

in 1973. Now you yourself say that the highest court of the land namely, the Supreme Court has created some sort of a hysteria in your mind, on a matter in which a constitutional bench of the Supreme Court said something in which they have incorporated certain quotations from the Holy Quran and the law of Shariat and some people in the minority community are agitated about that. Everybody knows it. But the question is that this is a system in which the Supreme Court lays down the law of the land. If the decision of the Supreme Court has created some misapprehension, you are yourself raising that in this House. In a democracy you always debate the things. In the House we never discuss the judgement. Once the judgment from the Supreme Court comes, we obey it normally, speaking for myself and the Government. But since it is a question relating to the minorities, we are discussing it and you are in the midst of the debate. If you want that it should be short-cut, that would not be better. In a democracy matters must be discussed time and again. A decision in haste will neither be in your interest nor in my interest.

SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : For expressing his views very clearly, candidly and logically the hon. Minister was ghered at Hyderabad. What is the reaction of the Government on the gherooing of the hon. Minister for expressing his views on the floor of the House? What are the steps taken by the Government to see that fanaticism does not browbeat and stifle the voice of sanity amongst the minority.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : In political life, the people do face demonstrations. I think we do not take note of those things.

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK : Sir, in the light of the issues related to the Muslim Law and the Personal Law as envisaged in the Constitution of India, have the Government of India made any study with respect to the law existing in Goa, Daman and Diu? There is a uniform civil code existing in the Union Territory of Goa, Daman and Diu, so, I would like to know whether the Government of India have made any study with respect to that.

SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ : As I submitted, and since the hon. Member comes

from Goa, he knows it also, that the type of society we have in Goa is a very large-hearted society.

Setting up of Mangalore and Karnal Refinery Projects

*23. **SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER † :**
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before Government to take up Mangalore and Karnal Oil Refinery Projects in joint sector during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether negotiations have been completed in this regard; and

(c) the time by which these oil refinery projects will be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c). The possibility of setting up these refineries in the joint sector is being explored. A final decision in this regard is yet to be taken.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir, the answer given by the Minister is very very vague. I want a very definite answer whether the Government of India has taken a decision with regard to Mangalore Refinery. At the request of the Government of India, the State Government has already proceeded in the matter. Nearly one thousand and four hundred acres of land has been acquired and water and electricity have been assured. Recently, the Chairman of IOC has said that IOC will hold only 26% equity in Karnal Refinery, but no word has been said about the Mangalore Refinery. I would like to know whether the Government of India have taken a decision to set up a refinery in Mangalore and if so, whether any provision has been made in the Seventh Plan for this purpose. I want a categorical answer from the Minister. It should not go in the way in which the Vijayanagar Steel Plant has gone in Karnataka. I want a categorical answer that the Mangalore Refinery will be set up, just as they have taken a decision with regard to the Karnal Refinery.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : The hon. Member has raised a question with regard to the setting up of a refinery at Mangalore. In fact, the Government has proposed during the Seventh Plan the setting up of two grass-root refineries, one at Mangalore and another at Karnal. However, during the exercise made for the provision of these projects in the Seventh Plan, it was found that serious resources constraint was coming in the way of taking up these two projects in the public sector. It is in view of this resource constraint that the Government thought of implementing these refineries in the joint sector. With a view to explore the possibilities of setting up these refineries at Karnal and Mangalore, a Press Note was issued inviting the parties which are interested in setting up of these refineries, setting out their terms and conditions. In response to that Press Note, some parties have shown interest, both for Mangalore and for Karnal refineries. The matter is being processed. If the funds constraint is not there and if the joint venture seems to be feasible and in the best interest of the Government and the country, we would certainly look ahead for setting up such a refinery in Mangalore.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : I take it from the reply given by the hon. Minister that the Government of India has decided to set up these plants, may be in public sector or in the joint sector. If so, I would like to know which are the parties that have come forward and also whether any progress has been made with regard to the negotiations.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : With regard to the question of setting up of Mangalore Refinery, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation is doing the exercise for such a refinery. The parties which have shown interest for Mangalore Refinery are :

1. Gulf Consolidated Company.
2. Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited.
3. Essar Investments Limited.
4. Larsen and Toubro.
5. Reliance Industries Limited.
6. Shell International Petroleum.

7. Indian Rayon Corporation.
8. The Century Spinning and Mfg. Co. Ltd.
9. United Breweries Group.
10. Krishna Steel Industries.
11. Dr. B. K. Sinha (France).

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : In view of the statement made by the Minister some private firms have shown interest to join the Government in this regard. I would like to know the programmes made in the dialogue with those concerns. I would also like to know whether the Government has made up its mind with whom it is going to collaborate. I would like to know the details if the Government intends to go in for joint participation with the private sector and also the share of the private participation.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : As I said earlier, the Government is thinking to have these projects in the joint sector. It is for this reason that guidelines for the joint sector have been prepared and issued. Some parties have shown interest and various oil companies have been entrusted with the job of evaluating. In the case of Mangalore the HPC and in the case of Karnal IOC are evaluating the offers. After the evaluation, the Secretaries Committee would go into it; and after the Secretaries Committee has taken a view the Government will decide on the matter.

SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had fixed up the date *i.e.* 16th of November, to lay the foundation stone of the Karnal Refinery? If the reply is in the affirmative, were not the financial constraints taken into consideration at that stage? Again I would like to know whether it is a fact that land for the refinery has been acquired and funds made available by the Government of India.

Lastly, as the hon. Minister has been pleased to give information regarding the parties that have made offers in the joint sector pertaining to the Mangalore refinery, would it be possible for him to give us the names of the parties that have sent their

offers for participation in the Karnal refinery ?

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : With regard to the information whether Madam Gandhi had agreed to lay the foundation stone of the Karnal Refinery, I may submit that I would have to check it up. I have no information about this. But it is a fact that the Government did want to proceed with the Karnal refinery and the process of acquisition of land and other things had been gone into. But because of financial constraints in the Seventh Plan this was thought to be sholved. However, since the Government is keen of getting the refinery during the period of the Seventh Five Year Plan, they have thought of going in the joint venture.

With regard to the parties that have shown interest in the Karnal refinery, for the information of the hon. Member I may read the names of the parties. They are :

1. B. D. Steels Castings Limited.
2. Shell International.
3. The Century Spinning and Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
4. M/s. Zuari Agro Chemicals Limited.
5. National Engineering Company, Jaipur.
6. M/s. Straw Products Ltd., New Delhi.
7. M/s. Punj and Sons Ltd., New Delhi.
8. The Gwalior Rayon Silk Manufacturing (Weaving) Co. Ltd.
9. Mr. Srichand P. Hinduja, UK.
10. Golden Tobacco Company.
11. M/s. Bajoria Agency Private Limited.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : In view of the fact that the oil is a core industry in the country, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is trying to review its policy so far as the core industries are concerned. Instead of inviting all the public sector refineries to set

up these new industries in the public sector, why is it that the Government is deciding to go in for joint participation with the private sector ? Will it be helpful to build up the national economy ?

So much efforts has been gone into by the Government and the people of this country to see that the oil industry becomes a self-reliant industry in this country. I would like to know whether the Government will take this fact into consideration and ask all the public sector refineries to help set up these refineries instead of going in for joint sector.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : The Government was interested in setting up these refineries in the public sector, but because of constraints on resources it could not do so. Therefore the option is either to sholve these refineries or to find out ways and means for setting up of such refineries. With regard to the question of joining the private parties or the joint sector, I would like to submit this. Pronably the hon. Member referred to the 1956 Industrial Policy Resolution. This joint sector concept which we envisaged is in accordance with the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 which states as follows. I may read this out for the benefit of this House and the hon. Member. It says :

“This does not preclude the expansion the existing privately owned units, or the possibility of the State securing the cooperation of private enterprise in the establishment of new units when the national interests so require.”

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : One part of the question which I intended to ask has already been asked by Mr. Panigrahi. The reply of course you have heard; everybody has heard it. Because of financial constraints they are being forced to undertake—what I consider to be—a major reversal of policy. Anyway, the second part of my question is this. Since the Government seems determined to put these new refineries in the joint sector—nothing has been mentioned here about the one in Assam—will he at least assure the House that in the operational control and management of refineries, it will be the public sector or the Government which will have a decisive voice ? Because,

the list of names which he has read out of the parties which have come forward includes many who have got nothing to do with the oil and petroleum field at all. There are textile mills and such people there who obviously will have to bring in foreign collaboration. I therefore want to be assured that even if it is in the joint sector, who will be responsible for the day to day management and control of these refineries.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : I may further read out the 1956 Industrial Policy Resolution. I would like to read it out for your benefit. It says :

“Whenever cooperation with private enterprise is necessary, the State will ensure, either through majority participation in the capital or otherwise, that it has the requisite powers to guide the policy and control the operations of the undertaking.”

So, this itself is binding on the Government. In respect of whatever decision has to be taken, we would ensure that the operational control is with the oil companies who are executing the project.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I never asked about equity participation. Obviously in a joint sector they will not be the ‘minority partner’ as far as the equity participation is concerned. I was asking about the management control. Without having some Directors on the Board you cannot ensure it.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : You have to act in accordance with the guidelines. We would certainly keep in view what you have said.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD : In reply to Mr. Panigrahi’s question, the hon. Minister said that this project—due to the constraints of finance, being considered in the joint sector. He has been kind enough to enlighten us with the 1956 Industrial Policy Resolution. In spite of that provision, there has been no such action by the Government. I want to know whether this project only is being taken up in the joint sector as a result of financial constraint. Or, is it a Government policy now, and there is a change in policy, so that there will be more

such projects which will be considered in the private sector? I want to have that clarification from you.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Regarding the question of joint venture in the refinery sector, earlier too we had joint venture in two of our refineries. So, this is not a new concept. So far as the question of Government policy is concerned, so far as I know of my Department, this is only with regard to the Joint Venture.

Role of Private sector in Industrial sphere in Seventh Plan

*24. **SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the private sector has been assigned a dominant role in the industrial sphere in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI CHITTA MAHATA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in the *Indian Express* on 22nd September, the heading appears, ‘Big Role for private sector in industrial sphere in Seventh Five Year Plan’. In answer to part (a) of my question, the hon. Minister replied, “No, Sir.” Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Industry how many licences have been issued to big industrial houses and public sector units during the Sixth Five Year Plan. Secondly, I would like to know how much of funds have been allotted for the public sector as well as the private sector during the Seventh Five Year Plan and the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI) : As far as the number of industrial licences issued to large industrial houses are concerned, we do not keep separate statistics for large industrial houses *ab initio*. If the hon. Member wants information for any particular industry, then of course I require notice.