

thing without adequate information about details. There is a difference of opinion even about facts and figures. Therefore, we should have proper facts and figures and then we can consider this in consultation with the Assam Government and others concerned.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that it is computed that India would annually consume 96 thousand tons of aviation spirit and the oil refinery is perhaps going to produce about 2,05,000 tons of aviation spirit, may I know if the Government would propose to make the refinery not an aviation-biased project but a kerosene-cum-diesel-cum-motor spirit biased project?

Mr. Speaker: These are all suggestions made.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I regret I am not an expert enough to answer these questions.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In view of the fact that petroleum is an exclusively Central subject, may I know why the State Governments are embarking upon project reports and the like?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): So far as the drawing up of a project report is concerned, it will be unfair to suggest that the Assam Government is embarking upon a project report. It is true that this news item has appeared that they are consulting a French consultant but that is not with the object of preparing a regular project report but to assist them in the preparation of their case because they are pressing that it should be located somewhere in Assam and they are trying to collect materials in support of that proposition.

Shri Hem Barua: When the State Minister makes a statement

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. We are not going to press these things here and decide the issue here whether it sought to be in Assam or Calcutta or

elsewhere. The matter is being considered.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

अकाबा की खाड़ी

*६१७ श्री हनु नारायण : क्या प्रचल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सऊदी अरब ने अमरीका को एक ज्ञापन भेजा है जिसमें उसने कहा है कि वह अकाबा की खाड़ी में से गैर-अरबी जहाजों को गुजरने नहीं देगा और यह भी कहा है कि अकाबा की खाड़ी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग नहीं है ; और

(ख) क्या इस खाड़ी से भारत के जहाज भी गुजरते हैं ?

वैदेशिक कार्य उमंत्रि (श्रीमती लक्ष्मी मेनन) : (क) सऊदी सरकार द्वारा अमरीका की सरकार को भेजे गए किसी ऐसे ज्ञापन (मेमोरेण्डम) का भारत सरकार को पता नहीं है। बहरहाल, सऊदी सरकार ने सब देशों के नाम एक नोट भेजा था, जिसमें कहा था कि अकाबा की खाड़ी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जलमार्ग नहीं है और यह कि खाड़ी साथ वाले अरब देशों का प्रादेशिक जलक्षेत्र है।

(ग) ग्राम तौर से भारतीय जहाज इस खाड़ी से नहीं गुजरते।

Import Restrictions

*618. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange likely to be saved on account of restriction on imports for the quarter ending the 30th September, 1957?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): The current import policy is an interim policy for the period July-September, 1957, designed to facilitate firstly, adoption of the fiscal year basis for the regulation of imports and