

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** That is very much in our mind, and we are trying to get gas within our own borders.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान के कौन कौन से राज्य की सरकारों ने यह गैस लेने के वास्ते अपनी सहमति दी है, और क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने हिन्दुस्तान की राज्य सरकारों से इस बारे में कोई सलाह की है कि उनकी क्या आवश्यकता है ?

**श्री के० दे० मालवीय :** जी हाँ, उनसे पूछताछ की गई है और की जा रही है। मुझे यह बँरा तो मालूम नहीं है कि किस राज्य ने गैस लेने के लिये हाँ कहा है और किस ने ना कहा है। लेकिन मैं यह जानता हूँ कि सबसे सलाह भगविरा किया जा रहा है।

**Shri Kasliwal:** The hon. Minister said that the Government of India was having an overall picture or plan for this. May I know in what projects this gas is going to be used?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Well, I cannot enumerate all those projects for which the gas could be utilised; but some of the important ones are power generation, fertilizer and ferro-chemical industries.

#### Refining of Crude Oil

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\*1584. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**  
**Shri Hem Barua:**  
**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**

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

(a) whether the two oil companies, the Standard Vacuum and the Burmah Shell, have in a joint statement expressed surprise over the statement of the Minister for Mines and Fuel in the Lok Sabha on the slow progress of negotiations for the use of crude indigenous oil by private companies; and

(b) if so, the actual position as obtaining at present?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) Some news to this effect appeared in the Press.

(b) The negotiations between Oil and Natural Gas Commission and foreign oil companies in India are continuing.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether these two companies have since agreed to refine our indigenous crude from the Ankleshwar area and, if so, on what terms?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Yes, in principle an agreement has been reached that oil from the Ankleshwar area will be used by the two refineries at Bombay.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Is it not a fact that under the original agreements with the foreign oil companies, they are bound to refine our crude oil produced in this country; if so, why is it that the Government have not tried to warn them, as the Iraqi Government has done, that they would lose if they do not....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now he is arguing. He can only put a question.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I want to make the supplementary comprehensive.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He cannot enter into arguments during Question Hour.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I will put it in a different way. May I know whether it is not a fact that under the original agreements the oil companies are bound to refine the crude oil produced in this country and, if so, what is the need for these negotiations?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Under certain conditions, yes.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** In the statement by the General Managers of both the oil companies, referred to in the question, they have squarely repudiated the facts stated by the hon. Minister on the floor of this House and said that the ball lay in the court of the Minister, that they had replied to all the suggestions

made by the Minister but that it was the Ministry which was not making a reply to them. May I know how the matter stands?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** It is no use raising all those questions now. It was a fact that I was disappointed, and I said subsequently that this might have had some effect, or something else. Since then the negotiations are going on all right. And I suppose in principle an agreement has been reached and some details are being pursued.

**Shri Basappa:** May I know whether there is any proposal to set up a refinery in Cambay or Ankleshwar in view of a lot of crude oil being there instead of bringing it to Bombay which is very costly?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** We will be doing both the things, that is, sending it to the Bombay refinery and having a refinery in Gujarat.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Sir, may I rise on a point of order? May I know whether the purpose of the Question Hour is not to vindicate the liberties of the people and at the same time keep the Government perpetually on its toes?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** That is too big a question to be answered during Question Hour. I will request the hon. Member to come to my Chamber or I can go to him, and we can discuss it.

**Shri Hem Barua:** My contention is....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** His contention we will discuss afterwards.

#### Insurance of Ships against War Risks

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\*1585. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Radha Raman:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been made for the consideration of Government regarding the insurance of ships against war risk;

(b) if so, the precise nature of such a proposal; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal is that Government should consider the insurance of Indian Hulls against war risks.

(c) Financial and other implications of the proposal are being examined by the Government.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know the point that have been urged for consideration in this proposal?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** As I have said, the whole proposal is under examination. Until we examine those proposals in detail, I am not in a position to say anything on this matter.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** May I know by what time it is expected to finalise this proposal?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I cannot give exactly the time limit. As I said, we are examining all the details of this proposal.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** May I know whether ships belonging to the Eastern and Western Shipping Corporations are insured by Indian insurers or by foreign insurers?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** So far as this war risk is concerned, they are not insured by Indian insurers, but they are only insured by British insurers.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो हिन्दुस्तानी जहाज हैं उनका कितना परसेंट इश्योरेंस हिन्दुस्तान में होता है और कितना बाहर होता है ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : जहाँ तक वार रिस्क इश्योरेंस का मवाल है