

Gauhati Refinery

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- *185. { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of daily crude oil supplied to the Gauhati Refinery through Oil India (P) Ltd.,

(b) the total quantity of this oil refined since 1st July, 1962; and

(c) the extent of the target fulfilments by this supply of crude oil through Oil India (P) Ltd.?

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The average rate was 500 tons per day by rail from 5-8-1961 to 12-4-1962. Since 26-4-1962 the monthly rate of crude oil delivered by pipeline varied between 16,216 tons to 31,293 tons according to the requirements of the refinery.

(b) 55,354 tons refined during 1-7-1962 to 30-9-1962.

(c) The target of 2,250 tons of crude oil per day required by the refinery can be fulfilled by Oil India Limited.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the refinery authorities had anticipated the flood and if so, what precautionary measures were taken by them?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The floods in Assam last year were unprecedented. The nature of flood cannot be predicted. Normally, we take precautions against these floods, but when they are exceptional and abnormal, the ferries are suspended, and, therefore, dislocation is bound to happen.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the refinery is now working at its optimum capacity, and if not, when it will work at its optimum capacity?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The refinery is now practically working to its

normal capacity. There is only a small gap between that and the maximum capacity, because the clearance of our stocks is not perhaps completely finished; we cannot move as much as we would like to move in order to clear our stocks, because of too much crowding on that side, but we hope that the maximum production will start very soon.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether we are getting full co-operation from the Rumanian collaboration to run this refinery?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There is no question of that. Most of them have gone. Probably thirteen or fourteen are left.

Shri Tyagi: As the Gauhati refinery happens to be situated at a place of strategic importance, may I know if proper precautions have been taken to protect this refinery against air raids?

Mr. Speaker: That is too wide a question for this Ministry to answer.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मंत्री महोदय ने अभी बतलाया कि बाढ़ की सूचना पहले से नहीं जानी जा सकती। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब बाढ़ आ गयी उस वक्त काम को सावधानी से चलाने के सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाये गये थे, और क्या ज़रा भी क्षति नहीं हुई ? और अगर बाढ़ के कारण कोई क्षति हुई तो क्या ?

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : मैं ने यह नहीं कहा था कि बाढ़ का पता नहीं चला। मैं ने कहा था कि बाढ़ की भयंकरता के बारे में कोई अनुमान नहीं लगाया जा सकता था। जैसा मैं ने कहा जब बड़ी बाढ़ आ गई तो जो रेलवे की फेरी चलती थी वह बन्द हो गयी। जब वह बन्द हो गयी तो हमारे इस्टालेशन्स का तेल रुक गया और इस वजह से रिफाइनरी को बन्द करना पड़ा और १५, १६ दिन काम नबन्द रहा इस से क्षति हुई।

Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: May I know whether there is any expansion scheme for this Gauhati refinery?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, there is an expansion scheme which is going on in the routine way.

Shri Ranga: What is meant by 'routine way'?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I would explain it to enlighten my hon. friend. According to our present schemes, by the end of the Plan, we have to expand the refinery capacity to a certain extent. We have not taken recourse to any abnormal methods to expand the capacity. It is just going on in the routine way.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if all the three units, the coking unit, the oil distillation unit and the kerosene refining unit, are completed in the Gauhati refinery by now? If not, how do Government propose to do with the balance of the oil transported by Oil India and the oil that is refined there?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: All the units are now functioning normally. When I referred to a certain gap in the full installed capacity and the actual through-put, I said that perhaps on account of the storage capacity being full, the full capacity was not being utilised. But all the three units are functioning.

Shri Basumatari: I could not follow the answer given to an earlier question. I want to know whether the work was stopped in the refinery itself or the flow of crude oil from the field was stopped.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: When the refinery is stopped, the piping of crude oil will also have to be stopped, if the storage capacity is full.

Shri K. C. Pant: How much higher is the refinery located as compared to the normal flood level of the Brahmaputra?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have not got that information.

Shri P. C. Borooah: The Minister said that along with the suspension of work of the Gauhati refinery, supply of crude oil was also stopped. In so, was the production of crude oil also suspended?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The production of crude oil is regulated to the flow-out from the oil field according to its utilisation. When the oil will be utilised in the Barauni refinery, more crude oil will be produced from the oil fields.

Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh: What is the normal supply of crude oil reserve in the refinery and was it not possible to utilise it when the pipeline was closed for 16 days?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There are two types of storage tanks, one for the petroleum products that come out of the refinery. They are stored and transhipped to the western part of the country. The storage capacity was choked and, therefore, work in the refinery had to be suspended.

Mr. Speaker: Were there no reserves of crude oil stored?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No. The reserves are in the pipes themselves. There is not much reserve left in the storage tanks.

Seizure of Cartridges found in a Hotel in Delhi

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Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:

Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shrimati Savitri Nigam:

Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Shri Bishwanath Roy:

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:

Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Shri P. Kunhan:

Shri Mohammad Elias:

Shri Daji:

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Shri Nambiar:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri Subodh Hansda:

*179. Shri K. N. Tiwary: