

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Indian Bureau of Mines have carried out a very systematic and detailed investigation of copper pyrites in this area, and we are also preparing a project report.

Oil Survey in Punjab

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*471. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
 Shri Hem Raj:

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

(a) the progress made in the exploration of oil and gas in Janauri and Bathula in Punjab;

(b) whether it has been found commercially feasible to exploit the oil in these areas; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) One deep well is being drilled at Bathula near Hoshiarpur. The present depth of this well is 3439 metres. In the Janauri Hills region, the presence of a large anticlinal structure has been known for many years. One seismic party is, at present, operating in this region. If satisfactory results are obtained, a deep test well may be drilled on this structure.

I wish to take this opportunity of saying that the figure of 3939 metres, occurring in the reply to Unstarred question No. 181 (answered on 12-2-1959) due to a typographical error—may be read as 3439 metres.

(b) It is too early to say.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is the boring to be limited to this area alone or is it to be extended?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): It all depends upon the results that we obtain after the production tests of the Hoshiarpur

well and some further investigation in neighbouring areas.

Shri Bose: May I know whether some traces of oil and gas have been found in Jammu area also and whether that area is geologically connected with the Jawalamukhi area?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Some traces of oil and gas have been reported and indicated in some Jammu areas but it has no connection with Jawalamukhi.

Bangalore Airport

*472. **Shri N. Keshava:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for development of the airport of Bangalore has been taken up; and

(b) if so, whether that would enable the Jet aircrafts to operate at this airport?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (Shri Fatehsingh Gaekwad): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir

Shri Keshava: Is it not a fact that in spite of the fact that this aerodrome is being used by several airways, military as well as by HAL, no attention is being paid to the construction of a suitable building to house the aerodrome? May we know if there is any proposal for the construction of a suitable building?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): This airport belongs to and is largely used by the Hindustan Aircraft Limited. If facilities are required for civil aviation, that is a matter for the Civil Aviation Department. I understand when the runway is extended and when it comes through they propose to put up a terminal building.