

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Sir, may I . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not so many of you together.

SHRI GOVIND BALLABH PANT: The element of truth is what I have stated, and whatever differs from it is the element of exaggeration.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Sir, only one supplementary question . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, that will do.

GAUHATI OIL REFINERY

*94. SHRI M. BASAVAPUNNAIAH: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has so far been made towards the construction of the Gauhati Oil Refinery; and

(b) when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) By 1961.

STATEMENT

Acquisition of land for Refinery:

516 Bighas of land have been taken by Indian Refineries Ltd. This would be sufficient for immediate works on the refinery and temporary townships.

Proposals for acquisition of additional areas required have been submitted to Government of Assam.

Land required for approach road to township has been demarcated.

Work of plotting the area required under tea plantation, was completed during October, 1959.

Surveys and Foundation investigations:

Foundation investigations were commenced, after the rains, in the

middle of September, 1959. Several bore-holes were made for study of soil strata at site, to help finalization of the lay-out for the refinery.

Technical Design:

The technical designs for the refinery were received from Rumania about the middle of August, 1959; and they were discussed with Rumanian experts and finalized.

Supply and Technical Assistance Contract:

The Contract was executed on the 17th August, 1959. This Contract closely follows the Inter-Governmental Agreement signed on the 20th October, 1958.

Works:

(i) Approach road to temporary hostel has been completed;

(ii) Earth-work for preparation of site for temporary township, store sheds and other construction structures is in progress;

(iii) construction of temporary garage is in progress;

(iv) work of laying temporary siding is in progress;

(v) three temporary storage sheds had been completed;

(vi) small temporary hostel building has been completed.

Inspection and Testing of materials:

Arrangements are being made for the inspection/testing of the materials/equipment received from Rumania, by the Assam Engineering College and Assam Engineering Institute.

Staff: -

Technical Officers	28
Non-technical Officers	64
Technical Staff	69
Non-technical staff	72

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DR. R. B. GOUR: Originally the refinery was to be commissioned by April 1961. Is there any truth in the reports that it would be delayed up to August 1961 or even more because of certain unfavourable subsoil conditions that we have discovered there in that particular area?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: I may not be able to say just now that there is no possibility of extension of our schedule. Even if for two or three months the programme is to be delayed, we would be able to find this out only after some time.

DR. R. B. GOUR: May I know if the present drilling operations have revealed that there is peat to a thickness of about 60 ft., and so there will be some technical difficulties in trying to break this extent of peat?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: That is not such an insurmountable difficulty if we meet peat in some portions. If necessary, we shall try to find alternative sites for buildings. That is not difficult.

*95 and *96. [The questioner (Shri V. K. Dhage) was absent. For answers, vide cols. 455-56 infra.]

*97 and *98. [The questioners (Shri Babubhai Chinai and Shri Lavji Lakhamshi) were absent. For answers, vide cols. 455-56 infra.]

MEETINGS OF THE ALL-INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

*99. SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how often the All-India Council of Technical Education has met during the last five years;

(b) how often the Regional Committees formed by the Council have met; and

(c) how these Committees are constituted?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The All-India Council for Technical Education has met four times since 1954. The Co-ordinating Committee of the Council, which has the power to take decisions on its behalf, has held eleven meetings during that period.

(b) The number of meetings held by the Regional Committees since they were set up is as shown below:

Name of the Regional Committee	Date of constitution	No. of meetings held
1. Eastern Regional Committee . . .	10-4-1952	17
2. Western Regional Committee . . .	13-10-1952	18
3. Southern Regional Committee . . .	30-10-1955	12
4. Northern Regional Committee . . .	15-2-1956	11

(c) The Constitution of the Regional Committees is as follows :—

Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs. One representative.

Ministry of Labour and Employment (National Council for training in Vocational Trades). Ditto.

Ministry of Railways Ditto.