

DR. A. N. BOSE: Is the Ministry considering increasing the number of instalments in which the loan is to be recovered?

MR. CHAIRMAN: His question is: Are you considering the question of increasing the number of instalments from ten to fifteen or twenty?

DR. A. N. BOSE: Then, Sir, what was the specific request of the Federation of Posts and Telegraphs employees in this respect with regard to the number of instalments in which the advance is to be recovered?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: I have already read about the nature of the request that they made, but I do not think Government is considering a general increase of the instalments from ten to twenty. Exceptions might be made according to the desirability of the proposal.

DR. A. N. BOSE: Has the Government of Madras drawn up any scheme as regards the giving of festival advance and the number of instalments in which the advance is to be recovered?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: Part (c) of my answer already takes cognizance of the fact of what Madras has done.

OIL REFINERY IN ASSAM

•20. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND FUEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an expert survey committee has submitted a report in which two places have been recommended for the site of the refinery in Assam;

(b) if so, whether Government have given any consideration to the findings of that committee; and

(c) if the reply to part (b) above is in the affirmative, when Government propose to announce their final

decision regarding selection of the site for the refinery?

THE MINISTER OF MINES AND OIL (SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) It has been decided to site the Assam Refinery in Gauhati-Amingaon area.

SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: May I know whether it is a fact that Government has engaged a new survey party to survey the land in Amsong, seven miles east of Gauhati Town?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: No, Sir. Government do not propose to appoint any further survey party except that experts go from time to time to decide any specific issue which arises.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether the Government is aware that land speculation is going on in certain areas supposed to be chosen for the site, that the Assam Oil Company has been assigned the task of building the pipelines and that this particular company is interested in having a longer distance between Barauni and the refinery site?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: These are two separate questions. Generally, it does happen that where a big construction is going on, land prices go up. Government do take necessary steps to see that prices do not shoot up. With regard to the second part of the question, I am not aware of what the A. O. C. are wanting.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether the site was once selected and then it was changed, and then again a selection was made, and then in the course of these negotiations the Assam Oil Company proposed a particular site which would enable them to have a longer pipeline and naturally the advantage out of the construction of such a pipeline?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA: There was a recommendation made by the Expert Committee, which was not accepted

by the Government for various considerations. As to the intentions of the Assam Oil Company, Government are not guided by the intentions of any particular company but are guided solely by the public interest.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if in that case the Government will be guided by the length of the pipeline?

(No reply)

SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY BRITISH COUNCIL

•21. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the British Council has offered ten scholarships to Indian nationals for study and research in Linguistics, teaching of English as a foreign language and English language and literature in the United Kingdom during the year 1959-60; and

(b) if so, how these scholarships will be given to Indian nationals and for what period these scholarships will be tenable?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (DR. K. L. SHRIMALI): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) The selection of candidates will be made by a duly constituted Selection Committee on which a representative of the British Council will be associated.

(ii) For one academic year of ten months.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know when these scholars will be chosen and what steps Government is taking in this respect?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: A Selection Committee will be constituted and applications will be invited. I expect that they will join some time next September or October.

श्री पी० ना० राजभोज : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलायेंगे कि कुल कितने रुपये का स्कालरशिप है ?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: All the expenses are borne by the British Council. The Government of India do not have to bear any expenditure.

VACANCY ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE STATE BANK OF INDIA

•22. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any recent vacancy on the Board of Directors of the State Bank of India; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to appoint some new persons as Directors of the Board?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA): (a) and (b). Two vacancies, including one in the office of the Vice-Chairman, have recently occurred in the Central Board of the State Bank of India. It is proposed to appoint suitable persons in the vacancies as soon as possible.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether in this connection any names have been suggested to the Government from any quarter? If so, what are the names?

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: It is for the Reserve Bank to suggest names. All the names are under consideration.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The Minister should tell us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has said that it is the duty of the Reserve Bank to submit names for the consideration of the Ministry.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: About the Vice-Chairman, the name is suggested by the Central Board of the State Bank. Then it is considered in consultation with the Reserve Bank. As for the other vacancies, the