

stating that any new refinery which is going to be opened should be located in Madhya Pradesh, because Madhya Pradesh is devoid of any important Central project?

**SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B. SETHI:** Yes, Sir, I have received a representation from Gwalior particularly, but as I have pointed out, as far as the location of any refinery is concerned, it will be decided on the basis of a techno-economic survey and at a point where it would be most economical.

#### OIL EXPLORATION IN THE COUNTRY

\*357. **SHRI LOKNATH MISRA:**

**SHRI K. C. PANDA:†**

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have formulated plans for oil exploration to meet the urgent need of crude in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):** (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

#### STATEMENT

The work of oil exploration in the country is being carried out mainly by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. Oil India Limited operates certain concessional areas in Assam. Both these organisations have drawn up long term plans for intensification of their exploration and production activities.

2. Under the ten-year plan (1969-70—1978-79), of ONGC exploratory surveys of various prospective areas which have not been covered will be undertaken; also further geophysical surveys of some of the areas already covered will be carried out using improved field techniques and data-processing methods, with the object of locating structures favourable for oil/gas accumulations.

3. A detailed techno-economic study of the oil and gas potential in the country is being made jointly by the Commission and a team of Soviet experts. The exploration is being extended to cover areas like Tripura where large oil/gas accumulations are prognosticated even though drilling

conditions and logistics may be difficult. Exploration is also being extended to the offshore areas and drilling is proposed to be carried out in the Gulf of Cambay and the deep waters of the Arabian sea off the West Coast.

4. Oil India Limited's Five-Year Plan (1970—74) provides for exploration in Kusijan/Jorajan areas of Assam and in Nimgu area of NEFA.

**SHRI K. C. PANDA:** From the statement it appears that the Government is engaged in exploratory surveys. I want to know from the Minister whether they have a plan for the exploration and production of oil in the country and whether they have fixed up a target date by which India will be able to stop imports of oil from outside.

**SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B. SETHI:** We have a plan, not only a Five Year Plan, but a ten-year plan which is continuously under revision. As far as oil exploration is concerned. . . .

**SHRI K. C. PANDA:** It may be five years or ten years, but there must be some target date fixed by the Government.

**SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B. SETHI:** How can that be in a matter where everything depends upon the striking of oil? Sometimes, in spite of our best efforts, it is not possible to strike oil whereby we would be self-sufficient. It is likely that if we are able to strike oil at Bombay High, we may be able to become self-sufficient the day we can locate a good source of oil. In a place like Aliabet where we have been drilling we have not been able to commercially establish the location of oil. It is likely that it may be infructuous. Therefore, all possible efforts to locate oil inshore and offshore are being made. We are trying our best to find new sources of oil. As far as oil production is concerned, we are certainly increasing it. This year it is likely to be in the range of 7.15 million tonnes and it is hoped, on the basis of the available resources, that we would be reaching 8.5 million tonnes by 1973-74.

**SHRI K. C. PANDA:** May I know whether with all the technical ability of our technicians in the country the Ministry has been able to develop technical ability so that we may not depend on foreign countries for exploration work?

**SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B. SETHI:** As far as oil technology is concerned I would like certainly to point out that our technicians and engineers have done a very good job in exploration and also as far as the finding out oil is concerned. But I would like to point out, for example, as far as offshore drilling is concerned, it is a new technique, it is a new technology where we are not so much trained; to

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri K. C. Panda.

the extent wherever necessary we have to take foreign technology and the help of foreign technicians. That is why as far as the Bombay High is concerned we have taken help from Mitsu Bishi to construct Jackup platform. As far as drilling is concerned, because we are not expert in the technology of drilling in sea, therefore, the contract has been awarded to the Americans. As far as inland drilling is concerned and also search for oil is concerned, apart from what we are getting as expertise from the USSR most of the work is done by Indian technicians.

**SHRI BALACHANDRA MENON** May I know whether a study has been made regarding the offshore oil deposits near Cochin, and I would like to know whether any attempt has been made to find out the extent of oil deposits in the Cauvery Basin.

**SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B SETHI** As far as search for oil in the Cauvery Basin is concerned, we have conducted certain drilling and search is going on. As far as offshore drilling is concerned I think unless the Bombay High experiment succeeds I do not think we are in a position to take up more work as far as sea exploration is concerned.

**SHRI A G KULKARNI** May I know whether it is not a fact that the oil exploration, though being taken up very vigorously is not showing any sign of reducing the foreign imports which are to the extent of Rs 100 crores, and whether the Government would put in more money in research and development through the Oil and Natural Gas Commission where our technicians have shown their capacity to explore oil and whether Government will depend more and more on indigenous technology than on foreign technology?

**SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B SETHI** It is not correct to say or rather it is not appreciated properly that the oil production, the crude oil production in India has gone up. It has certainly gone up, but the demand at the same time has gone up. Therefore as far as import of crude is concerned it is certainly increasing, but it is a question of locating more oil and if we are able to find more oil, certainly to that extent imports would be reduced.

As far as the utilisation of Indian technology is concerned, I have pointed out that except for the Bombay High where we are having foreign technology most of the work as far as the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is concerned is done by Indian technicians, but certainly to some extent we have taken the help and guidance of the Russian team which is at present working in India.

**श्री बी० एन० मंडल** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार राज्य में तेल भंडार की खोज की गई है या नहीं की गई है और अगर की गई है तो उसका क्या रिजल्ट हुआ। वहाँ पर तेल मिला या नहीं मिला, मिलने की कोई सम्भावना है या नहीं है। यह मैं आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ।

**श्री प्रकाश चन्द बी० सेठी** बिहार राज्य में तो, अध्यक्ष महोदय अभी तक कोई तेल नहीं मिला है।

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** क्या श्रीमन् यह बतलायेंगे कि अभी तक तेल के बारे में आसाम की पट्टी में, जिसमें त्रिपुरा, नागालैण्ड का कुछ भाग और बिहार का उत्तरी क्षेत्र है और इसी प्रकार कच्छ और गुजरात का जो क्षेत्र है उसमें ही ज्यादा एक्सप्लोरेशन का कार्य प्रारम्भ हुआ तो क्या सरकार ने और प्रांतों में भी यह तलश कम्पाई है या किसी प्रकार का एक्सपेरिमेंट करवाया है कि वहाँ पर तेल मिलने की सम्भावना हो सकती है या नहीं। अभी पिछले समय में श्री त्रिगुण सेन जी का हमने ध्यान आकर्षित कराया था कि मध्यप्रदेश में भोपाल के पास तेल का कुछ स्रोत मालूम पड़ता है तो उन्होंने देखने के लिये कहा था। तो क्या उसके ऊपर कोई कार्यवाही की गई या कार्यवाही नहीं की गई। और दूसरी बात यह कि रूस के साथ में . . .

**श्री सभापति** अब दूसरा रहने दीजिये। जवाब भी नहीं आयेगा और 12 बज जायेंगे।

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** अच्छा ठीक है।

**श्री प्रकाश चन्द बी० सेठी** सभापति महोदय, जहाँ तक तेल शोध के काम का तात्कालिक है यह जियालजिकल सर्वे, सीममालाजिकल सर्वे आदि पर निर्भर करता है। इसलिए तेल के शोध के काम को उसी जगह प्रारम्भ किया जा सकता है जहाँ प्रारम्भिक जांच में इस बात की सम्भावना लगे कि तेल मिल सकता है। अमम में, त्रिपुरा में और गुजरात में इसकी ज्यादा कोशिश

की गई तो इसलिए की गई कि प्रारम्भिक शोध कार्य में यह पाया गया कि तेल मिलने की जगह सभावनाएँ हैं और यदि कोई ऐसी एरियाज है जहाँ पर तेल मिलने की सभावनाएँ हैं, तो वहाँ भी किया जाएगा। मध्य प्रदेश का मुझे पता नहीं, मैं देख कर बता सकता हूँ वहाँ कि क्या स्थिति है।

MR CHAIRMAN Question Hour is over

### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### UNSUITABILITY OF ROSTUM CRUDE FOR PROCESSING IN THE REFINERY

\*354 SHRI K L N PRASAD Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cochin refinery has found that the Rostum Crude obtained from Iran is unsuitable for processing in the refinery

(b) if so, what are the reasons for the same,

(c) what is the price at which the Cochin Refinery imported the crude,

(d) whether the negotiations between the refinery and the CIP to bring down the prices have failed and whether the Cochin Refinery has decided to continue the negotiated price, and

(e) if so, what were the reasons for not obtaining the supply of crude from other sources?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS/पेट्रोलियम और रसायन मंत्री (SHRI PRAKASH CHAND B SETHI) (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha

#### STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Yes Sir The test runs of Rostam crude conducted at Cochin Refinery showed it to be unsuitable for this refinery for the following reasons

(i) large reduction in crude charge capacity and therefore higher losses,

(ii) overworking of crude unit equipment

(iii) major changes would have to be made to the crude tower and equipment

(iv) crude transportation and storage losses would be higher,

(v) dislocation in the expansion programme

(c) In accordance with the agreement between Cochin Refineries Ltd and total International (a subsidiary of CIP) of 20th June 1970 crude price was US \$ 1.26 per barrel. As a result of increase in taxes by the Iranian Government, this was raised approximately by 6.8 cents per barrel (totalling to \$ 1.328 per barrel) with effect from 18th November 1970. This price was again raised for the same reasons by approximately 27 cents per barrel (totalling to \$ 1.60 per barrel) with effect from 15.2.1971 for the particular gravity of crude used by the Company.

(d) Cochin Refineries Ltd have agreed to the increased prices. It has been decided to watch the situation and there will be further negotiations in September/October 1971.

(e) Does not arise

\*358 [Transferred to the 18th June, 1971]

### बच्चों में अल्प पोषण

\*559. श्री सुन्दर मणि पटेल :

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर :

क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने पिछले एक आध वर्ष में देश के बच्चों में अल्प पोषण के सम्बन्ध में कोई अनुमान लगाया है,

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या परिणाम निकले, और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा अल्प पोषण को रोकने और बच्चों को पोषण देने के कार्यक्रम में तेजी लाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं ?

#### †[MALNUTRITION AMONG CHILDREN]

\*359 SHRI SUNDARMANI PATEL  
SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have made any assessment during the last one year or so with regard to the malnutrition among the children in the country

† [English translation]