

RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 15th December, 1980 the
24th Aagrahayana, 1902 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, Mr.
Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*381. [The questioner (*Shri Robin Kalkati*). was absent for answer vide col. 37 and 38 *infra*.]

Supply of Crude to India by Iraq

*382. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT:
DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA
HEPTULLA :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be
pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Iraq has
intimated its decision to resume ex-
port of its agreed quantity of crude to
India; and

(b) if so, what are the details in
this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM,
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI
P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b) It would not be in
national interest to divulge an information.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA;
Sir, if I ask any question about any other
country, will that also be not in the national
interest?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: If the hon. Mem. ber
puts the question, I will try to answer it.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA;
Sir, there was a newspaper

The question was actually asked on the
floor of the House by Dr. (Shrimati) Najma
Heptulla.

report on Saturday that Bulgaria has
offered to supply us some oil -----

MR. CHAIRMAN; But you were asking
about Iraq

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEP, TULLA;
But he said, it is not in national interest to
answer it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member will
realise that the hon. Minister is perfectly
right.

SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI:
When the Minister says that he cannot
divulge, she is taking him round so that some
information can come up.

MR. CHAIRMAN; It is not fair. It is
known to everybody that there is a war going
on between Iraq and Iran. We had supplies
from both and I think the Minister is perfectly
right and wise in not commenting on this.

AN HON. MEMBER; He is right.

DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA;
May I seek information about some other
countries where there is no war?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you were sitting here
and I were sitting there, the same answer
would be given. (*Interruptions*) . I think we
will have to do that. Mr. Pandey, there is no
point..,

SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY; I
will pass on to the other supplementary and
then you will appreciate.

MR. CHAIRMAN; i will join issue and we
shall have our usual round on some other
occasion.

*383. [The questioner (*Shri C. Haridas*)
was absent. For answer vide col. 38 *infra*.]