series of different types of investigations. What the aeromagnetic survey gives us is only the depth of the earth at a point where the survey is done.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether any Indian technicians were given the opportunity to be associated with the experts during the survey work?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In every phase of the survey, our own people were associated.

Shri Ranga: What is the latest position in regard to the drilling experiments that are being carried on in the Jwalamukhi area?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I would suggest to the hon Member to put a separate question, because this question deals only with the aeromagnetic survey.

Oil Companies

*329. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) what are the figures of gross and net profits earned by Burmah Shell, Standard Vacuum and Caltex Oil Companies in their refining and distribution business inside the territory of India during the years 1955 and 1956; and

(b) the amounts transferred overseas by these companies out of these profits?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) (i) The gross and net profits made by the Burmah Shell and Standard Vacuum Refineries during 1955 are indicated in their Balance-sheets and Profit & Loss Accounts for the year 1955. These are available in the Parliament Library.

Audited accounts of these companies for 1956 are not yet ready.

(ii) The Caltex Refinery was under construction during 1955 and 1956 and have, therefore, not published their audited accounts. The question of profits made by them during these years does not arise.

(iii) Government has not so far received the balance sheets and profit and loss accounts of the oil distribution companies.

(b) The information so far available is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix II, annexure, No. 49.]

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: In the statement that has been laid on the Table of the House, it is mentioned that no information is available as regards the remittances made by the Burmah Shell Co. by way of profits. Are we to understand that they were remitting their profits during these two years without the knowledge of this Government?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No. We have made enquiries as to why the Burmah Shell Co. have not sent their intimations with regard to profits and so on. As soon as we get the information, we shall be in a position to give more information to the House about this.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Is it a fact that before the remittance were made in 1955 and 1956, the Government or the Reserve Bank had no information about the remittances?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I presume that the Reserve Bank has always been keeping in touch with all the remittances that are made by these companies.

Shri H. C. Mathur: Am I to understand that the remittances are made without any sanction or permission of Government?