

21.51 lakh tonnes of crude has been produced. This is 18 thousand tonnes more than that of last year during the same period. In view of this, I would like to know whether the question of reducing the price of petrol would be considered as and when the production increases or it has been shelved.

SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA: I may remind the hon. Member that we consume 22 old million tonnes of oil in this country which includes four million tonnes from some of the fields of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. We have still to go far before we can become self-sufficient and in view of the six times increase in the price of crude, I do not think Government is likely to consider the question of reducing the price of motor spirit immediately.

SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister whether pumping in some of the wells of Oil India Limited and ONGC in Assam is not being done due to the repeated waves of floods there? If so, what was the duration of this suspension and what was the quantity of production so lost due to such disturbances?

SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA: There was some disruption in production due to the floods. But I have not got the details in regard to the suspension of crude production from these wells during those days.

Agreement between Indian Oil Corporation and Messrs Tecneco of Italy

*127. **SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA:** †

SHRI HIMMAT SINH;

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO.

DARA MENON;

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to refer to the answer to

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Harsh Deo Malaviya.

Unstarred Question 657 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th March, 1976 and state the terms of the agreement concluded between the Indian Oil Corporation and M/s Tecneco of Italy for protecting the Taj and the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary from the effects of pollutants from the Mathura Oil Refinery?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The salient features of the agreement between Indian Oil Corporation and M/s Tecneco of Italy are given below:

1. The services of M/s Tecneco have been obtained mainly for:

(i) establishing concentration of effluents under various meteorological conditions at different distances from the Refinery; and

(ii) determining permissible concentration of effluents from the point of view of preservation of the monuments.

2. For the above purpose, Tecneco will undertake the following studies.

(i) On the basis of meteorological data for the last ten years in the Mathura-Agra region, calculate the ground level concentration of effluents. (Particularly sulphur dioxide) in the Mathura-Agra region on account of emission from the Mathura Refinery.

(ii) Determination of the existing level of pollution in the Agra region by measurement over a period of six months.

(iii) Determine the present status of monuments and also determine the permissible concentration of

effluents from the point of view of preservation of monuments.

3. The studies will be conducted partly in India and partly in Italy. The important part of the study *viz.*, establishing the present state of monuments will be carried out by Tecneco under the guidance of the Institute deel Restaur Italian and the International Centre of Conservation, Rome. The Indian experts will be associated with these studies. Tecneco will bring to India all the equipment and materials required for their studies in India, as mutually agreed.

4. Tecneco will submit their report in three stages, the first two reports being preliminary and the third being the final report. The final report will contain details of the study including field and Laboratory tests, their results, documented data, conclusions arrived at and specific recommendations. This report will be delivered by Tecneco by October, 1976.

5. For the above services, Tecneco will be paid (in foreign exchange) 138 Italian Lire (about Rs. 15 lakhs) in four instalments as follows:

(i) 24 million lire cash payment within 30 days from the date of coming into force of the agreement.

(ii) 24 million lire on delivery of the I Report.

(iii) 21 million lire on delivery of the II Report.

(iv) 69 million lire on delivery of the III Report.

In addition IOC will bear all the expenditure actually incurred in India in connection with these studies upto a maximum of 20 million Lire (Rs. 2.17 lakhs).

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: First of all, I would like to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister.

It has been stated in the statement that this Italian firm, M/s Tecneco, would carry out a study in regard to the present state of monuments and so on. If they say Taj Mahal is already very much down and out, what would happen? The hon. Minister should explain this.

Now, I come to my first question. According to the statement accompanying the reply to Unstarred Question No. 657 of 29th March, 1976, the waste water is proposed to be discharged into the Jamuna river downstream of Mathura. Will not this discharge of waste water into the Jamuna river affect the health of the people? How will you ensure that this waste water discharge into the Jamuna river will not affect the people bring on the banks of the river Jamuna all along the line?

SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI: Sir, as far as the waste water is concerned, in the same answer which has been referred to, it has been stated that the water which will be discharged downstream into the Jamuna river will be treated and that it will not pollute the water and make it injurious for public health. Further, adequate technological knowhow and manufacturing capacities exist within the country for providing the necessary treatment facilities. It has also been stated in that answer:

"The treated waste water is proposed to be discharged into the Jamuna river downstream of Mathura and facilities for the proper dilution of the treated effluents with the river water will be provided at the point of discharge."

Therefore, with all these steps to be taken, I do not think that this discharge of waste water into the Jamuna river will be injurious for public health.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: I think you will good care. I would again refer to the reply which I referred to earlier. It says:

"The major pollutant in the flue gases discharged is sulphur dioxide from the furnaces in the refinery."

It has also been stated:

"The IOC plans to reduce the emission of sulphur dioxide as follows:

(a) The refinery will process 50 per cent low sulphur Bombay High crude and only low sulphur fuel oil from this crude will be used in the refinery furnaces.

(b) The flue gases will be scrubbed to remove sulphur dioxide.

(c) The height of the stack would be increased to 80 meters to facilitate better dispersion of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere."

My complete question is, how will you ensure that only 50 per cent low sulphur Bombay High crude will be available? Are you not going to use some other oil because the Mathura refinery has a very big capacity and I am sure that even if you get very low sulphur crude from Bombay High, the remaining 50 per cent of the crude you may get from elsewhere may not be that low in sulphur? So, how are you going to ensure about this? I would like the hon. Minister kindly to give us a specific answer.

SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI: Sir, the Mathura refinery has been designed for refining the Bombay High crude which is a very low sulphur crude. Moreover, so far as the problem of discharge of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) by the refinery is concerned, a decision has been taken that for purposes of fuel in the refinery, only Bombay High crude will be used there.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Only 50 per cent will be Bombay High crude.

SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI: Let me make it clear. The refinery

will refine Bombay High crude up to 50 per cent, and the remaining 50 per cent will be imported crude. But the fuel which will be used in that refinery will be Bombay High crude which is a very low sulphur crude.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, I am not satisfied with the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want you can meet him separately and discuss.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: All right, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the Minister wants to add anything, he can do so

SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, I may be permitted to clarify a simple point. There is a limit or concentration of sulphur dioxide at Agra from the point of view of preventive corrosion. Now we are very well below that—0.5 grams per cubic meter—and I can give an assurance that we shall not exceed that whatever be the mixture; whatever the sulphur content mixed might be in the Bombay high crude, we are seeing to it that we do not exceed that. Not only that but also we do not even touch the minimum which can be hazarded as somewhat dangerous for this. We are working not only ourselves but also in association with foreign expert—Tecneco of Italy—on the problem and they are likely to give us their report in eight to ten week's time with regard to the exact specifications so that we may not exceed them.

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चड्ढावत : सभापति जी, मूल प्रश्न यहाँ कि मथुरा में जो रिफाइनरी कायम की जा रही है उस का जो क्रेस है उस से जो धुआँ बगैर निकले उस से ताजमहल और भरतपुर के पक्षी विहार का बचाव किया जा सकेगा, उस के लिये पूछा गया है । जबकि मैं एक अग्रिमेंट का हवाला

दिया गया है जो कि इटैलियन कंपनी के साथ हुआ है, उसमें यह स्पष्ट लिखा गया है कि इटैलियन कंपनी इसकी स्टडी कर रही है, जो कुछ आवश्यक यंत्रों की जरूरत होगी वह लायेगी और अक्टूबर में रिपोर्ट पेश करेगी। इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि अक्टूबर में हमें पता लगेगा कि यह रिफाइनरी के धुएँ से ताजमहल या बोर्ड सैक्चरी को नुकसान होगा या नहीं होगा। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि रिफाइनरी अब वहाँ कायम हो चुकी है तो अब जांच होगी या रिपोर्ट आयेगी, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया।

श्री केशव देव मालवीय : रिफाइनरी अभी तीन भाड़े तीन वर्ष के बाद चालू होगी। अभी तो उस के औजार आ रहे हैं, मशीनें आ रही हैं और बहुत पहले हमको उस के सब हालात मालूम हो जायेंगे कि कितनी गैस गन्धक की निकलेगी, कितना उसे काम करना है। हम इस बात से आश्वस्त हो चुके हैं कि कोई खतरा नहीं होगा ताज के लिये या भरतपुर के चिड़ियाखाने के लिये। वह तो और भी बहुत दूर हैं, पश्चिम की तरफ हैं। ये चीजें हम देख रहे हैं और हम आनरेबल मैनबर को यह आश्वासन देना चाहते हैं कि आजकल उत्तका बराबर परीक्षण कर रहे हैं, निरीक्षण कर रहे हैं, इस संतव्य के लिये कर रहे हैं कि रिफाइनरी चालू होने के बहुत पहले सब हालात सरकार को मालूम हो जायें।

श्रीमती लक्ष्मी कुमारी चूंडावत : अगर एडवर्स रिपोर्ट आयेगी तो क्या आप वहाँ से रिफाइनरी उठा लेंगे ?

श्री केशव देव मालवीय : ऐसा कोई प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

SHRI S. K. VAISHAMPAYEN: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister the number of monuments in this region which will come under study by the Anti Pollution Committee and also names of some of the monuments?

SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI: Sir, all the important monuments coming under the whole Mathura-Agra region are under study. Of course, the name of the Taj is often taken because it is the most important monument but other monuments like Itma-ud-daula, Sikandra are also under study. The entire question as to what extent sulphur dioxide will affect the marble or the sandstone is, as a matter of fact under study.

SHRI B. N. BANERJEE: Sir, the Italian firm has been asked to undertake some, scientific studies. Does the hon. Minister want to say that Indian experts were not available to undertake the study, and, therefore we had to go to Italy and will he also tell us what attempts were made to find out whether Indian experts were available or not before handing over the work to the Italian firm?

SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA: I appreciate the question of the hon. Member and I have a lot of sympathy for the views expressed by him but the situation was in Italy there are a very large number of marble statues and buildings. So, we thought that there would be no harm if we took the views of an Italian firm which is a public sector firm, which has a lot of experience about the pollution problem, about the effect of sulphur fumes on the marble stone.

SHRI B. N. BANERJEE: My second part is unanswered. I asked a specific question. Did he make an attempt to find out whether Indian experts could do the job and if so, what was the result?

SHI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI: As a matter of fact, because of the Mathura refinery, the question of

pollution is very much taken care of by the Government. From the very beginning many studies by the Indian experts have been made under different Committees. Sir, the Prime Minister was also concerned about the question relating to pollution corrosion, etc.

MR. CHAIRMAN His question is very simple.

SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA: A very high-powered Committee of Experts which is purely an Indian committee, is presided over by Dr. Varadarajan. Almost all the heads of the public sector and some of the private sector technologists are there. The whole matter is being considered by them. They have also tried to contact these people in order to get a second view.

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Sir, this is a very important question and it has two aspects. The first is about the pollution of the river Jamun. Fortunately or unfortunately, it appears that the river Jamuna has completely lost interest in flowing excepting in the monsoon season, and most of the time it is sleeping on its sand-bed. Therefore, if there is pollution we are not very much interested. But as far as the Taj and other monuments are concerned, I must say that there is a definite opinion of the archaeological department people and our own experts that the refinery will adversely affect the Taj and other monuments and, in fact, in support of this statement they have already stated that the smoke emitted by the chimneys of the power house of Agra has already badly affected the marble buildings of the Taj and other important monuments.

SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI: Sir, I have no comments to offer except to say that we are trying our level best.

श्री जगदीश जोशी : श्रीमन्, क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बाने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो विशेषज्ञों की कमेटी बनाई गई है और इन संबंध में जो विशेषज्ञ विदेशों

से भी बुलाये जा रहे हैं, उनको टर्म्स आफ रेफ्रेन्स क्या दिया गया है? क्या मंत्रालय की तरफ से इन बात का प्रयास किया जा रहा है कि ये जो पॉल्यूशन पैदा करने वाले तत्व हैं और जो पानी में मिलकर पानी को खराब कर देते हैं उन तत्वों को निकालकर अलग करने को प्रक्रिया विकसित करने की दिशा में क्या कोई कदम उठाया जा रहा है? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार के पदार्थों में जोकि ओक्साइड वगैरह के तत्व होते हैं उनको हर तरफ से निकालने के बाद ही पानी में फँकने की प्रक्रिया पर क्या कभी विचार किया गया है और साथ-साथ मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि किस प्रकार के टर्म्स आफ रेफ्रेन्स के आधार पर ये विशेषज्ञ काम कर रहे हैं?

श्री केशव देव मालवीय : जहाँ तक जमुना के जल के दूषित होने का प्रश्न है, हम सदन को यह आश्वासन दिलाना चाहते हैं कि इस संबंध में हमको जल्दतर से ज्यादा ज्ञान है। ऋषिकेश में आई० डी० पी० एल० में हमारे विशेषज्ञों को इतनी जानकारी हो गई है कि जिस दूषित पानी को साफ करके गंगा में फँका जाता है वह गंगा के पानी से भी ज्यादा साफ होता है। ऐसी स्थिति में जल के दूषित होने का कोई प्रश्न ही नहीं। यह समस्या तो सोल्व हो चुकी है। लेकिन जहाँ तक हवा को दूषित होने से बचाने का प्रश्न है, इस दिशा में हम जो प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं उनको देखते हुए हमें पूरा विश्वास है कि गन्धक और गैस वगैरह से वहाँ की इमारतों पर या सेन्डस्टोन या मारबल वगैरह पर कोई प्रतिकूल असर नह पड़ेगा। लेकिन फिर भी इस संबंध में चिन्तन है और भारत वर्ष के सभी नागरिक इस बा में चिन्तित हैं। हमने जो विशेषज्ञों की कमेटी बनाई है और जो हमारे विशेषज्ञ हैं वे इस स चीजों को देख रहे हैं और अगर इसके अन्त कही 0.0001 परसेन्ट भी दूषित होने व

संभावना रहती है तो उसका निदान करने का प्रयत्न करते हैं।

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU: Sir, I would like to know from the honourable Minister as to why the studies about air pollution and river pollution were not conducted and finalised before the decision was taken to set up this refinery. Not only has the decision been taken for setting up the refinery, but also a large amount has already been spent for that purpose.

SHRI KESHAV DEO MALAVIYA: Sir, money has been spent for the refinery, there is no doubt about it, and Mathura has been selected for reasons of logistics, for commercial reasons and for economic reasons. The question of sulphur dioxide as a pollutant is always there and we have to solve the problem.

*128. [The questioner (Shri Shrikant Verma) was absent. For answer vide col. 37 infra.]

Promotion of Senior Head Rakshaks as A.S.I. in R.P.F.

*129. **SHRI BEZAWADA PAPIREDY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a test was held at R.P.F., J.J.R. Training Centre at Lucknow on the 20th February, 1976 to fill the posts of A.S.I. (R.P.F.) by promotion from amongst Senior Head Rakshaks;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some junior semi-literate Head Rakshaks were promoted as A.S.I. (R.P.F.) in preference to their seniors who had put in two years service in the grade;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government are aware of the widespread discontent among the affected persons; and

(e) if so, what steps Government propose to take to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHAMMAD SHAFI QURESHI):

(a) Yes Sir.

(b) & (c) No Sir. The selection to the post of Assistant Sub-Inspectors in R. P. F. is conducted by a Selection Committee consisting of three Officers. All Head Rakshaks who have satisfactorily completed 2 years probation are eligible to be called for selection according to their seniority. Those who are declared suitable by the selection Committee are promoted to the rank of Assistant Sub-Inspectors/RPF according to their seniority in the merit list.

(d) Nothing of the sort has come to the notice of the Government so far.

(e) Does not arise.

Take over of the Caltex Oil Company

*130. **SHRI KRISHNA BAHADUR CHETTRI:†**
SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH:
SHRI NABIN CHANDRA BURAGOHAIN:
SHRI B. RACHAIAH:
SHRI R. NARASIMHA REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question No. 139 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th May, 1976, and state:

(a) whether talks regarding the take over of the Caltex Oil Company by Government have bogged down over the quantum of compensation; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Krishna Bahadur Chettri.