

some good results we take finally to drilling. We proceed in this way. An integrated programme is going on in the entire region and we can only say something about it after a number of holes have been drilled.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the entire oil region from Hoshiarpur to the Himalayan foothills in the Kangra valley has been mapped out so far and if so whether Government propose to carry on seismic investigation in this particular area?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is being done; systematic oil prospecting and oil exploration is in progress.

Shri Hem Barua: Has it been mapped out?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It has not been completely mapped out; it is being mapped. A part of it has been done and the rest is being done quickly and the subsequent programme is also under way. We hope to take it very systematically.

श्री बलजीत सिंह : माननीय मंत्री जी ने हाँउस में बताया था कि सड़क अच्छी न होने की वजह से भारी मशीनरी जनोरी जेल में नहीं ले जाई जा सकती। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कब वह सड़क मुकम्मल हो जायगी और कब भारी मशीनरी वहाँ चली जायगी ?

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : मैंने तो यह कहा था कि जनोरी में जहाँ पर कि कुये खोदने का स्थान नियत किया गया है, वहाँ सड़क नहीं बन सकी है, इसलिये देर हो रही है। लेकिन उसके बाद और काम जारी रहा और अब हम जनोरी में सड़क करीब करीब बना चुके हैं और बहुत जल्द वह जगह भी तय हो जायगी जहाँ पर कि हम कुये खोदेंगे। इसलिये सड़क की कोई मुश्किलत हमारे सामने नहीं है।

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that oil prospecting in the Janauri oil belt is not as encouraging as in Cambay and if so, whether it would not be advisable for the Government to concentrate and consolidate rather than diffuse the efforts?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Firstly, we cannot say that there is oil belt in Janauri. All these are sedimentary basins where search for oil should be undertaken. Secondly it is not considered advisable to concentrate the activities of oil search at one place. The law of averages must apply and we must try to search in as many places, so that if failure is met with at one place, the success might compensate the loss.

Manufacture of Military Vehicles

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*1128. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the military vehicles produced at Gun Carriage Factory, Jabalpur have any advantages over the conventional vehicles driven by diesel or petrol engine;

(b) if so, the nature of the advantage;

(c) what is the cost of production of such vehicles; and

(d) how it compares with the conventional vehicles?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalah): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) If by 'conventional' Hon'ble Member means other military trucks driven by diesel or petrol, the answer is 'yes'.

(b) The Shaktiman Truck now being produced at the Gun Carriage Factory has the following advantages:

- (i) a multifuel engine which operates on diesel oil, petrol, kerosene oil, crude oil, or other kinds of liquid fuel, etc;
- (ii) more robust construction for cross-country performance;
- (iii) higher ground clearance;
- (iv) greater horse-power; and
- (v) better increased payload by 30 per cent.

(c) At present with a minimum of about 30 per cent indigenous components, the production cost of a Shaktiman truck is approximately Rs. 36,000.

(d) In addition to the operational advantages of Shaktiman truck over the type of Army truck hitherto in use, there is a saving of cost amounting to Rs. 7,500 per truck.

Shri S. C. Samanta: What attempts are being made to manufacture the remaining seventy per cent. of the components?

Shri Raghuramaiah: On a number of occasions that has been explained in the House. We are trying to do it by progressive stages and where necessary machines complementary to what we have are being arranged and every step is being taken to keep up to the schedule and perhaps, complete the process even much earlier.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether we are buying these conventional trucks at present and if so, when we expect it to be self-sufficient?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): We are buying no trucks from outside, either in India or abroad, of this particular category.

Shri N. N. Patel: What will be the capacity of such vehicles?

Mr. Speaker: He wants the tonnage.

Shri Krishna Menon: They are, for our regulation purposes, marked as three ton vehicles but in the tests at Ahmednagar in fact they carry 4.5 tons.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The statement says that the cost of production of a Shaktiman truck is approximately Rs. 36,000. May I know the break-down in the cost of production and also whether the overhead costs are also included in this figure of cost of production?

Shri Krishna Menon: Without including the overhead costs, the cost of production cannot legitimately be calculated; that is included. There is a procedure laid down satisfactory to finance and audit in these matters.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The break-down of the cost?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow the break-down. I think the Parliament itself will break down.

Seth Govind Das: What are our requirements of these vehicles? Will they all be available from the Jabalpur factory?

Shri Krishna Menon: No, Sir. On account of the desire of the Government not to expend immediately unnecessary amount of money in putting huge factories, these vehicles are assembled at Jabalpur. The different parts are made in different places according to the facilities available. For instance, some of these parts are made in Ambarnath others are made in Calcutta. But the factory is in Jabalpur because that is where the assembly line is.

श्री राम सिंह भाई वर्मा : श्रीमान, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार को यह ज्ञात है कि इस कारखाने के अन्दर गाड़ियों के कुछ पार्ट्स और बाडी बनाये जाते हैं। लेकिन उसके प्रसेम्बलिंग के लिये मिलिटरी

के ऊंचे पदाधिकारी अतिरिक्त रखे गये हैं और इसलिये कास्ट आफ प्राइडकमन ज्यादा आता है ?

Shri Raghuramiah: It has already been stated that we have indigenous components to the extent of 30 per cent.

New Universities

*1129. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new Universities are contemplated to be opened; and

(b) whether Central Government have been consulted in the matter?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The University Grants Commission is usually consulted in such cases.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What are the places where new universities are contemplated and may I know whether the Central Government or the University Grants Commission had given any guidance in the matter?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As far as the Commission is aware, there are proposals for opening universities in Kanpur, Meerut and three universities in West Bengal—Kalyani, Darjeeling and Burdwan—Durgapur area. The Commission has generally approved the proposals as far as the West Bengal Universities are concerned. It has asked for some more information about the universities in U.P. and it has not so far received that information from the State Government.

Shri D. C. Sharma: In view of the fact that the universities in U.P. are not giving a very good account of themselves, why is it that the Government is opening more universities there and not in the other States of India? . . . (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: It is no good casting aspersion on autonomous bodies.

Shri Raghunath Singh: It should be expunged.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will withdraw that portion.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I withdraw. I shall put it in a different way. Why are so many universities being opened in Uttar Pradesh and not in the other States of India?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It is really a matter for the State Government to decide. The Commission deals with some development programmes at the post graduate level and the ultimate responsibility is that of the State Governments in this matter.

सेठ भोविन्द दास : क्या सरकार को मालूम है कि उत्तर प्रदेश की आवादी बहुत अधिक है और भारतीय संस्कृति का विकास उत्तर प्रदेश में ही आ है, इसलिये क्या इस बात का खयाल रखा जायगा कि वहाँ पर जितने भी विश्वविद्यालय बनाये जा सकें, बनाये जायें ?

Mr. Speaker: Next question. There are fourteen States. Hon. Members want to make a suggestion as to why universities should not be opened or strengthened.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I shall ask a general question. While speaking in the last session, the hon. Minister stated categorically that he was opposed to the opening of any new universities. May I know whether he is taking any steps to pursue that policy or he is leaving it absolutely to the discretion of the State Governments to open universities?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: As I have already said, in this matter the ultimate responsibility is with the State Government. When this proposal was made by the U.P. Government, the Commission told them that they must depend upon their own resources.