

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY) : (a) A seam of coal 35' to 50' in thickness occurs in the property adjacent to the Talcher Colliery.

(b) Indications of this seam were found in the original prospecting of the area about 25 to 30 years back. Work for extracting coal from the seam has not yet started ; the Government of India's application for the grant of a prospecting licence and mining lease to work the area is now pending with the Government of Orissa.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : What are the conditions that the Orissa Government is laying for the grant of licence ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : They have not laid down any conditions so far. We have yet to hear from them.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : May I know why there is such a long delay in working out a scheme ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : There is no delay on our part, Sir. These areas belong to the Orissa State at present. They were originally given to a private firm and the private firm did not consider it worthwhile to exploit these mines. It was only in the year 1950 that the Railway Colliery Committee that had been set up recommended that a portion of this may be taken over by the Government of India and worked for purposes of extracting coal. After the receipt of the Report, Government of India went into the question, worked out the cost of exploiting these mines and have now applied for a mineral lease. We are awaiting the reply from the Orissa Government to proceed.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : How long ago did the Government of India apply for the lease ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : I am not quite sure, but about 8 or 10 months ago. The Government of Orissa feel that this is a very complicated matter and they would like to go into all aspects of the matter before taking a decision.

We have again reminded the Orissa Government and we are expecting a reply from them early.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: May I know, Sir, if the Government have thought of the possibility of tapping gas straight from the seam and if so, when they operate this field are they thinking of tapping coal gas straight from the seam ?

SHRI K. C. REDDY : I am afraid Sir, that that does not arise out of the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He said "while operating this, whether you would consider tapping gas".

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : He has answered, Sir, that it is a 60 'workable seam that has been discovered in the Talcher Collieries. I wanted to know whether they know that there are possibilities of tapping coal gas straight from the seam and, if so, whether they would examine this question.

SHRI K. C. REDDY : I am sorry, Sir, I cannot give any definite answer to that question at present.

OFFICERS KNOWING FOREIGN LANGUAGES

♦143. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) how many officers in the Indian Foreign Service know any of the European or Asian languages in addition to English and the Indian regional languages ;

(b) whether Government have any definite scheme to encourage these officers to learn additional foreign languages and gain requisite proficiency in them ; and

(c) if so, what particular languages are recommended to these officers for study ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. K. CHANDA) : (a) 67.

(b) and (c). Yes. A copy of chapter IX of the Draft Indian Foreign Service Rules is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 32.]

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH : May I know, Sir, why Pushtu is not included in the list ?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA : It is a fairly long list and evidently Pushtu is not considered very important for our Foreign Service requirements.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH : May I know, Sir, who will ordinarily be the authority competent for certifying in these tests ?

SHRI A. K. CHANDA : We have the Defence School of Foreign Languages and the examinations are conducted by that school.

BROADCASTING FACILITIES IN MYSORE.

*144. SHRI M. GOVINDAREDDY : Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to increase the broadcasting facilities in Mysore ; and

(b) if so, what are the proposals ?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, by putting up a high power transmitter at Bangalore.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY : Has the Government already taken decision in this matter ?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : Yes, Sir.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : When approximately, do the Government think that this high powered station would come into being in Bangalore ?

DR. B. V. KESKAR : As soon as possible. In fact, the site is being chosen. The transmitter is with us.

OIL REFINERIES IN INDIA

"145. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY : Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil refineries now working in the country ;

(b) the number of oil refineries which will commence working in 1952, 1953 and 1954 respectively ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure early commencement of work by new refineries run by oil companies ?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY) : (a) One, situated at Digboi in Assam.

(6) Out of the three new refineries proposed to be set up in the country, the earliest is expected to commence operations in the middle of 1954.

(c) The date by which the Standard Vacuum Refinery is expected to go into production has been advanced from 1st January 1953 to 1st July 1954. Government have taken steps to ensure the completion of ancillary services, like roadways, railways, water supply, electricity and dock and harbour facilities, within time. The Burmah Shell Refinery is expected to commence operations on 1st January 1956. Negotiations for the setting up of the third refinery by Caltex are expected to commence in January 1953.

SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY : May I know if there are any difficulties in the way of these refineries commencing work earlier than 1954. The answer is that in some cases they will be able to commence in 1954. I find from the answer that no refinery will commence work before 1954. What difficulties are there for these refineries to commence work before that.

SHRI K. C. REDDY : It is more for these companies, who have got to set up these refineries, to answer that question. But I may say that they are anxious to go into production as early as possible and in spite