

an area of about 400 square miles has recently been examined by the Geological Survey of India.

(b) The Director, Geological Survey of India, reports that only a few seams of coal have been recorded in the area. In certain localities oil shows were observed but no favourable structure for oil accumulation was met with. There are no other minerals of economic importance in the area so far examined.

(c) (i) Geological Survey of India.

(ii) The Nazira Coal Company Ltd., who have obtained from the State Government a mining lease for coal in the Naga Hills District.

(iii) The Burmah Oil Company (India Concessions) Ltd., who have been granted prospecting licences for petroleum for two areas in the Naga Hills District under the Petroleum Concession Rules.

(d) Rupees 6,400, apart from the salary and allowances of an officer of the Geological Survey of India, who has been working in the area.

(e) The Director, Geological Survey of India and the State Government report that in general, the attitude of the local inhabitants towards the work undertaken was neither specially helpful nor could it be termed hostile.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether it is a fact that the exploratory work was carried out under guard?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have no information.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know the terms on which these non-official agencies are doing the exploratory work?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: They are carrying on the prospecting work under the Petroleum Concession Rules. Concessions have been given to them under those rules.

INDIAN SEA-CUSTOMS

*858. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Indian Sea Customs had been established at French Indian ports from 1941 to 1949?

The Minister of State for Finance (Shri Tyagi): Yes. There was a Customs Union between India and the French Possessions in India from 1941 to 1949.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know why the Indian sea customs which had

been established in French Indian ports was discontinued, and what were the effects of the withdrawal of the Indian sea customs?

Shri Tyagi: The Government of India, with a view to reconsidering the situation with regard to the settlement of customs and on account of the changed circumstances, gave notice on 30th March 1948, for the termination of the Customs Union Agreement with effect from the 1st April, 1949. But before the expiry of the notice the Government of India expressed to the Government of France its willingness to continue the Agreement till the referendum if the Government of France so wished. This suggestion, however, evoked no response from the Government of France, and about a fortnight before the date of expiry of the Agreement the French Indian authorities put forward proposals, not for a continuance of the Agreement of 1941, but for considerable modifications to it, including a claim for an increase in the compensation to be paid to the French Indian Government.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What has been the effect of the withdrawal of the customs?

Shri Tyagi: The effect has been increased smuggling activities on the part of the French Indian people on the other side, with the result that our financial and economic policy has been impeded and our economic relations with French India are deteriorating.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government propose to re-establish the sea customs at French Indian ports so that increased smuggling might be ended?

Shri Tyagi: Some talks are going on between the Government of India on the one side and French Indian authorities on the other. I am not in a position to say anything more about it. I do not know what the result will be.

ALL-INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

*859. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the composition and constitution of the All-India Council for Technical Education; and

(b) the principles laid down for affording financial assistance to technical institutions in India?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Attention of the hon. Member is drawn to my reply to part (a) of starred question No. 566 given on the 6th June, 1952.

(b) The Council has recommended to the Central Government financial assistance for the following types of institutions:—

- (i) old established non-Government institutions unable to equip themselves properly and to maintain proper standards, for lack of funds;
- (ii) new institutions started with a view to fulfilling the established needs of a particular region or the country as a whole; and
- (iii) State Government institutions, the development of which was formerly financed from the block development grants given by the Central Government to the State Governments.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Is it a fact that a committee of the All-India Board of Technical Studies was appointed to prepare a scheme for providing training in industrial administration and business management?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This was perhaps not the function of the committee mentioned by the hon. Member.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: Is it not a fact that an interim report has been submitted by this committee?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, a report has been submitted.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what are the recommendations of the committee?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I require notice.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: How far have Government succeeded in applying the results of technical research to industry?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The hon. Member himself must be knowing something about it.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know which are the industries which have implemented the discoveries made?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is very difficult to answer; there are so many.

Mr. Speaker: Is the report published?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: Could it be placed on the Table of the House?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It is placed automatically.

منسٹر آف ایجوکیشن اینڈ نیچرل

ریسرچ اینڈ سائنٹیفک ریسرچ (مولانا

آزاد): غالباً وہ پارلیامنٹ کی لائبریری

میں موجود ہوگی۔

[The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): Probably it is available in the Library of the Parliament.]

Mr. Speaker: Is it in the Library?

آئی جواہرلال نہرو: دیکھ لیا جاوے گا۔

Mr. Speaker: It is difficult to satisfy all these questions; therefore I enquired. If it is so, I am not going to allow any further questions.

مولانا آزاد: بہتر ہے۔

[Maulana Azad: All right, Sir.]

अच्छा महोदय: तो आप रख देंगे।

[Mr. Speaker: You would place it in the Library.]

مولانا آزاد: جی ہاں۔

[Maulana Adad: Yes, Sir.]

EXTRACTION OF "METHANE"

*860. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether any experiment has been made to extract "Methane" (an inflammable gas) from the Coal Mines as is done in some of the foreign countries?

(b) If so, in which Colliery or Collieries and with what result?

(c) If the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, do Government propose to undertake such a research?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No experiment has yet been made to extract Methane Gas from coal mines.

(b) Does not arise.