

cussions are being carried on even now, and what are those parties and agencies which have had their final say on the subject so far?

**Shri Nanda:** I do not think that I can say on behalf of the others that they have had their final say. We consulted the representatives of the corporation, the Chief Commissioner, and the New Delhi Municipal Committee, and now it is intended to bring into the picture representatives of other parties, that is, of the corporation, say, the Jan Sangh and whosoever else is represented in the corporation that is, all the parties including the Congress and the others.

**Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Is there any proposal to set up an elected Legislative Assembly as it functioned five years ago?

**Shri Nanda:** I have already said 'No'.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** May I know whether the proposed set-up is viewed by Government only as a stage in the progressive introduction of self-government in Delhi with the ultimate view of creating a separate State of Delhi?

**Shri Nanda:** No. that is not the idea.

#### Search for Oil in Iran

Shri Hem Barua:  
 Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:  
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:  
 Shri Maheswar Naik:  
 Shrimati Savitri Nigam:  
 Shri P. K. Deo:  
 Shri Warrior:  
 \*65. { Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
 Shri B. P. Yadava:  
 Shri Oza:  
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:  
 Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 Shri Raghunath Singh:  
 Shri Indrajit Gupta:  
 Shri Basumatari:  
 Shri Morarka:  
 Shri Ravindra Varma:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India proposes to participate in the search for oil in Iran; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this direction?

**The Minister of Mines and Fuel: (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The question of participation in exploration for crude oil in Iran has been under examination for some time and in this connection a delegation from India also paid a visit to Iran in October this year.

**Shri Hem Barua:** At a time when India is seeking massive foreign aid for her development, is it not odd to go in for an overseas venture of this sort that involves substantial investment in foreign exchange? If so, may I know whether this aspect of the problem was pointed out by the Planning Commission to the Ministry or not, and in case it was pointed out, what are the basic reasons for going against the counsel of the Planning Commission?

**Shri Alagesan:** The need for petroleum is very great in this country, and the indigenous production for some time is not expected to meet the requirements. So, it is in our interest, in the national interest, to seek sources of petroleum elsewhere also. When there was a possibility of getting such a source of supply by ourselves participating in the exploration, it was thought that it was in our interest, and with the consent of the Planning Commission, it was decided that we should go ahead and explore the possibilities of such a proposal.

In that connection, a delegation visited Iran. I should like to tell the House that they had talks which are very encouraging. Though I am not prepared to disclose the nature of the talks, the talks were very encouraging. Iran also has agreed to send another delegation to further carry on the talks.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Arising out of what the Minister has said, is it a fact that India, on the basis of this exploration programme, is going to own in partnership with a Middle East Government large deposits of oil in the Persian Gulf? If not, what are the basic reasons for adopting this programme?

**Shri Alagesan:** That is also one of the proposals. But even otherwise, in order to meet our internal requirements, we will have to import crude, which will again mean considerable outgo of foreign exchange. So if we can enter into participation with the Iranian governmental agency in exploration, it will very much reduce the outgo of foreign exchange.

**Shri Hem Barua:** My question is not replied to. Are we going to own substantial deposits of oil in the Persian Gulf as a result of this exploration? I suppose you will agree it was a very specific question.

**Shri Alagesan:** I answered it is one of the proposals, that we could enter into partnership with the Iranian governmental agency in the task of exploration.

**Shri Hem Barua:** What about owning of the deposits?

**Mr. Speaker:** He asks whether we shall be 'owning' some part of it.

**Shri Alagesan:** I said 'in partnership', not ourselves entirely. In partnership, we shall be owning the business of exploration and production. That is one of the proposals.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** Which are the other countries or parties which will participate in the joint scheme of survey and exploration of oil in Iran's Persian Gulf waters, what will be the cost involved, what will be the share of ONGC and how is it going to be met?

**Shri Alagesan:** The seismic survey is done by a European expert company and the cost of the survey is expected to come to \$ 4 million. This will be shared among the bidders.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** How long will it take to finalise the whole programme, as it is going to be a very useful and beneficial one for both countries?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am not able to indicate the date. As I said, the Iranian Government has agreed to send a delegation. We shall have to hold further talks and finalise many matters before I can give a definite date.

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** According to reports which have appeared, in order to participate in the bid for prospecting rights later on, it is necessary to participate in this preliminary survey. Is it a fact that the ONGC will have to compete in this survey work with about six or eight other private companies which are also bidding for it? If so, is it the intention of Government that the ONGC should go into partnership with private oil companies for this survey work so that they can qualify for prospecting rights later on? If so, on what basis?

**Shri Alagesan:** As I said, the survey work itself is undertaken on behalf of the National Iranian Oil Company by a European expert company. It is not being done by companies who will be eligible to bid. The results of this survey will be placed in the hands of the eligible companies.

**Shri Warrior:** In the final decision, will it only be an Indo-Iranian venture or will some other countries also be included in this as a joint venture?

**Shri Alagesan:** I am not able to indicate that at present.

**Shri D. N. Tiwary:** What will be the extent of partnership?

**Shri Alagesan:** I said I shall not be able to indicate that now.

**Shri Hem Barua:** How is it that he refuses to divulge such a very simple piece of information—the basis of partnership?

**Mr. Speaker:** If it is really something that at this stage cannot be disclosed?

**Shri Hem Barua:** Then he should say that it is not in the public interest to disclose it.

**Mr. Speaker:** Members should not always insist. If it is within the country, we can insist perhaps. At the present stage I do not think Parliament has the right to have all that information, though it must have that information ultimately. There might be stages at which it may not be advisable to press for the information.

**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** By the next session the stage would have arrived.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I am quite sure you will agree with us that we have not got any information so far.

**Mr. Speaker:** Probably this is not the stage. As Shri Kamath said, by the next session perhaps we will have that.

#### Koyali Refinery

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\*66. { Shri B. P. Yadava:  
Shri Bishanchander Seth:  
Shri Chattar Singh:  
Shri Yashpal Singh:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that detailed project report for the Koyali Refinery has been received from the Soviet Union;

(b) if so, the main features of the report of the project; and

(c) when the Koyali Refinery in Gujarat is likely to go into operation?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri Thimmaiah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The refinery will consist of two Atmospheric Units each of 1 million tonne capacity, a Catalytic Reforming Unit and 24 M.W. Thermal Power Station. The refinery will have capacity to refine annually 2 million tonnes of crude oil.

(c) First one-million tonnes by end 1964 and the second one million tonnes by middle of 1965.

**श्री भी० प्र० यादव :** क्या रूस सरकार ने टैक्नीकल तथा आर्थिक सहायता देने का कोई आश्वासन दिया है, यदि हां, तो वह आश्वासन क्या है ?

**Shri Thimmaiah:** Yes, Sir. We are expecting to get about Rs. 10 crores under the Indo-Soviet Agreement.

**Shri P. R. Patel:** The refinery will be of 2 million tons. I want to know whether we shall get sufficient oil for this refinery only from Ankleshwar.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** No. Both from Ankleshwar and Kalol areas we get the required crude oil for the refinery.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** रशिया के अलावा किसी और देश से भी इस मामले में क्या बातचीत की गई थी ?

**Shri Thimmaiah:** No, Sir.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether, after having the bad experience of repeated teething troubles and occasional breakdowns in the first public sector oil refinery in Nunmati..

**Mr. Speaker:** I have a grievance that Members make speeches when they have to put questions. It should be very short, no arguments, no inferences, no innuendoes, no defamation, simple straight question asking for information.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether the project report of the Koyali Refinery makes sufficient provision to train Indian personnel to handle all the machinery and all items of work in running the refinery that is going to be built?