

invoicing—and in the present system it is almost impossible to plug the loopholes for under-invoicing and over-invoicing as reported by the Wanchoo Committee, may I know from the honourable Minister whether they have any phased programme by which the entire export import trade can be taken over by the Government, and, is the honourable Minister in a position to tell the House by which year the Government will be able to reach that position ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I am not in that position to say by which year we will take over 100 per cent export. I can only say that we are moving in the right direction, as I have said earlier. I have been in this Ministry for two years and we have a number of public sector corporations dealing with export and some of them deal with imports also. This is apart from the STC and MMTG. If you read the export policy resolution you will see that our objective is that we should progressively take over foreign trade. I stick to that. But we should not hazard such risks which may adversely affect the general economy of the nation.

श्री ओइम् प्रकाश त्यागी : अध्यक्ष महोदय अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि जो उन्नत देश हैं, वे हमारे माल पर 15 प्रतिशत तक ड्यूटी लगाते हैं और विकसित देशों के माल पर 7 प्रतिशत तक लगाते हैं। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब उन्नत देशों का यह व्यवहार है तो जो विकासशील देश हैं जैसे दक्षिण अमरीका और अफ्रीकन कंट्रीज जो हमारे माल का बड़ी आसानी से स्वागत कर सकती हैं उन देशों में अपना माल निर्यात करने के लिए अब तक सरकार ने क्या प्रयत्न किया है और आगे क्या करने जा रही है, क्या इस दिशा में कोई प्रकाश आप डालेंगे ?

श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र : यह बात माननीय सदस्य ने हमारे मन की कह दी। हम स्ट्रक्चरल चेंजेज इन एक्सपोर्ट ऐंड इम्पोर्ट में करना चाहते हैं। इसका मतलब यही है कि जो डेवलपिंग कंट्रीज हैं उनसे अपना व्यापार घटा करके जो डेवलपिंग कंट्रीज हैं उनके साथ हम अपना व्यापार बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। यही कारण है कि दक्षिण अमरीका, अफ्रीका और दूसरी सोशलिस्ट कंट्रीज के साथ हमारा व्यापार 7 पर सेंट से बढ़ करके 37 पर सेंट

हो गया है। हम इसको धीरे-धीरे और बढ़ाना चाहते हैं। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य को ज्ञात होगा कि दक्षिण अमरीका के साथ व्यापार करने में हमारा फ्रेट बहुत ज्यादा होता है क्योंकि वह बहुत दूर पड़ता है। लेकिन सिद्धांततः हम इसको मानते हैं कि ऐसे देशों के साथ हम अधिक व्यापार करें जो उन्नतशील देश हैं।

*416. [The questioner (Shri M. K. Mohta) was absent. For answer vide col. 38 infra]

♦417. [The questioner (Shri Shyamlal Gupta) was absent. For answer vide col. 39 infra]

*418. [The questioner (Shri Sasankasekhar Sanyal) was absent. For answer, vide col. 41 infra.]

♦419. [The questioner (Dr. <£. A. Ahmad) was absent. For answer, vide col. 41 infra]

♦420. [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Kesari) was absent. For answer, vide col. 42 infra.]

*421. [The questioner (Shri Sitaram Jaipuria) was absent. For answer, vide col. 43 infra]

OIL DRILLING WORKS

*422. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH : SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE :f

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

(a) the oil drilling works undertaken and completed during each of the last three years, the success achieved each area and the expenditure incurred in each region ; and

(b) the drilling works to be undertaken during this year and how many of them have already been launched ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE): (a) and (b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LXXXI, Annexure No. 70]

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister inform the House whether it is a fact that rich oil reserve has been located in West Bengal in Sundarbans and off-shore ? The experts from the United States and the Soviet Union gave this information to the country, that it had been found to be fit for commercial exploitation. If so, may I know

f The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kali Mukherjee.

whether extensive and intensive drilling operations had been undertaken there to explore fully these oil reserves and if not the reason therefor ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : In West Bengal no well has so far been found to be commercially exploitable. The expert team and our team have not made any such recommendation so far.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : Has the Government totally abandoned the idea of exploitation of oil in West Bengal both in inland and off-shore in the coast of Bay of Bengal ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : No. We have not abandoned. The programme is going on. The results have been what I have informed the House.

DR. R. K. CHAKRABARTI : But the hand-out supplied does not mention about any provision for exploitation.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : But it is included in the long-range programme. So far it has not been taken up.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON ! The statement says that in 1969-70, 66 wells have proved to be oil and gas bearing and in 1970-71, 51 wells have proved to be oil or gas bearing. May I know from the Government how many of these wells have been exploited for production ? How many of these wells have started production ?

Secondly, Sir, I want to know whether it is a fact that some of the wells which were producing earlier have proved to be very inefficient because of leakage of oil.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : I have not sorted out this information which is perhaps contained in the main reply.

SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON : Sir, it has been given here in the statement that so many oil wells are bearing oil. So, it would have been easy for the Minister to find out whether any of them has started production.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Amjad Ali.

SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Sir, some such programme of oil exploration at a place called Bogra in the district of 24-Parganas was taken up and the drilling operation was also started.

But, Sir, subsequently it was abandoned. In view of this, may I know the causes for abandoning this exploration programme ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : It did not prove to be of any significance.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Shahi.

SARDAR AMJAD ALI : Sir, it is not clear. It is not clear as to why it was abandoned. The question is why it was abandoned.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Minister, would you add anything ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : The position is that wherever there is any well, we see if it is commercially exploitable or not and when it is not commercially exploitable, we abandon it and take up another programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Shahi.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : श्रीमन्, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश के तराई इलाके में पानी के अंदर तेल की मात्रा मिलती है, जो पानी हम अपने कुओं से निकालते हैं या जब पाइप बोर करते हैं तो उसके पानी में तेल मिलता है और वहाँ के लोगों को उससे कई प्रकार के रोग भी हो जाते हैं। तो क्या मंत्री जी इस बात का इशारा पाकर कि वहाँ भी तेल प्राप्त किया जा सकता है, वहाँ तेल खोजने का प्रयास करेंगे ? और दूसरे क्षेत्रों में जैसे तेल ढूँढने का प्रयास हो रहा है क्या उत्तर प्रदेश के तराई क्षेत्र में भी वैसा प्रयास किया जायगा ?

श्री दलबीर सिंह : तेल के प्रोग्राम के अनुसार पहले इसके एक्सपर्ट सारा डेटा इकट्ठा करते हैं, उसको स्टेडी करते हैं और उसके बाद एरियाज लिए जाते हैं प्रायरिटी के हिसाब से। अभी तक वह प्रोग्राम जो लॉग रेंज है वैसे तो उसमें सारा कंट्री शामिल है लेकिन उस एरिया में अभी तक कोई ऐसी बात नहीं आयी है कि उस एरिया को टेक अप किया जा सके।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : क्या कभी कोशिश की गयी, मंत्री जी ?

श्री दलबीर सिंह : कोशिश तो सारी कंट्री में हो रही है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Pranab Kumar Mukherjee.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the statement he has made in reply to the supplementaries put by Dr. R. K. Chakrabarti that the possibilities of oil exploration in West Bengal have not been ruled out. But, in the last part of his statement he has given the details of the programme which are under the active consideration of the Government and there is no mention of West Bengal. Secondly, in this connection, I would like to know from the honourable Minister whether it is a fact that apart from Bogra, certain other sites in West Bengal in Aramgarh in Hooghly district and some other sites have not even been taken up and whether he is in a position to lay on the Table of the House the report on the commercial viability of these schemes which he has obtained from the experts.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Sir, that report is not with me now.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Sir, I want to know whether it can be laid on the Table of the House. You say it is not commercially viable and we know that it was commercially viable.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : No, it is not commercially viable. At present I have not got the report. I will place the facts on the Table of the House.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Sir, ... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Can he place it on the Table ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Yes, I shall place the facts on the Table of the House.

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE : Then, Sir, the other part of my question is there. He says that the idea of exploring in West Bengal has not been given up. But the programme which he has given in the statement today does not contain any mention of West Bengal. Is the idea of exploration in West Bengal given up ?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The Idea is not

given up. It is included in the long range programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Kulkarni. Last question.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : We are importing crude oil at a very fantastic price and a large amount of Foreign exchange is involved. The whole programme is delayed, I want to know from the Minister whether his attention has been drawn to a report in the press that we are insisting on oil exploration technology from a particular country, and we are not interested in getting the latest technology from other countries. That is why this programme is delayed. Also, the Mala-viya Committee Report has stated that because of leakage of the oil from the pipeline, this exploration is delayed. Is it a fact ? I want to have a categorical reply to these two questions.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH : so far as the delay in the programme is concerned, it is not due to these factors, the hon. Member has mentioned. So far as the Malaviya Committee is concerned—the hon. Member also refers to some press reports—I can say in this regard only that the Malaviya Committee report is under consideration, and I do not want to comment anything at this stage.

भारत के निर्यात-व्यापार पर पाकिस्तानी मुद्रा के अवमूल्यन का प्रभाव

*423. श्री ओजम प्रकाश त्यागी : क्या विदेश व्यापार मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पाकिस्तानी मुद्रा के अवमूल्यन के बाद भारत के निर्यात-व्यापार पर कोई प्रतिकूल प्रभाव पड़ा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) उक्त प्रभाव को दूर करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

IMPACT OF PAK CURRENCY DEVALUATION ON INDIAN'S EXPORT TRADE

♦423. SHRI O. P. TYAGI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any adverse