

[Demands for Grants, 1976-77 in respect of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which were voted by Lok Sabha are shown below. Ed.]

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant account on voted by the House on 23-3-1976		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
64	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	7,16,000	.	35,78,000	..
65	Information and Publicity	2,47,98,000	19,25,000	12,39,89,000	96,25,000
66	Broadcasting	6,73,23,000	3,55,69,000	33,66,16,000	17,78,44,000

13.53 hrs

15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the Cut Motions they like to move.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1976-77—
Contd

Motion moved :

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 71 and 72 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum for which three hours have been allotted.

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1977, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos 71 and 72 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum."

Hon. Members present in the House who desire to move their cut motions may send slips to the Table within

Demands for Grants, 1976-77 in respect of the Ministry of Petroleum

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 23-3-1976		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
71	Ministry of Petroleum	7,65,000	..	38,27,000	..
72	Petroleum and Petro-Chemicals Industries	9,24,35,000	48,55,05,000	46,21,66,000	239,55,27,000

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

SHRI R. P. DAS (Krishnagar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, as the time is very short, I have only a very few points to discuss over here namely oil exploration, elimination of foreign monopolies from the scene of oil exploration, refining and distribution and check further infiltration into the oil programme and stop any possible political subversion by these multi-national foreign firms, nationalization of all foreign companies and fourthly reduction of prices of the indigenous crude, petrochemicals and kerosene.

Although oil was first discovered and explored in India as far back as 1889 in Digboi in the State of Assam, a systematic effort for exploration on a wider scale both offshore and onshore began just only a few years back with significant result. So far as the offshore exploration programme on the western coast is concerned, the Bombay High with an expected production of 10 million tonnes of crude by 1980, appears to be a great success with far-reaching results in Indian oil economy reducing the dependence on imports.

I appreciate the magnitude of effort involved in the exploration of Bombay High which is 115 miles away from Bombay in the deep Arabian sea and I take this opportunity to congratulate the men concerned the ONGC, and the Minister on this great achievement. But, Sir, one Bombay High alone will not be able to cope with the rising demand of oil. So far as one can look into the future, the demand of oil in India will always be higher than the actual supply from the indigenous sources. Therefore, there is very little chance of being self-sufficient or near self-sufficient in oil in the foreseeable future unless and until the conditions tilt more in favour of the department. I would like to know from the Minister as to what will be the estimated demand by the end of the Fifth Five year Plan or by 1980-81 or by

1990-91. Is it not going to be much more than what the Department had estimated? Whatever might be the case, the Department has to intensify its exploratory work and discover and develop fresh resources in the different parts of the country. As regards the old and new participation in refining, distribution and exploratory programmes the multi-national firms should not be continued any further and no new contract should be entered upon in view of the huge profits and formidable remittances, adverse contracts and danger of alleged political subversion, I would urge upon the Government to acquire effective control and nationalise the Assam Oil Co., Caltex, Oil India Ltd. and all other foreign interests without further delay and without any compensation. If any assistance and co-operation in regard to modernisation of techniques and equipments is needed, the Government should seek this from those countries, particularly from the Soviet Union, which is very much willing to assist us and to cooperate with us on terms suitable to Indian conditions.

So far as the prices are concerned, barring a few in the high-ups nobody can really realise the reasons for the high prices of the indigenous crude and its products and petrochemicals. Since this is not imported the price should be kept at a reasonable level and made available at least to the non-commercial consumers. Is it the situation that we want to internationalise the price of the indigenous crude and its products? Is it not a fact that the price of crude and petrochemicals in the Soviet Union and China is far below the so-called international rate?

In regard to the price of kerosene, I would urge upon the Government to reduce the price to the level of 1970-71 and ensure steady supply to the poorest of the poor in the rural areas and save them from the urban village sharks, the black-marketeers. In this

connection I would like to know from the Minister the price of kerosene that is being imported from the Soviet Union and the difference between the imported price and the sale price to the consumers and I want to know whether the Government is making a profit out of this essential commodity of the poor, instead of subsidising it.

Before I conclude, I would like to remind the Minister through you, that the people would certainly judge the performance of this Ministry, not by its high-sounding achievements but by end product of such achievements. Therefore, I am reluctant to support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry.

With these words, I conclude.

PROF. S L. SAKSENA (Maharajganj): I beg to move:—

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Petroleum’ be reduced by Rs 100”

“[Failure to explore petroleum in eastern U.P., particularly in the Hari belt of Gorakhpur and Bahraich District (5)]”

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Petroleum’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Malpractices in selection of junior Engineers by O.N.G.C., Dehardun (6)]

“That the demand under the head ‘Ministry of Petroleum’ be reduced by Rs. 100.”

[Favouritism in recruitment of Geologists by O.N.G.C., Dehradun (7)]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Shri Raja Kulkarni. He is not here, Shri Mahajan.

14 hrs.

SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN (Buldana): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the

Petroleum Ministry is the youngest in our Government, but it deals with a commodity of basic and strategic importance in the economic life of our nation. Petroleum and petroleum products are required not only for motors, cars and other types of vehicles, ships and aeroplanes, but it is the main source of energy required for agricultural as well as industrial production. The army, navy and air force will be paralysed without this crucial commodity or product.

India, like the other nations of the world, was not worried about the future supplies of this commodity till October 1973, that is, the seven days war between Israel and Egypt. But, the Arab decision to use petrol as a weapon and increased its price by four to five hundred per cent, hit India severely and threatened to completely paralyse her economy

The import bill for oil, including other products shot up from 194 crores of rupees in 1971-72 to Rs. 1170 crores in 1975-76. We could get out of this serious difficulty with the help of credits from the supplier countries and the oil facility provided by the International Monetary Fund. That is we could face this embarrassing situation by huge and mounting debts or credit from the supplier countries and the international agency

The only ray of hope in this black and depressing picture was provided by the fact that we had developed the indigenous industry to some extent and there were prospects of developing it still further so as to reduce our extreme dependence on foreign supplies to a considerable extent.

Fortunately, the responsibility for developing this industry of critical importance fell on the shoulder of, Shri K. D. Malaviya, a person who had a profound knowledge of this industry and an insight into its potential development. As a result of energetic steps taken in the

[Shri Y. S. Mahajan]

field of exploration and development, domestic production increased by 4.1 per cent in 1974 and 10.6 per cent in 1975. In this period of exploration and development on land and off-shore, the work of the O.N.G.C. has been crowned with remarkable success. If the O.I.L. maintains its production at the present rate of 3.08 million tonnes it is expected that indigenous sources would yield about 15 million tonnes of crude by 1978-79.

Our total consumption of petroleum and other products is about 23 million tonnes at present. If we continue curbs on the rate of growth of consumption, reduces imports gradually and, as circumstances permit and, at the same time, intensify the exploration and production, the day will not be far off when this country will be able to achieve near self-sufficiency. In 1974 we could reduce consumption of petroleum products by 2.8 per cent, but it increased by 1.4 per cent during 1975. The curbs on consumption had an important effect. Similarly, considerable progress has been made in replacing oil by coal to some extent by the industrial units. All these steps have helped in preventing an enormous growth in the potential outflow of foreign exchange, apart from that caused by the fourfold increase in prices.

Curbs on the use of oil will have to be continued in the interests of self sufficiency i.e., with a view to preventing or reducing considerably the enormous outflow of wealth to pay for the import of crude.

If this is not done, the extremely unfavourable terms of trade will militate against the agricultural and industrial development of this country and will lead to its improvement.

In the process of a development of this industry, I hope steps will be taken to build up capacity for utilising it more purposefully as a feed-stock for the fertiliser and chemical industries.

Thirdly, the scheme of converting the existing petroleum retail outlets into multi-purpose rural distribution centres is very good. At these centres, people will be able to buy implements, spare parts of tractors, kerosene, fertiliser and other things required by farmers. This is a very good idea. If it succeeds, the farmers will be very grateful to the Ministry. It is said that 80 such centres have been started, but the report does not say how they are functioning at present.

Then there is a terrible scarcity of domestic gas. The report says that about 2.5 lakh new consumers have been enrolled in the last year and about 52 new towns have been served with domestic gas. But the progress made in this direction has been rather too small. Even in places like Delhi, people find it difficult to get it; even people in government service find it so difficult to get domestic gas that they have to approach MPs. I hope the Ministry will be able to produce this gas in larger quantities in the immediate future.

In the next five years, it is estimated that about Rs. 2000 crores will be invested in the development, exploration and exploitation of crude oil. I hope the industry will be developed in such a manner that we will be able to become self-sufficient in know-how and technical knowledge. Of course in the field of science, it is not possible to be self-sufficient completely. Even big countries like the US and the USSR have to exchange notes and knowledge in particular fields. But as far as possible, steps should be taken to see that our main exploration and development agencies will develop the necessary consultancy and know-how so as to make this country self-sufficient in this matter.

With these remarks, I support the Demands of this Ministry.

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, at the outset, I must thank the Minister, the people in the Ministry and our technologists and

other people connected with this petroleum industry that has developed in our country in a short period of time.

There was a time when we had to depend absolutely on those petrol sharks who used to exploit India, who used to say that not a drop of oil was there under the soil of India. Later on, they took advantage of our helplessness and tried to pressurise the Government. And they got some concessions from Government. Later, it would be quite appropriate here if I say—thanks to the help rendered by the Soviet Union—that our petroleum industry has rapidly grown up, and grown up to a very high stature. The Soviet Union not only helped us by supplying kerosene and other petroleum products in our time of need, but they also helped us in training a large number of our technicians in their own oil fields in the land of the USSR.

In this respect, the contribution made by Shri K. D. Malaviya is really commendable. Though we have many differences on many other issues, I must say it goes to his credit that he has been able to build up this organisation, IOC, ONGC and others. In this respect, I want to mention a few points.

In this report also there is mention of this matter; we also know about it. Even today I do not understand why for offshore or onshore drilling we have to depend upon Carlsberg or Reading and Bates Group or Aszmera group. It is a mystery to me, why do so while we have been sending our technicians and technologists and oil experts to Iran, Iraq and Tanzania. This report itself says so. I do not want to impute any motive. I want only clarification on this point. The sooner we get rid of these people the better it will be for us. The socialist countries also have advanced to a great extent; and would it not be better to take the help of those countries than taking the help of others because we have seen how those people try to corrupt our officials? Only one example will suffice. The pipe-

lines scandal was gone into by the Takru commission and ultimately it was found that Nayak was responsible for the scandal and he was not free from the charge of taking bribe from such a company. It has not been stated so definite; Mr. Malaviya need not shake his head; by implication it is there

In this report there are a few points regarding oil prices. We have got to import a huge quantity of oil; there is no doubt about it; we import kerosene, diesel oil, etc. In one year kerosene prices have risen so much; it is affecting very much the village and rural areas. I come from West Bengal where rural electrification is not so widespread. I am therefore constrained to say that the kerosene price is high and it is affecting the common people.

Secondly, this report claims that any number of centres have been opened for selling kerosene, diesel, tractors and other things. That claim is somewhat exaggerated. In connection with parliamentary committee work I had toured many places last year and the common complaint of the rural people was that there were occasional scarcities of these commodities and kerosene and other things were not available timely. This matter has to be properly looked into. The idea of multipurpose centres in which right from kerosene, petrol, diesel, to medicines and other things would be sold has to be streamlined and put into effect properly in as many places as possible; otherwise there will be a lot of difficulty in regard to those things.

As a member of the Public Undertakings Committee, I had been in some places including an area in Jammu. We went to see the place where drilling for oil was going on. It was stated that on the other side of the hills, which was Pakistan area, in the same geological strata hydrocarbon was found and that it was likely to be found in this side also. I

[Dr. Ranen Sen]

tried to find out whether there is any mention of that area; there is no mention of that in the report. What has happened in regard to the areas in Bengal? There was a scheme for having drilling in Sunderbans and in the Bengal-Orissa coastal area. Off-shore and on-shore drillings have to be made in these areas. The only reference in this report is that drilling is being made. As far as I know, years ago a certain area was tapped in Bengal and it was said that nothing was available. But in the vicinity of that same place again oil is being sought for. I do not know whether oil or gas has come out there.

The report says that there is a possibility of getting gas in Tripura but not oil probably. In the area in Bangladesh which is contiguous to Agartala, in the Titas river-bed and surrounding areas, sufficient gas has been found. I want to know in view of this whether that particular area in Tripura has been properly exploited to find out the quantity of gas that may be available there, because the geological strata is more or less the same in this area and in neighbouring Bangladesh.

I want to say something about streamlining the organisations like IOC, ONGC, etc. entrusted with exploration of oil, selling of oil, sending people to other countries for getting oil, etc. I have no complaint about these organisations, but as a member of this House, I had occasion to receive reports of corruption indulged in by certain officials. I do not want to mention them here. I will write to the minister about them. But even if there is a grain of truth in them, the situation should be very bad. There are complaints that right from the lower strata to the upper strata, certain people are doing certain shady things and the people higher up do not look into them. I do not say that they connive at it but they acquiesce in it. Therefore, the

streamlining of these organisations is very necessary.

The Mathura refinery will start functioning sometime in 1979. Today we are almost in the middle of 1976. What are the arrangements being made? It is not simply a question of building the refinery. Right from the Gujarat coast, pipeline has to be laid. All arrangements will have to be made. Otherwise, it will be like our underground tube railway in Calcutta which is to come into operation in 1979 according to the Prime Minister but nobody knows whether it will come into operation in 1989 at least, or the second Hooghly bridge which is to come in 1977 but nobody knows whether it will come even in 1987! Here is a big thing. The capacity of Mathura refinery is 6 million tonnes. Crude will have to be brought there. The refining system, the distribution system and other things depend on that. This should be elaborated by the minister. He should also clarify how long it will actually take for India to be near self-sufficient in oil.

I know that no country in the world call itself self-sufficient. Even, the USA where so much oil is there today, cannot call itself self-sufficient in oil. I do not know about other countries. Probably, the USSR has become self-sufficient they are supplying oil to other countries. I want to know about India India is a very large country. I want to know about the period by which we will become more or less self sufficient, not dependent on the OPEC countries or any other country to dictate terms. OPEC countries are friendly otherwise but they are dictating terms in a way, they are increasing the prices of petrol. That affects the developing countries like India the most. I want a specific answer to this question also.

With these words, like our CPM friend I congratulate the Ministry and all those people who are connected with this. But unlike CPM Member, I support the Demands.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Hon. Deputy-Speaker, I welcome the demand for grants for the Ministry of Petroleum. Though I have programmed it in a separate way, I would like to pick up the threads where Dr. Ranen Sen started to tell about the Arab Oil Bill and particularly the countries belonging to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries—OPEC. If we look to this table presented by the Ministry in its Administrative Report, the bill that we have paid for the exports during the years 1973, 1974 and 1975 has risen from 240 crores in the year 1973 to 899 crores in the year 1974 and to 957 crores in the year 1975. During the same period, the quantity in metric tonnes of crude oil that we have imported probably from our OPEC countries was 13.4 million tonnes in 1973, 13.9 million tonnes in 1974, and 13.8 million tonnes in 1975. If Dr. Ranen Sen is interested in convincing himself as well as this august House in regard to the point which he made in respect of the high price which we are paying, I would like to submit that this 400 per cent increase in regard to the Petrol Bill or the Crude Oil Bill which we have paid as a poor country, is outside the means of any developing nation like ours. We are virtually paying through our nose for imported oil. Over and above the hike in the cost price we are levying an additional tax as Motor Spirit Tax, which is directly passed on to the users of these vehicles and more particularly to the large number of taxi drivers in this country. I would like you to look at it from the practical point of view, particularly of an owner of a taxi driver in big and small cities. When a person is an owner-driver—like an owner-cultivator of a land—I do not think he comes in the category of a consumer of petrol for the purpose of luxury—leave aside luxury, even for comfort. Under the circumstances, there is a very strong case for the Ministry of Petroleum to evolve certain patterns, livelihood patterns of the small people. I do not mean the category of those people who maintain a vast fleet of taxis; but to the

extent of my knowledge, the number of persons who are self-employed, is perhaps the largest in the taxi-plying trade. May be a taxi-driver keeps more than a taxi. He may keep, 1, 2 or at the most 3 taxis. Roughly speaking, by the rule of the thumb, more than two-thirds of the number of owners of taxi are people who are self-employed. Is it not possible for the Ministry to evolve a system by which they get a certain rationed quantity of petroleum or motor spirit or other lubricants that are needed for plying their trade? I think the hon. Minister would not only try in this direction, but also increase the number of passengers that should be permitted in these taxis. As a matter of personal experience—as Deputy Speaker you, Sir, are probably moving in a conveyance of your own—I know the total amount of rush, particularly during the heavy traffic season, is so much that a vehicle or a bus meant to carry about 40 or 50 persons will carry, if we take the summer season into account, virtually about 50 per cent over-load. We now have got these egalitarian or these sorts of rules about road transport in big cities.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Is that the job of the Minister of Petroleum?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: It will be good if the Minister of Petroleum were to take it up with the Minister of Transport, as a member having joint responsibility in the Cabinet. Otherwise, let him reduce the price of petrol. Either give them this concession, or if you can give them both the concessions, it would be much better. This much for the price of petrol. But one more word I would like to submit. I feel that, for reasons which I have not been able to fathom, if it is cartelism by the Arabs in the world, it becomes the most heinous one. I am very glad that Dr. Ranen Sen, in spite of his political views, has made that point. It is probably because of the rift between President

[Shri B. V. Naik]

Sadat and Russia, that he is sore with Arabs. But he said to-day that the OPEC countries are making us, the developing countries, to pay through the nose. I do not think that Arab exploitation of the world becomes non-exploitation, simply because they are Orientals and that the American or White exploitation of any other races becomes more bearable. I think somebody had said, "a sort of an alignment" or "non-aligned people"—I am confused about it—and that it is something like a marriage of monks. But I think we will have to bring it out as a matter of major consideration. The developing countries, all of us who joined together at the Lima Conference or other conferences—the details of which I do not know—number about 70 or 80. But the total consumption by this group would make only for a fraction of the total consumption by the major industrialized countries, obtained through export from the Middle East, particularly the petroleum-exporting countries. Therefore, even if a price differential is imposed by the OPEC, it would not mean a substantial reduction in respect of their oil revenues. We do understand that after their oil wells run dry, they will have to provide something for the wintry day, and in that view they are justified in conserving in the same way as the advanced countries are doing. But, even at the cost of being a little misunderstood in the community of the world and in the third world, we will have to prevail through friendly persuasion as well as requests, or such other forces that are at our command, to convince our Arab friends to see the wisdom of following a policy of a greater amount of understanding with the developing countries.

I would submit only two points with regard to the Indian Oil Corporation. There is quite a wide gap in the distribution of liquified petroleum gas, which is known as cooking gas. In spite of the fact that it has been

given out in the Report that the distribution has improved, particularly in backward areas, in the area that I come from a housewife has to get it from a distance of 200 miles. The charting of the areas for the various units for distribution have not been according to the trade areas. I hope it needs to be given a fresh look and those gaps have got to be filled in.

The last but one point is in regard to the refinery at Vizag of the Caltex, which is the last link in the nationalisation. Since they have been under-utilising their capacity, they ought to be nationalised. When 85 per cent is in the public sector, there is no justification for five per cent to be in the private sector.

The Commission which was appointed under Justice Takru gave its report in the month of August 1975. Yet, to this day no action seems to have been taken. Nine months have elapsed, which is a considerable period of time. Further, the case itself is five years' old. There were several obstacles in the way and so the Commission took a long time. The charges are also rather serious. I think the Government should not further delay its decision in regard to the findings of the Commission. Necessary action should be taken at an early date.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola):
Sir, I want to make two or three points in this debate. The first is about the Takru Commission Report. I would begin by saying that it is such a voluminous report and in order to get the full details we must have a full length debate on that. I would mention only some of the salient points in that report which need to be taken note of by the Ministry.

To quote *The Economic Times* of 12th March:

“... the Takru Commission concludes that top officials of the then Indian Refineries Ltd. and a Joint Secretary of the former Ministry of Mines and Fuel acted ‘carelessly and negligently’ in dealing with objections of the West Bengal Government and Indian mining experts to the earlier pipeline alignment through coal-bearing areas.”

It further says:

“According to the Commission, the induction of Bechtel Corporation and its subsidiaries by Mr. P. R. Nayak, as Managing Director of IRL followed from the latter’s conviction that ‘they and they alone could be entrusted’ with the huge projects for which no global tenders were invited.”

I will come to the Bechtels presently, the exposure of the links they have with CIA. To quote the newspaper report again:

“The second aspect of the report flows from recent disclosure about the unscrupulous business methods used by several multi-national companies. Justice Takru alludes to it when he says: ‘It can safely be inferred that Bechtel must have employed all the tricks of the trade to get what they had come out to India for’.”

Therefore, no survey was made, no global tenders were called for, the Joint Secretary in the Ministry thought that this was the only company which must be given the tender, and they put this pipeline through a coal mine area. A technical committee appointed by the Ministry itself had reported on this matter thus:

“The main danger to the pipeline would be due to sudden subsidence of the ground beneath it and outbreak of fire in its close proximity either from underground or from the surface. Underground fire may

be due to various causes such as spontaneous heating, accidental fire, explosions etc....such fire may remain unnoticed for a considerable period of time and may shift from place to place depending on the season. A subsidence of sufficient magnitude and excessive span is likely to snap the pipeline.”

I have also written a letter to the Prime Minister, and a copy has gone to the hon. Minister, in which I have pointed out that recently a subsidence has taken place in Benali mines near Asansol in West Bengal as a result of which accumulated water from this abandoned mine entered the adjoining Satgram mine which is a working mine. A section of the Haldia-Barauni-Kanpur pipeline of the Indian Oil Corporation passes through both the mines. The subsidence, covering an area of about 210’ x 10’ took place only 18’ away from the pipeline which, at the relevant time, was carrying high speed diesel oil towards Kanpur. It was, it appears, touch and go. The Directorate of Mines Safety is understood to have cordoned off the affected area and presumably at considerable cost getting the affected area filled up.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM
SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Thank God it did not go, it only touched.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I hope you are not waiting for it to go, because if it goes, we have had it.

The Takru Commission has held that the pipeline was carelessly laid. The Public Undertakings Committee has also recommended that at least where there are working coal mines, where there is danger of subsidence, the pipeline should be diverted, but the Ministry always makes it a point of prestige. I do not blame the hon. Minister. He is a genius as far as oil is concerned in India and he will go down in the history of this country as the Oilman. I do not know whether he will be called Sheikh Malaviya of

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

India; but he deserves that title richly, but that is neither here nor there.

DR. KAILAS (Bombay South): Pandit Malaviya is better than Sheikh Malaviya.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: There was a Pandit Malaviya. So, I do not want to confuse the two.

As far as your Indian Oli Corporation is concerned, why should you make it a point of prestige? There are geo-political considerations, I need not go into them, but I would beg of the Minister to reconsider the realignment of this pipeline in the strategic and dangerous areas where there are mines.

I have also written a letter to the hon. Minister about the recent calling of tenders for the Salaya-Virangam section of the Salaya-Koyali-Mathura Crude oil pipeline project. Tenders were invited from various companies of international fame, including an Indian firm with German collaboration, known as Dodsai Private Limited. It is well known that the normal practice is to accept the lowest tender.

Unless you have reason to say that the next higher tender has some other advantages of quality or they have some experience, you cannot say, "No. Although this is a lower tender, we will go in for this higher tender." I can understand if there is any reason for that. Have you ever known a case where you pass on the information to another party and tell them, "I am re-inviting the tenders, you bring down tender so that I can accept your tender."? This is a sort of fraud. There is no meaning in calling of tenders then. This is what is being done in this case. I do not know who are the persons concerned in the Ministry who gave the information to the other party and asked them to lower the tender. What was the higher tender? It was higher by nearly Rs. 5 crores. Over-

night, within a week, the party is asked to lower the tender and the party lowers the tender by Rs. 5 crores. Now, they say, that is being considered. Naturally, the party which had given the lowest tender will protest and has protested that it should not be given to the other party, I protested to the hon. Minister. I am happy that the hon. Minister has probably asked them to hold it up till he enquires into the matter. I hope, he will not allow this sort of a fraud and mischief to be committed by his people.

Then, about the Mathura refinery, I had made this point to the planning Commission and also to Shri Malaviyaji. I agree, a refinery in U.P. as a distributing point should be there. It should be in U.P. But should it be only at a particular spot in Mathura where it is going to pollute, when the industrial complex comes up there not only water but experts of international standing and our own ecological research institute has given a written report that in years to come the sulphur fumes or fumes that will flow from the air will tarnish and corrode the Taj? I say, even if it is one million of a chance, shall we take this risk? You say; "We have taken over the land; we have spent Rs. 3 crores and we will take care to see that pollution does not take place." All this is being said.

SHRI M. C. DAGA (Pali): Shift it to Rajasthan.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Let it be in U.P. by all means. You just take it down-stream where there is no risk of the fumes going or flowing to the Taj. Can you afford to risk the Taj? Can any Indian with patriotic sentiments, having love for the Taj or for a monument like that take even one-millionth of a chance of that risk? You have a Committee. Call those experts who have given the detailed reports about scientific analysis of how there is this risk.

Some people in the Ministry make it a point of honour. They say, this scientific expert of international renown who is accepted all over the world as an expert is a nut, he does not know anything about it; there is no meaning in it and, therefore, there is no risk and we will go ahead with it. I would beg of you to seriously go into this matter.

These are the four points to which I want the hon Minister to reply. I would urge upon him to take some corrective measures as far as re-alignment is concerned. Let us do the re-alignment at least of the strategic part. As far as this type of fraud and mischief is concerned, that is being committed, please stop it. This is my request to you. Take your officers to task if they have really done this sort of a thing.

With these words, I request the hon. Minister to take note of the points which I have made and to reply to them.

श्री पूष चन्ध डाणा : मंत्री महोदय ने बार बार आश्वासन दिया है कि कैरोसीन हर गांव में पहुंच जाएगा। लेकिन वह पहुंचा नहीं है। इसके कई कारण हो सकते हैं। एक तो यह हो सकता है कि इन में फागदा बहुत कम होता है। इन वास्ते इनको ले जाने वाला कोई नहीं है। आपके बीस प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम में यह भी एक प्वाइंट है कि समाज के अखिरी पक्ति के आदमी को हर चीज ठीक से मिलनी चाहिये। कैरोसीन भी उनमें है। इन प्रोग्राम के तहत मैंने भी थोड़ी गांवों को पड़गला की है, पाबुडा, खरीरा आदि में मैं गया हू। वहां लोगों ने क्लायत की है कि बारह महीने से हमें कैरोसीन नहीं मिला है, देखने को नहीं मिला है और इन वास्ते नहीं मिला है कि कोई लाने वाला नहीं है। एक टिन के पीछे उनको दो रुया मिलता है। कौन लाएगा। गांव भी अलग अलग हैं। हरिद्वारा में एक रेट है, राजस्थान में दूसरा है। अगर 20-प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम में गांवों के लोगों का मिट्टी का तेल भी उपलब्ध

न हो तो गांवों के लोग क्या समझे ? चाहे यह छोटी बात है लेकिन यह बहुत जरूरी बात है। गांव वाले बोल नहीं सकते हैं। शायद इस वास्ते उनको तेल भी उपलब्ध नहीं होता है। कुछ डीलर्स ने अपना कब्जा जमा रखा है। वे गांवों में ले जाना नहीं चाहते हैं। दूकानदार भी लेना नहीं चाहते हैं इस वास्ते कि बहुत कम नफा उनकी इस में मिलता है। मैं जानता हू कि इनका मंत्री महोदय क्या उत्तर देगे ? वह कहेंगे कि यह राज्य सरकार का विषय है, मैं इस में दखल नहीं दे सकता हू। वितरण प्रणाली हमारे कार्य क्षेत्र में नहीं है, उनके क्षेत्र में आती है। लेकिन अगर वे इनको नहीं देखती हैं तो आप ही बनाईय कि इनका क्या इनाज है।

दूसरी बात मैं डीजल के बारे में कहना चाहता हू। गांव वाले जब अपने ट्रैक्टर लेकर आते हैं तो पंप वाले डीजल ढोल में देने से मना कर देते हैं। जानबूझ कर नहीं देते हैं, मना कर देते हैं। इन पर भी आपको विचार करना चाहिये। जो गांव वाले हैं जो खनी करने वाले लोग हैं उनको ठीक से डीजल मिल जाना चाहिये।

डीजल देने के लिए पेट्रोल पम्प जो हैं वे कितने पास हैं। उनके पास हैं जो पैसे वाले हैं। 95 परसेंट उनके पास हैं जो या तो राजनीतिज्ञ हैं या बिजनेस की राजनीतिज्ञों का सरक्षण प्राप्त है या फिर उनके पास हैं जो रूजीपति हैं। आपने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा है कि अनुसूचित जाति के लोगों को ये मिलेंगे, सैनिकों को मिलेंगे पड़े लिखे जो बेरोजगार हैं उनको मिलेंगे। लेकिन किसी को नहीं मिलते हैं। मेहरबानी करके आप अपनी नीति को देखें और उस पर अमल करे। बीस प्वाइंट प्रोग्राम में एक छटका इसको भी आप लगाएं। आज ये उनको मिले हुए

[श्री मूलचन्द्र डणा]

हैं जो पैसे वाले हैं, बकील हैं, सेठ हैं, पालि-टिक्कियन हैं, जिन के दो दों घबरे हैं। मेहर-बानी करके इस पाप को भी आप काट दो।

आपका बहुत नाम हो रहा है। बम्बई हाई में आप कहते हैं कि कूड निकल रहा है, बड़ा भारी काम हो रहा है। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि सरकार आपको खूब पैसा दे। लेकिन राजस्थान में एम्प्लोयेमन्ट का नाम नहीं है। वहाँ कोई रिफाइनरी भी नहीं है। साठे जी ने भी काट दिया है हम माग को। राजस्थान की तरफ भी आप का ध्यान जाना चाहिये, उनकी तरफ भी आपकी कुछ हुपा दृष्टि होनी चाहिये।

आप कहते हैं कि आपने खर्चा बहुत कम किया है। जितने प्रश्न मैंने पूछे हैं आपका यही उत्तर आया है कि पेट्रोल का जो आपका खर्चा होता था उसको आपने कम कर दिया है। कितने अच्छे ढंग से आपने अपनी रिपोर्ट के पेज 4 पर लिखा है

"Greater economy and efficiency in the use of petroleum products continues to be given the highest priority while the essential demands are being met fully."

We are not satisfied that essential demands are met fully.

आपका जो रिपोर्ट लिखने वाला मैकेट्रिएट में स्टाफ बैठता है, वह रिपोर्ट लिखने में अपनी कार्यकारी में कमाल कर देता है।

"A close watch was kept throughout the year on stocks and consumption of various petroleum products. As a result of these measures the growth rate in the consumption of petroleum products in 1975 was only 1.4 per cent over 1974."

इसका यह मतलब हुआ कि 1974 में जो प्रोब रेट था, वह उससे बढ़ा, लेकिन तारा पूरा पैराग्राफ दे दिया है कि वास्तव में खर्च ले लिये हैं।

एक आदमी कहीं जाता है तो उसके लिये पेट्रोल वाली 15,15 गाड़ियां चलती हैं, जी.प. पर जी.प. चलती हैं। आज वह हालत क्या है? आपने यह लिखा है कि पेट्रोल की कमी हो रही है, कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि कमी न हो। अन्त में लिखा है कि 1.4 बढ़ा है। फिर आप अपनी रिपोर्ट में यह क्या कहते हैं कि हमने बड़े खर्च ले लिये हैं।

आपने मल्टी परपज के बारे में कहा है और एप्रेशियेट किया है। आपने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा है कि :

"A scheme of converting the existing petroleum retail outlets of the oil companies into multi-purpose Rural Distribution centres was launched during the year. Outlets located in rural and semi-urban areas are being selected for this purpose. About 80 such centres have been set up so far upto December, 1975."

इन 80 सेंटर्स का नाम कहीं भी रिपोर्ट में नहीं है। यह 20 पेज की रिपोर्ट बड़ी खूबसूरती से तैयार की गई है। यह इतनी छोटी सी रिपोर्ट है कि अगर रीडिंगरूम में भी बैठें तो पढ़ सकते हैं, ऐयरोप्लेन में जाते समय भी पढ़ सकते हैं। लेकिन राजस्थान में मैंने कहीं नहीं देखा कि इनके सेंटर कहाँ हैं। आपने जिले में कहीं देखने में मुझे नहीं आया कि कहीं कोई फ्रंसिलिटी दी हो। तो यह इस प्रकार की एक प्रोप्रेसिव रिपोर्ट है।

आप इस रिपोर्ट को देखें कि कितना रुपया प्रायवः कंपनी में डूब गया है। पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में दिया गया है

कि कितना रुपया डूबा है और क्यों डूब गया। आपने इस बारे में अपने अफसरों से पूछलाछ की होगी। अब आप यह कोशिश कीजिये कि तेल बहुत काफ़ी निकल आये, उससे यह सारी बातें खत्म हो जायें।

पब्लिक अडरटेकिंग कमेटी की उन्चासवीं रिपोर्ट में लिखा है कि:—

The Committee regret to note that the IOC had written off a sum of Rs. 44.62 lakhs as bad-debts during the year 1969-70 to 1972-73 and this included a sum of Rs 13.70 lakhs pertaining to cases where the Corporation was unable to establish its debts for want of documentary proof

मैं यह जानना चाहता हू कि आई० सी० सी० में ये कौन अफसर ऐसे हैं, जो डाय्यूमेंट्स नहीं रखते हैं और इस तरह से सन्या गायब हो जाता है। मेरा कहना यह है कि आप जो कदम उठाते हैं वह आप जाने लेकिन मैं कई गलतियाँ आपकी सेवा में पेश करना चाहता हू कि कौनसा सन्या डूब गया है जो कि वापिस नहीं आ सकता है।

Although the total amount of outstandings have come down from Rs 31.99 crores as on 31-3-69 to Rs 27.59 crores as on 31-3-73, there were heavy outstandings against private parties and these had gone up from Rs 7.50 crores to 10.41 crores during this period.

यह आपका 10 करोड़ रुपया डूब गया है जो कि वापिस नहीं आयेगा।

Out of this, an amount of Rs 1.20 crores was considered doubtful of recovery.

इतने करोड़ सन्या आपका घाना है, उसकी रिकवरी कैसे होगी और कब से होगी, यह तो सरकार को देखना है। आई० सी० सी० काम करेगी या और कोई कम्पनी काम करेगी, इसका पता नहीं है।

मेरा कहना यह है कि आप गांव में जाय पहुँचा दीजिये, और जो बीजल मिलता है, उसका पूरा उपयोग होना चाहिए।

गैस का भी बड़ा भारी झगडा चल रहा है, किसी को नो रिक्मेंडेशन पर मिल जाती है और कोई साल साल भर तक इंतजार करना रहता है। मेरा यह भी कहना है कि मंत्री महोदय राजस्थान में रिफाइनरी स्थापित करने के बारे में विचार करें।

श्री नर सिंह नारायण पांडेय (गोरखपुर)
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं पेट्रोलियम मन्त्रालय की डिभाइज का समर्थन करता हू। भाननीय सदस्य, श्री नाठे ने मथुरा रिफाइनरी के बारे में जो प्रश्न उठाया है, उसी ने मुझे अजबूर किया है कि मैं इस विषय में अपने विचार मंत्री महोदय के सामने पेश करूँ।

सरकार और यह मिनिस्ट्री काफी जांच करने के बाद इस नतीजे पर पहुँचे कि मथुरा में रिफाइनरी स्थापित की जाय और इस सिलसिले में काफी हद तक काम हो भी चुका है। यह बात भी मही है कि टूरिज्म डिपार्टमेंट से सबन्ध रखने वाली कुछ सस्पायर्स ने, और कुछ ऐसे लोगों ने, जो भारतीय सस्कृति और सम्यता की रक्षा करना चाहते हैं, यह शका प्रकट की है कि मथुरा में इस रिफाइनरी के बनने से ताज महल की डिन्डिग और उसके रूप पर कुत्रभाव पड़ेगा।

14.58 hrs.

[SHRI VASANT SATHE in the Chair]

समापति महोदय, आपने जो प्रश्न उपस्थित किया है, उस के बारे में मंत्री महोदय ने इन सदन में बार बार आश्वासन दिया है। श्री

[श्री नरसिंह नारायण पाठे]

वरदराजन् के सभापतित्व में बनाई गई एक कमेटी ने मयुरा रिफ़ाइनरी के कारण ताज महल की बिल्डिंग पर पड़ने वाले सम्भावित क्लप्रभाव और वाटर पोलूशन सम्बन्धी सभी पायंट्स की जांच की है। मैं समझता हूँ कि उस रिपोर्ट में जिन सेक्रेटीमेंसर्स का सुझाव दिया गया है, उन को अक्षयार किया जायेगा। लेकिन मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि मयुरा रिफ़ाइनरी पर काफ़ी खर्च हो चुका है, और इस लिए उस रिफ़ाइनरी को इस स्टेज पर वहाँ से हटाना सम्भव नहीं होगा। मैं नहीं चाहता कि हमारी किसी सांस्कृतिक इमारत या स्थान को किसी प्रकार की हानि हो।

सभापति महोदय : क्या आप चाहेंगे कि कि ताज महल को वहाँ से हटा दिया जाय ?

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पाठे : आप का प्रश्न बड़ा इमोशनल है। मैं ताज महल को हटाने की बात कभी नहीं कहूँगा। लेकिन आप ने जो शंका प्रकट की है, वह काफ़ी हद तक खत्म हो चुकी है और इस बारे में गवर्नमेंट का दृष्टिकोण भी सामने आ चुका है। अगर इस के बावजूद आप कहते हैं कि मयुरा रिफ़ाइनरी का ताज महल पर असर पड़ेगा, तो मैं अब के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे टैक्निकल एक्सपर्ट्स का यह विचार है, वरदराजन् कमेटी का यह विचार है कि ताज महल पर किसी तरह का असर नहीं पड़ेगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस विचार को भी सामने रखा जाये और किसी एक विचार को स्वीकार करके उस पर कार्यवाही न की जाये मयुरा रिफ़ाइनरी पर करोड़ों रुपये खर्च हो चुके हैं और अब माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं कि उस रिफ़ाइनरी का स्थान बदल दिया जाये। जहाँ तक मल्टी-परपज मैटर्स का सम्बन्ध है, मन्त्रालय ने यह एक बहुत अच्छी और यूजफुल स्कीम पेश की है। इन सैंटर्ज में पेट्रोल, डीजल, खेती से सम्बन्धित सामान कनज्यूमर गुड्स आदि उपलब्ध किये जायेंगे, हर एक जिले

में एक दो सैंटर जरूर खोले जाने चाहिए, क्योंकि उन से लोगों को बड़ा लाभ होगा।

15 hrs.

तीसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे मंत्री जो बस्ती जिले के इण्डो नेपाल बोर्डर से इस लोक सभा में चुन कर आते हैं। मेरा भी उसी के बगल का क्षेत्र है। हम दोनों आदमी अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि इण्डो नेपाल बोर्डर के कुम्भों को अगर देखें और सुबह के वक्त उस के पानी को देखा जाय तो पूरे पानी के ऊपर जैसे तेल की एक परत जमी हुई मिलेगी। यह बहुत दिनों से वहाँ के लोगों की मांग रही है कि यहाँ पर तेल का काफ़ी भण्डार मिल सकता है अगर इस का इन्वेस्टिगेशन किया जाय। मैंने पिछले दिनों में एक मन्ली-मैट्री सवाल भी किया था जिस को मंत्री जी ने ने एवायड कर दिया। आज मैं पुनः उनसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप उसके बारे में क्या कर रहे हैं ? आप के ज्योलोजिकल सर्वे ने कोई खोज वहाँ की है या आप के एक्सपर्ट्स ने कोई इन्वेस्टिगेशन वहाँ जा कर किया है ? अगर यह हो जाता तो हम पूर्वी जिलों के लोगों का भी भाग्य एक बार उरता। क्योंकि हमारी पापुलेशन इतनी ज्यादा है कि हमारे सामने सब से बड़ी समस्या रोजी रोजगार की है। खेती के अलावा दूसरा कोई रोजगार या माधन वहाँ नहीं है। आज हजारों लड़के वहाँ से पढ लिख कर आते हैं और कहते हैं कि हम को नौकरी चाहिए। लेकिन हम उन को रोजगार नहीं दे सकते। तो इस से उन लोगों को रोजगार का एक बहुत बड़ा माध्यम प्राप्त होता और हमारे क्षेत्र में भी एक उद्योगीकरण का वातावरण बनपता। हमें आशा और विश्वास है कि हमारे ऐसे योग्य मंत्री जो तेल के भागीरथ हैं, जिन्होंने मैं कहूँ तो कोई अति-शयोक्ति नहीं होगी, श्री केशवदेव मलवीय जिन्होंने देश के अंदर इतना विश्वास पैदा किया पेट्रोलियम के बारे में कि हम 1980 तक पेट्रोल और पेट्रोल के पदार्थों में आत्म निर्भर हो जाएँगे, उन की यह बहुत बड़ी आशा है और मैं समझता हूँ कि माननीय मालवीय

जी जो पिछले दिनों में मंत्री पद पर नहीं रहे यह हमारे देश का बहुत बड़ा दुर्भाग्य था। यह मैं इस सदन में पहले भी कह चुका हूँ कि जिस तरह कुएणामेनन ने अपने देश में डिफेंस प्रोडक्शन के लिए बहुत बड़ी नींव डाली उसी तरह से भालवीय जी ने भी पेट्रोल के बारे में हमारे देश में जो नीति अद्वयार की हमारा देश कभी भी उसको भूल नहीं सकता है। उन्होंने जो देश को आत्म निर्भर बनाने के लिए काम किया है नेशनल और इंटरनेशनल फ्रील्ड में वह अत्यंत सराहनीय है। मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि वाम्बे हाईको ने कर तमाम जो आफ्रिक और अरब शोर ट्रिलियन डॉलर है यह भालवीय जी का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है। सारे देश में उन्होंने स्पाट किया कि पेट्रोल और पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स या दूसरी गैस इत्यादि कहा वहाँ उपलब्ध हो सकती है और बड़ी तेजी से उनका काम चल रहा है। इस के लिए उनको पिननी भी सराहना की जाय वह कम है। मैं आशा और विश्वास करता हूँ कि हमारे पिछड़े क्षेत्रों में भी वे इसका विकास करेंगे जिससे कि ये क्षेत्र भी विकसित हो सकें। हमारा देश तेल के मामले में आत्म निर्भर हो, उस के लिए हम दूसरों पर निर्भर न करें, हमारा जो तेल का बिल है और जो फोरम एक्सचेंज हम दूसरे देशों में भेज रहे हैं उसको हम अपने देश के हित में एस्तेमाल कर सकें तो यह बड़ी अच्छी बात होगी। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस ग्रान्ट का मन्थन करता हूँ और विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि सारा देश भालवीय जी के इस काम में उनके साथ है।

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think I have a very easy task before me, only to make a few points which have been rather relevantly made by several Members of the House, both from the opposition as well as from our side. In its totality I would like to report that the programme of the Petroleum Ministry is going on generally well and the House

should be assured that whether it is oil and Natural Gas Commission or the Indian Oil Corporation, or the IPCL, Indian Petroleum and Chemicals Limited, work on every front is moving fast. Except for certain most unavoidable reasons, we are trying to stick to the schedule that has been laid down and which has been specified in certain respects in our Report and otherwise.

There are three or four points which I would like to touch upon. First, with your permission, I would like to refer to the Report of the Takru Commission, because you and certain other members are worried about it. Regarding the phenomenon of subsidence in the coal mines, we have on almost innumerable occasions discussed this matter with any group of experts that we are capable of collecting. By and large, the conclusions are that we should let it remain as it is. The chances of hyper-subsidence of the present area through which the pipe is passing are, I will never say absolutely nil or impossible, because nothing is impossible in this world, but it is as safe as it can be conceived.

With regard to the censuring part of the Report, as I have previously said, we are very seriously examining it. I have a view on it which I would not like to state just now because it is not yet final. I would, therefore, beg of you to give us a little more time when I could come with a full sense of responsibility and put before the Houses the views of Government on the Report that has been submitted by Mr. Justice Takru.

The second question is that of the pollution problem because of the decision of Government on the location of a refinery at Mathura. We should not take a pessimistic view of the whole affair. The problem of pollution as a whole and its challenges is being very satisfactory met. Among environmentalists and those who have to deal with the problem

[Shri K. D. Malaviya].

of pollution, there is a pessimist viewpoint on the whole question of increase in pollution in the world. There is also, I do not wish to say an optimist, but a non-pessimist view that the problems are satisfactorily being met and solved.

When this drug unit was set up in Hardwar, a lot of questions were raised. When I had something to do with the Ministry of Fertiliser and Drugs, I visited Hardwar-Rishikesh and stayed there for two days. One of the most important jobs for me was to see how the water was being treated. I can assure you that the water that was coming out as 'impure' water because of treatment in the antibiotics plant was treated so nicely that we were assured—and I got convinced—that the water that was coming out of the second pipe was perhaps purer than the water that was flowing in the natural way. There was a possibility of the Ganges water being polluted by some epidemic which was prevailing at that point of time but the water that was going into it from that place was pure and was absolutely safe. It is therefore no more a danger if properly treated. Impure water can be treated properly to make it drinkable and useful. Therefore, there is no question of polluting the water of the Jamuna, the water that will be thrown into the Jamuna will be almost as pure, if not purer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Can you say this about the other things that will come after the Mathura refinery in the region? You know what is happening in Bombay, for example.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I will refer to that point. In Baroda and Bombay the industries that are being set up are polluting water and it is for the state governments to take the steps which have been specified they are being taken. It is a question of the industrialists accepting certain

views. I was there in Baroda the other day and the chairman of the IPCL definitely was of the view that we should not force any issue of this kind and that the industrialists themselves were trying to do their best and water that was coming out will be treated as mentioned by certain conventionalists. There are certain viewpoints of scientists and technologists which we have to accept. I am quite sure that water coming out of the industries which are allowed to grow there will not be allowed to go into the river as impure. I am not worried about that because it is within our means to treat them and purify them and we need not be apprehensive of any pollution in the waters of the Jamuna because of the Mathura refinery.

So far as sulphur dioxide is concerned, the House might remember that Mathura refinery was conceived on a crude which had about 2.7 per cent of sulphur and it was a source of worry for all of us that refining of 2.7 per cent sulphur crude will result in uncontrollable pollution of the atmosphere. But subsequent to that, there was the discovery of the Bombay crude which is almost sulphur free and the sulphur in the crude oil which will be treated in Mathura will be very much less and it will be perfectly within our capabilities to treat it and control the pollution.

This substantially shows to all of us that the atmosphere will not be polluted. This was a matter which was causing worry to the House genuinely.

Apart from that, other minor questions, marginal questions which arise out of the possibilities of atmosphere

getting polluted are also being very carefully looked into by one of highest expert committees presided over by Mr. Varadarajan who is one of the most competent men to deal with this question. The other day I got an assurance from him that there is no aspect which is not being considered by them. I for one certainly consider that body to be much more competent to go into that matter than myself or any other group of people who are not so competent to be called experts in this field. Therefore, I would like to assure the House that the problem of polluting the atmosphere and in any way damaging the great monument Taj is very much before us and we will always take the greatest care that the Taj is not in any way affected.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are relying on experts. But what happens if one expert is against another expert? Neither you are an expert nor am I.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I am not meeting any objection by those who feel that there will be no pollution. I am not saying that their arguments are being met. I am making a modest statement, not criticising anybody, that the best is being done and not only I but the experts also feel assured that all the steps that ought to be taken to make it pollution-free and save our Taj are being taken and will be taken. If there is anything about which we get apprehensive, I will report it to the House and see what further is to be done.

I come to the point raised by Mr. Naik about the OPEC—Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries. It is true that they have increased the price of crude oil. The oil belongs to them and they have increased its price. If a machinery is made by a particular country and they increase the price, if we have to purchase it, we have to purchase it. Or, we can say, we will not purchase because it does not suit us. Beyond that, I can also say that this increase in the price has affected us very seriously and the government is very

much concerned about it. We cannot afford to pay such a high price, which, is almost 800 per cent of what it was in 1970. These oil producing countries may have plausible reasons why they are increasing the price. In this connection, I would like to refer to the oft-repeated enquiries from me about the time when we will become self-sufficient in oil. I think I am myself responsible for creating this atmosphere where people frequently ask this question. The fact is that the parameter of self-sufficiency is not only linked up with oil. Ultimately, oil is only a feed-stock to generate energy, just as water-fall or coal creates energy. Ultimately, we have to look forward to the generation of that amount of energy which will make us self-sufficient to run our industries, to warm our houses, for lighting purposes, etc. So far as crude oil is concerned, it is a depleting resource of the world. It is a natural resource which is bound to disappear, at the present rate of consumption, after four or five decades, if more oil is not discovered. Whether all the oil is with the Arab world and nothing is with us, it will disappear in 30 to 40 years. Whether all the oil is with us and nothing is with the Arab world, even then the oil is going to disappear after 30 to 40 years at the present rate of discovery and availability of oil. Therefore, we have willy-nilly to rely on another source for energy. What that source is, the whole world is pursuing, whether it is Hydrogen or sun's rays or what it will be. I for one believe that soon we will enter into a stage where we will more and more use coal for getting electricity and instead of burning kerosene oil, people will use electricity. Instead of the demand of fuel oil growing, we will use coal. But at the same time, the hard fact is that oil has been discovered in our country both off-shore and on-shore. And it is also a fact that by the middle of next decade, by 1984, India will produce very adequate quantity of oil which will be wholly sufficient for develop-

[Shri K. D. Malaviya].

ment of petrochemical industries and also for some other use. Whether we should or we should not use all the oil for fuel purposes, it is a question of policy of the Government. I for one believe that we have to accept the policy of conservation of a commodity which is so fast depleting. In the background of such a situation, we have to consider that self-sufficiency will only be a limited concept so far as oil is concerned. But if we include in this basket coal, energy from water fall, etc. then I have no doubt that very soon we will become self-sufficient so far as energy is concerned. As you know, our production of coal has increased very satisfactorily. In oil also, it is not only Bombay High that has been discovered but quite near to Bombay Coast, we have discovered another oil field. This oil field in the last few days, has further been enlarged. We have dug the second well and this is also producing the same quantity of oil and perhaps more quantity of gas. When we discover the oil zone, then generally the concept is that we go on discovering more and more oil fields in that zone. Now, we are searching oil in this zone at four places. There are five or six more places where we have still to discover oil. One could be Goa High, another could be Ratnagiri High, third could be Diu High fourth could be South West of Saurashtra High or Bombay High or Sathé High or Mr. Pai High or any High because it is a question of giving name to a structure where oil is explored and found. I am glad to report that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is very competently pursuing this search programme of oil.

A point was raised by my friend from CPI and other friends, why they are relying on international oil companies to do all this work in our area. The fact is that so far as off shore oil exploration and developmental part of engineering are concerned, we have got to depend on international oil companies if we want to discover this oil. If we

want to search for oil and if we want to develop our country, we have to do this. I do not see any harm in it. I do not think we are doing anything against our own interest when we invite the help of these contractors and they accept our conditions for exploring oil. They take risk and get a share with us when oil is found. Ultimately, in the last rung of the period, they will be entitled to two or three per cent of oil that we will be producing. So it is worthwhile searching for oil in as less a period as possible. It is on this basis that our search is taking place in the Assam area, in the Kaveri Basin, Bengal Basin and Kutch Basin and in some other areas where we are searching just now and in some more areas where we think we should search. I suppose, in about five to eight years we shall produce, quite a good quantity of oil. I do not wish to use the word 'self-sufficient' though I could use it because at the end of Fifth Five Year Plan we will require about 30 to 32 million tonnes of oil and if we rely wholly on oil, we can produce and supply 27 to 28 and even 30 million tonnes of oil. If Kaveri Basin gives us a little more oil, it could exceed. So, at any point of time, today or tomorrow or in the next six months or within this year, we may become wholly self-sufficient or we may become slightly less self-sufficient. Therefore, there is not that relevance to the word 'self-sufficient' if we see that we are rapidly searching for oil and discovery is being made.

The rate of discovery of oil fields is one of the fastest that we can notice to-day anywhere in the world it is on the western coast of our country. (Interruptions) Kaveri basin has just been contracted to a Canadian party. We have done the seismic work there. They are now waiting for the drill-ships to be contracted. They will come in; and perhaps, before the monsoon breaks out on the eastern part of the coast, they will have drilled a well. Unless we drill a well at an appropriate place which had

been identified, we cannot say that oil will be found. But we are hopeful. Once we do the seismic work and geologically we assess the prospect of an oil-field, we are sure. There is no doubt that those areas are very prospective. Before I take up on-shore, I would like to say something about farm fuel centres. It is about distribution of petroleum products. I would like to make two points. First, the policy of the Government with regard to the distribution of petroleum products is very well known to us. A part of it goes to the widows of the Defence Services personnel, a part to scheduled castes, a part to unemployed—in this manner. Having said this, I am not satisfied that the scheme is going on very successfully. I want to take the House into confidence. When a certain area is given over to a particular man for whom we have a social angle, he sometimes has neither the finances nor the experience. Some big man who has the experience of trade or who has a big purse in his hands, comes in and manages it. I will not say that is very, very large; but certainly I would say that a very large percentage of such concessions are taken away by people who are not supposed to get it, or who later on form some sort of groups or companies and all that; and then the party who got the benefit originally, according to our policy, gets into the background. There are so many litigations; and if we sit down and try to resolve the differences in favour of the widow or of SC and ST, we may not succeed. Therefore, we are seriously reviewing this policy. And 6 or 8 months have elapsed. I have not been able to find out any better policy, because every fourth man who comes to see me, wants a unit or a petrol pump. It is very difficult for us to find out as to what is desirable. We may take away the whole thing; and the State may start the distribution. There also, there are certain points which are not quite good. There are difficulties; and I would beg of the House to give us a little more time to discover a more purposeful and fruitful policy to pursue; as soon

as this policy is formulated, we will report to the House. With regard to farm fuel centres, this scheme is very attractive. According to the 20-point programme, we wanted to take our distribution centres to the semi-urban and rural areas. It first started with kerosene. Later on, we thought that other commodities could be sold to the rural population at cheaper and controlled prices. And we succeeded in creating 168 centres. The scheme has just started. Most of them are the centres which have been given by the Indian Oil Corporation; some by the IBP and some by the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation. I am not sure that the progress is very satisfactory. We have only recently started this scheme. It also includes the job of selecting a doctor, selling cheap medicines, making the doctor's services available to the rural people and selling textiles, fertilizers, sugar, transistors etc. We try to collect everything that is needed by the rural people and make these centres a sort of multi-purpose distribution centres for distributing—along with kerosene—diesel and other things. This scheme might take a little more time to show itself.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you envisaging a full-fledged agro-service centre, in short?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, but we call it farm fuel centre. Our target is to set up 600 centres by the end of this year. We hope we shall exceed this limit.

So far as improvement in the functioning of this scheme is concerned, it will be our effort to improve it as much as we can. But I cannot promise that all will be well, because it is a scheme which is just started. It may take a little more time.

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAINULI (Tehri-Garhwal): What have you done in the areas where fuel is in short supply and forests are denuded?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: So far as Naini Tal is concerned, we have given one LPG centre to it.

**SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAN-
JLI:** I was referring to Garhwal area.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I have started with Naini Tal. So far as Garhwal is concerned, the moment more LPG is available, we will give first preference to the hilly areas, because we must stop the felling of trees. In the mean while, the IOC is preparing a kerosene *chulha* which will be as efficient as LPG. In the next three or four months I think that *chulha* will come in the market. It will be a non-pressure *chulha*, unlike a stove. You just apply a match and it will burn. Its efficiency will be about 64 to 65 per cent of fuel burning.

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी (सीकर) : वह
चूल्हा गैस से तो सस्ता पड़ेगा ?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: Yes, very much less. There is no comparison. The price of kerosene *chulha* will be less than half. It will certainly be very much less.

Shri Naik raised the question of reducing the price of fuel. I should think that it will not be a very desirable thing just now to consider any reduction in the price of fuel. So long as the price of crude oil goes on amounting like this, we cannot reduce the price of either LPG or spirit. Of course, we do not accept the report of the Oil Pricing Committee to go on increasing the prices. They are insisting that we should further increase the price of kerosene and diesel. But the Government have not accepted it. They have increased it only by five paise while the actual increase is 11 per cent. We are trying to maintain the price of kerosene and diesel as low as possible. But the increase in the price of crude oil is 800 per cent and the increase in the price of kerosene is 168 per cent.

The increase in the price of motor spirit is quite low, because we do not want to increase the petrol price, as

it is used by the upper middle class people. Their entire requirement we cannot supply. If we have to supply, then we have to import more crude oil. We want to restrain the import of crude oil. In fact, we have decreased the import of crude oil by a small fraction, although our crude oil import bill has amounted to Rs. 1,200 crores. Therefore, our policy is to curb the consumption of crude oil. We want to follow a policy by which less and less of petroleum products will be used. In the mean time, we want to go very fast with the programme of exploration of crude oil and gas from the off-shore drilling and refine it so that we might start processing our own crude oil and save foreign exchange.

With regard to the Mathura Refinery, the programme is going on according to our schedule. Although there has been a little delay, no doubt, all the arrangements are being made for the pipe-line, for everything.

So far as the point raised by you, Sir, regarding Dodsals is concerned, we have considered the matter. I think nothing wrong has been done. Our persuasion to reduce the minimum offer is based on certain legitimate reasons. If you, Sir, are so keen, we will try to share our information with you.

Oil exploration in the northern part of India is very much on our list. The ONGC has recently decided to make a fresh bid to search for oil in the northern part. So far as the Ganges basin is concerned, except for the northwest near the Pilibhit area, we are not yet sure where we should search for oil. In Puranpur in Pilibhit District we have pinpointed an area where drilling will take place some time immediately after the monsoon.

श्री मोहन स्वल्प (पीलीभीत) : यह
पीलीभीत में क.म कब से स्टार्ट करेंगे ?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: In August or September.

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA: What about the Gorakhpur area?

श्री के० डी० जालबीय : गोरखपुर में तो कहीं कुछ है नहीं। वहाँ कुछ दिखाई नहीं पड़ता, नहीं तो मैं वहाँ दौड़ कर जाता।

An attempt is only made in an area where there are geological prospects. Where there are no geological prospects, it is no use spending the nation's money on it. Nevertheless, we are trying to have some preliminary survey made of the entire area of the foothills of the Himalayas, in some districts of Bihar and U.P. including Gorakhpur, Gonda and Rampur. There should be some prospects for further survey.

सभापति महोदय : नरसिंह नारायण पांडेय जी तो कह रहे थे कि उनके यहाँ कुआँ में तेल मिलता है।

श्री के० डी० जालबीय : वह तेल नहीं होता। वह आयरन और की पतली लेयर होती है जो कैरोमिन आयल की तरह बढ़ू देता है। यह आम तौर से कहा जाता है कि गोरखपुर में जहाँ पानी छिठला रहता है तो उसके ऊपर आयरन और की एक तह जम जाती है और हाथ लगाने पर उसमें से मिट्टी के तेल की बढ़ू आती है। लेकिन वह तेल नहीं होता है अगर वहाँ तेल मिल जाय तो हम वहाँ दौड़ कर जायें। (व्यवधान) राजस्थान में तेल की तलाश बहुत दिनों से कर रहे हैं और वह जारी रहेगी जब तक कि हमें उसके बारे में इत्मीनान नहीं हो जायगा। काबेरी के बेसिन में भी हम तेल की तलाश कर रहे हैं और हमें उम्मीद है कि हमें वहाँ तेल मिलेगा। जहाँ जहाँ भी हमें तेल की संभावना प्रकटी मिलेगी वहाँ हम तेल की तलाश शुरू करेंगे। असल में आन-शोर तेल का उत्पादन करना कम खर्चीला होता है और आरु शोर में

ज्यादा पैसा लगता है। तो हम जो तो खुशी होनी अगर कहीं तेल मिल जायगा। अब हम तलाश करने जा रहे हैं हिमाचल प्रदेश के रामगढ़ क्षेत्र में, पंजाब में, पूरनपुर में और जम्मू में। जम्मू में आशा है कि हमें तेल मिल सकती है। एक कुआँ खोदा गया है, इसरा भी खोदर जायगा। . . . (व्यवधान) . . . गंगा बेनी में तो पता नहीं है। उसका मामला बहुत मिस्टीरियस है। कुछ कहा नहीं जा सकता।

I have nothing more to say except that the autonomous department of the Petroleum Ministry has been doing its best to search for and distribute oil and to develop the petrochemical industry in the best manner possible.

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA: Have you recommended any decoration to Mr. N. Prasad, who was Chairman of the ONGC, who is mainly responsible for off-shore exploration?

श्री के० डी० जालबीय : अभी तक तो ऐसी कोई सिफारिश नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, there are cut motions Nos. 5, 6 and 7 moved by Shri S. L. Saksena. I put all of them together to the vote of the House.

Cut Motions Nos. 5 to 7 were put and negatived.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1977, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against De-

247 D.G. 1976-77 Min.
of Ed., Soc. Welfare
& Deptt. of Culture

APRIL 26, 1976

D.G. 1976-77 Min. 248
of Ed., Soc. Welfare
& Deptt. of Culture

[Mr. Chairman]

mands Nos. 71 and 72 relating to
the Ministry of Petroleum."

The motion was adopted.

may send slips to the Table within 15
minutes indicating the serial numbers
of the cut motions they would like to
move.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not
exceeding the amounts on Revenue
Account and Capital Account shown
in the fourth column of the Order
Paper be granted to the President
to complete the sums necessary to
defray the charges that will come
in course of payment during the
year ending the 31st day of March,
1977, in respect of the heads of de-
mands entered in the second column
thereof against Demands Nos. 26 to
28 relating to the Ministry of Edu-
cation and Social Welfare and De-
mands Nos. 101 and 102 relating to
the Department of Culture."

15.42 hrs.

DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS, 1976-77—
Contd.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL
WELFARE AND THE DEPARTMENT
OF CULTURE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the House
will take up discussion and voting on
Demand Nos. 26 to 28 relating to the
Ministry of Education and Social Wel-
fare and Demand Nos. 101 and 102
relating to the Department of Culture
for which 8 hours have been allotted.
Hon. Members present in the House
who desire to move their cut motions

*Demand for Grants, 1976-77 in respect of the Ministry of Education, Social
Welfare and the Department of Culture*

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 23-3-1976		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House	
		Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.	Revenue Rs.	Capital Rs.
26	Department of Education	23,90,000	..	1,19,51,000	..
27	Education	27,16,19,000	7,78,000	135,80,94,000	38,93,000
28	Department of Social Welfare	2,26,38,000	..	11,31,50,000	..
101	Department of Culture	1,25,44,000	..	6,27,17,000	..
102	Archaeology	1,00,85,000	..	5,04,24,000	..

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.