

National Coal Development Corporation

*968. **Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts, if any, made in the Sounda Colliery of the National Coal Development Corporation to introduce labour participation in management;

(b) whether it has been successful; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) to (c). Sounda is a new Colliery opened in March, 1958 and it is too early to consider the question of introducing the scheme of labour participation in management there.

Shri Keshava: Has this effort been made in any other unit under the Corporation in the private sector?

Shri L. N. Mishra: We have introduced this system so far as mines are concerned, only in one place Argada. So far as the other units are concerned, we have introduced in 18 units and we propose to introduce in 19 units more shortly.

Shri Keshava: May I know if this has resulted in increase of production?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It is too early to assess. Apart from material gains, we expect better results, that is, the human aspect of the problem: making labour equal partners with capital. That is a greater gain.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: What is the main function of this Council. May I know whether they can discuss bonus and wages?

Shri L. N. Mishra: The functions of these joint councils are divided into three: (i) seeking information as regards balance sheets and planning etc., (ii) items dealing with rationalisation and production programmes, (iii) welfare measures like safety and transport. They can directly adminis-

ter these functions. So far as financial question is concerned, it does not come under the purview of this council.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know, in the joint council, whether they are nominees of recognised unions or whether they are elected from workers?

Shri L. N. Mishra: They are mainly elected. In Kerala, some trade unions have put their own nominees.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know the grounds for not introducing this in the remaining 19 units of the National Coal Development Corporation?

Shri L. N. Mishra: Efforts are being made for introduction. We hope 19 units will be covered very soon but not under the N.C.D.C.

Indians in South Africa

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*969. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South African Government has made any approach to open negotiations with India and Pakistan on the treatment of people of Indian and Pakistani origin in South Africa as recommended by U.N. General Assembly recently; and

(b) whether the negotiations have been started?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) and (b). No.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: In view of this fact may I know whether the Government has made any complaint to the U.N.O. in this regard?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have made many complaints and it has been brought to the notice of the U.N.O. in 12 of its annual sessions so far.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the nature of the hardships and grievances of Indian people in South Africa?

Mr. Speaker: In one word it can be said.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Racial discrimination.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या पाकिस्तान सरकार ने हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार को कोई प्रार्थना की है कि अफ्रीका की सरकार के साथ इस सम्बन्ध में बातचीत की जाये ?

प्रधान मंत्री तथा बंधेक्षिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) : इस बारे में आम तौर से पाकिस्तान की हकूमत और हिन्दुस्तान का शासन एक साथ काम करते हैं, मद्दिवरे से काम करते हैं, यानी इस बारे में कोई मुखालिफत नहीं है ।

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the good offices of any Commonwealth country have been sought in this matter to resolve this deadlock?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no question of seeking their offices. The matter comes up. Annually it has come up for the last 12 years in the United Nations and progressively there has been a condemnation of the attitude of the South African Government. Some of the Commonwealth countries which have been put in an embarrassing position, have abstained. I am not clear, I do not remember which one voted which way. One or two have voted in favour of South Africa, that is to say, in favour of the position that the matter should not be considered in the United Nations, not in favour of apartheid, I mean. Others have voted against it.

Shri Joachim Alva: A few of the African States have become independent recently. Some more are on the way of becoming self-governing by 1960 or 1961. May I know whether we are carrying on active negotiations with those States as their nationals are also affected?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no question of carrying on negotiations because we are all of one opinion about it.

Shri Achar: May I know, in this matter, whether India and Pakistan jointly act or independently?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The only action that takes place is either at the United Nations or in addressing communications to the South African Government. We have addressed communications independently, but on the same lines. That is, we have consulted each other, Pakistan and India, and more or less the same form of communication has been addressed to the South African Government asking for a conference on the lines suggested by the United Nations.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know if the Government's attention has been drawn to a statement by Dr. Banda who is one of the leading leaders of Africa that Indians should also leave that country because they consider themselves superior to Africans?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: No, Sir. My attention has not been drawn to that.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if there is any provision in the United Nations Charter which can be invoked to enable Indians and Pakistanis to have a conference with the South African Government to solve this problem?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Is the hon. Member referring to any kind of action to be taken or resolution to be passed?

Shri D. C. Sharma: Action.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There are articles in the United Nations Charter and when a breach of the international peace comes into the picture, action can be taken. Otherwise it is by resolutions that the United Nations functions. They have passed resolutions repeatedly regretting the attitude of the Union Government of South Africa. As for any action to be taken against it, no such move has

been made and as the U.N. is constituted, there is no chance of any such move succeeding.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that Indian capital independently estimated is £10 million in Pretoria and £30 million in Durban, may I know what steps Government have taken to see that these uprooted Indians get adequate compensation for their fixed assets, let alone the goodwill?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Hon. Member will remember he uses the word "Indian" repeatedly. There are no Indian nationals in South Africa.

Shri Hem Barua: They are citizens of South Africa.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: They are South African nationals, South African citizens of Indian descent.

Shri Hem Barua: Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Therefore, legally and constitutionally we cannot deal with them about South African citizens, what they do about them. It is true that on other grounds, historical as well as humanitarian, we do deal with this question in the United Nations, but we cannot take up the question of compensation etc.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Is there any truth in the statement recently made that there is a change of heart so far as the Government in South Africa now is concerned in regard to the treatment of Indians?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am afraid I have not been able to look into their hearts.

Textile Mills

*970. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any working result has been published in respect of some of the Textile Mills which have been taken over by the Central Government or the State Governments; and

(b) whether Government intend to take over other closed Textile Mills?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Information being collected from the State Governments. No mill has been taken over so far by the Central Government. Four mills are so far run by State Governments, two in Bombay and two in Kerala.

(b) No, Sir. Every case is considered on merits and suitable action is taken.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some of the State-run mills as well as private mills sell their sized beams to unlicensed power looms, and if not, whether Government will have a check on that?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That hardly arises out of this question, because this is in regard to what happened to the closed mills, but as far as sale of beams is concerned from the organised sector, without the Textile Commissioner's permission I do not think any mill can give it to an unlicensed power loom.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether amenities to labour as provident fund, holidays and other amenities are given to these State-run mills as in the private mills?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There has been no relaxation in the statutory obligation, but there may have been, at the start of a particular mill, certain amount of compromise between labour and the Government-run mill in order to enable them to make a start.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In reply to the previous question the hon. Minister stated that the U.P. Government was likely to take over the Atherton West Mills at Kanpur. May I know whether a final decision has since been taken in this connection?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir. We have recommended and the U.P. Government is keen. The survey party has completed its report, and the matter is under consideration of both the Governments.