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# LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT NEW DELHI

August, 1973 | Sravana, 1895 (Saka)
Price: Rs. 0.25

# LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

# Corrigenda

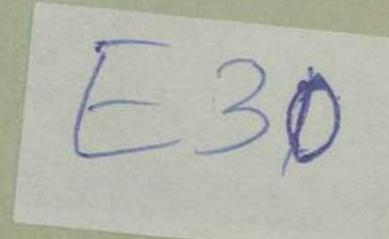
to the record of evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the Mines (Amend-ment) Bill, 1972.

Page 1, line 11, for "2. Shri Bhagirath Bhanwar" read "3. Shri Khemchandbhai Chavda"

Page 3, col. 1, line 21 from bottom, for "horizental" read "horizontal"

Page 5, col. 2, line 18, for "question"

Page 9, col. 2, line 1, after "instead"



## JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1972

#### COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

#### Shri Anant Prasad Sharma—Chairman

#### MEMBERS

## Lok Sabha

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- 3. Shri Chapalendu Bhattacharyyia
- 4. Shri Dinen Bhattacharya
- 5. Shri Khemchandbhai Chavda
- 6. Shri M. C. Daga
- 7. Shri Anadi Charan Das
- 8. Shri K. G. Deshmukh
- 9. Shri C. D. Gautam
- 10. Shri Bhogendra Jha
- \*11. Shri rurushottam Kakodkar
  - 12. Shrimati Sheila Kaul
  - 13. Shri Surendra Mohanty
- 14 Shri Boksi Nayak
- 15. Shri Paripoornanand Painuli
- 16. Shri Damodar Pandey
- 17. Shri Prabhudas Patel
- 18 Shri R. Balakrishna Pillai
- 119. Shri Ramji Ram
- 20. Ch. Ram Prakash
- 21 Shri Bnola Raut
- 22. Shri P. Antony Reddi
- 23. Ch. Sadhu Ram
- 24. Shri R. N. Sharma
- 25. Shri T. Sohan Lal
- 26. Sardar Swaran Singh Sokhi
- 27. Shri R. P. Ulaganambi
- 28. Shri T. V. Chandrashekharappa Veerabasappa
- \*\*29. Shri G. Venkatswamy
  - 30. Shri G. P. Yadav

<sup>\*</sup>Appointed w.e.f. 3-4-73 vice Shri Balgovind Verma resigned.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Appointed w.e.f. 8-3-73 vice Shri R. K. Khadilkar resigned.

#### Rajya Sabha

- 31. Shri Kalyan Roy
- 32. Shri M. K. Mohta
- 33 Shri Monoranjan Roy
- 34. Shri Virendra Kumar Sakhalecha
- 35. Shri B. K. Mahanti
- 36. Shri Sita Ram Singh
- 37. Shri Showaless K. Shilla
- 38. Shri Vinaykumar Ramlal Parashar
- 39. Shri Mahendra Bahadur Singh
- 40. Shri Kali Mukherjee
- 41. Shri Jagan Nath Bhardwaj
- 42. Shri Qasim Ali Abid
- 43. Shri Himmat Sinh
- 44 Shri Dwijendralal Sen Gupte
- 45. Shri Inder Singh

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

- 1. Shri P. L. Gupta-Additional Legislative Counsel.
- 2. Shri V. S. Bhashyam—Deputy Legislative Counsel.

# REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT)

- 1. Shri P. M. Nayak-Secretary
- 2. Shri N. P. Dube-Additional Secretary
- 3. Shri D. S. Nim-Joint Secretary
- 4. Shri H. B. Ghose-Director General of Mines Safety
- 5. Shri V. K. Chanana—Deputy Secretary
- 6. Shri P. R. Nayar-Under Secretary

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri P. K. Patnaik-Joint Secretary

Shri H. G. Paranjpe-Deputy Secretary

## WITNESSES EXAMINED

S. No. Name of witness	Date of hearing	Page
1. J. & K. Minerals Ltd., J. & K. Government Undertaking, Srinagar	28-6-1972	3
Spokesmen:		
1. Dr. T. G. K. Charlu, Managing Director. 2. Shri L. N. Misra, Chief Mining Engineer.		
3. Shri K. C. Dass Puri, Deputy Chief Mining	Engineer.	
2. Directorate of Geology Mining Government of J & K Srinagar	··do-	8
Spokesmen:		
<ol> <li>Shri S. C. Chakravarty, Director.</li> <li>Shri S. M. Hassan, Joint Director.</li> <li>Shri N. U. Vohra, Mining Engineer.</li> <li>Shri M. L. Warrihoo, Mining Engineer.</li> <li>Shri H. R. Raina, Mineral Officer.</li> <li>Joint Committee of Workers, Kala-</li> </ol>		
kot Coal Mines, Kalakot (Jam-	-do-	
mu)  Spokesmen:  1. Shri K. R. Khajuria, General Secretary of Workers Association.		*

2. Shri C. M. Putt Branch Secretary.

3. Shri G. M. Butt, President, All Mines Association

4. Shri A. S. Chauhan, President, Minerals and Industrial Workers Association.

# JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE MINES (Amendment) BILL, 1972

RECORD OF EVIDENCE TENDERED BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1972

CONTRACTOR OF THE STATE OF THE

Thursday, the 28th June, 1973 at 09.00 hours in Committee Room, Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly, Srinagar

#### PRESENT

Shri Arant Prasad Sharma-Chairman

MEMBERS

. Lok Sabha

- 2. Shri Bhagirath Bhanwar
- 2. Shri Bhagirath Bhanwar
- 4. Shri M. C. Daga
- 5. Shri Anadi Charan Das
- 6. Shri K. G. Deshmukh
- 7. Shri Bhogendra Jha
- 8. Shri Purushottam Kakodkar
- 9. Shrimati Sheila Kaul
- 10. Shri Boksi Nayak
- 11. Shri Paripoornanand Painuli
- 12. Shri Damodar Pandey
- 13. Shri Prabhudas Patel
- 14. Shri Ramji Ram
- 15. Ch. Ram Prakash
- 16. Shri Bhola Raut
- 17. Shri T. Sohan Lal
- 18. Shri G. P. Yadav
- 19. Sardar Swaran Singh Sokhi

### Rajya Sabha

- 20. Shri Kalyan Roy
- 21. Shri Monoranjan Roy
- 22. Shri Virendra Kumar Sakhalecha
- 23. Shri Sita Ram Singh
- 24. Shri Jagan Nath Bhardwaj
- 25. Shri Qasim Ali Abid
- 26. Shri Dwijendralal Sen Gupta
- 27. Shri Vinaykumar Ramlal Parashar

# REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT)

- 1. Shri S. S. Prasad-Deputy Director General of Mines Safety.
- 2. Shri P. R. Nayar-Under Secretary.

#### SECRETARIAT

Shri K. K. Saxena-Under Secretary.

#### WITNESSES EXAMINED

## 1. J. & K. Ltd., J. & K. Government Undertaking, Srinagar.

#### Spokesmen:

- 1. Dr. T. G. K. Charlu, Managing Director.
- 2. Shri L. N. Misra, Chief Mining Engineer.
- 3. Shri K. C. Dass Puri, Deputy Chief Mining Engineer.

## L. Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of J. & K., Srinagar.

### Spokesmen:

- 1. Shri S. C. Chakravarty, Director.
- 2. Shri S. M. Hassan, Joint Director.
- 3. Shri N. U. Vohra, Mining Engineer.
- 4. Shri M. L. Warriboo, Mining Engineer.
- 5. Shri H. R. Raina, Mineral Officer.

## III. Joint Committee of Workers, Kalakot Coal Mines, Kalkot (Jammu)'

## Spokesmen:

- 1. Shri K. R. Khajuria, General Secretary of Workers Association.
- 2. Shri O. P. Khajuria, Branch Secretary.
- 3. Shri G. M. Butt, President, All Mines Association.
- 4. Shri A. S. Chauhan, President, Minerals and Industrial Workers Association.

# 1. J. & K. Minerals Ltd., J. & K. Government Undertaking, Srinagar

Spokesmen:

- 1. Dr. T. G. K. Charlu, Managing Director.
- 2. Shri L. N. Misra, Chief Mining Engineer.
- 3. Shri K. C. Dass Puri, Deputy Chief Mining Engineer.

(The witnesses were called in and they took their seats)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I welcome all of you for appearing before this Committee. I would like to inform you that whatever statement you make before the Committee, will be a public document. In case you want that the whole or any part of your evidence be treated as confidential, you have to make a specific request for this. But even then your evidence will be made available to the Members of Parliament.

Mr. Charlu, apart from the memorandum submitted by you, would you like to say something more in support of your memorandum or in addition to that?

DR. T. G. K. CHARLU: Sir, we have covered all our suggestions in this memorandum. However, I would like to inform our main difficulties in respect of the working of mines in our State. Our mines vary from horizental to almost vertical. So some standard provisions of the Mines Act cannot be enforced as these are being enforced in Bihar. So we have requested that we should be given some relief in this respect.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In this memorandum you have suggested that in the definition of "agent" words "including the person(s) exercising financial control" should also be included. What is the justification for this amendment?

DR. T. G. K. CHARLU: Sometimes it happens that the Chief Engineer or the Dy. Chief Engineer wants some assistance from the agent. The agent cannot help them as he does not have sufficient administrative and financial powers.

SHRI V. K. SAKHALECHA: You have suggested that financial powers should be given to the agent but you have not suggested that financial advisor should be included in the definition of the Bill.

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Sir, in the private sector financial powers have been given to the agents. But in the Public Sector the agent has not been given financial powers. Unless such powers are given to the agent, he will not be in a position to perform his duties in accordance with the Mines Act.

SHRI V. K. SAKHALECHA: So far the Mines Act is concerned, it is applicable in both private and public sectors. Your difficulty cannot be removed merely by giving financial powers to the agent. Your difficulty can be removed if you suggest changes in the whole set up. Do you want that the Mines Manager should also be given financial as well as executive powers?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Would you tell us how many persons have been injured and how many killed in the coal mines of J & K State so far?

SHRI K C. DASS PURI: So far the private sector is concerned, I am not in a position to give figures in this respect at the moment. But as regards coal mines in the public sector, 12 perons were injured and one was killed during the last year.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Have they been compensated and how much?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: An amount of Rs. 12,000 was given to the family members of the workers who were killed.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Do you have rescue stations in the mines area?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: No sir.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: How many mines are in the public sector in J & K State?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: There are many mines and 12 hundred employees are working there.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Do you have any objection in regard to safety measures under the Act?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: No sir.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: In case the equipment supplied by the manufacturer is sub-standard who is held responsible for this?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: It is the responsibility of the manufacturer that the equipment is supplied as standard one.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Is it not possible for the management to check the material?

SHRI K. C DASS PURI: It is not possible.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Then it is a very serious thing.

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: In J&K State no sub-standard equipment has been supplied so far.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Do you issue shoes to be used by the workers inside the mines free of cost?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Do you issue uniforms to the workers free of cost and how many times those are issued in a year?

SHRI K C. DASS PURI: Uniforms are supplied to the workers free of cost, sometimes twice in a year and sometimes more than two times. Last year thrice uniforms were issued to the workers.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Do you have women workers in the coal mines of J&K?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: We have got no women workers in the mines

We have got only two teachers and four nurses there.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: What is the actual production in the mines here?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: It is 40,000 tonnes.

SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL: Are you using all the coal?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: About 20,000 tonnes of coal has been left over due to the closure of thermal power station there.

SHRI KHEMCHANDBHAI CHAV-DA: Do the mines in the J&K. State function throughout the year?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir. The mines function throughout the year.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: What is the number of underground mines in the State?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: There are. 106 underground mines in our state.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: In: your memorandum on page 2 you. have said that the Mines Manager in the coal mine must have powers financial as well as executive to execute. the works as per the provisions of the Mines Act, Regulations and the Rules made thereunder. Secondly you have said that in case of emergency either the instructions should be issued by the person who holds managerial. qualifications and is superior to the Manager in the organisation and who represents the interest of the owner of the mine or by a committee consisting of technical experts including the Inspector Director of the area, What is your concrete suggestion in this regard?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Our contention is unles the management is given sufficient financial powers it would be very difficult for them to function in accordance with the Mines Act.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Do you think that the workers working in the mines will be put to loss if

these powers are not given to the management?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: In your memorandum you have suggested an amendment in Section 18 (4) to the fact that "The responsibility of owner agent Manager so far as the compliance of Mines Act is concerned, should be limited to the management, supervision, direction and control of the mine or a part thereof." As you are aware of the fact that mines regulations Act is applicable throughout the country, is it not applicable here?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir, it is applicable. If the Director General of Mines safety is vested with this power only it will not be possible to enforce the provisions of the Act strictly especially in this state.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: Suppose some body goes in your office and sets fire in the office. Don't you have any power to take action against that person?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir, we take disciplinary action against such persons.

SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY: What more do you want in this respect?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Sir, as I have already suggested that more responsibility should be fixed on the workers of the mines.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Has any such case been registered by your Department ever challaned by the Labour Department.

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: No Sir.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Have you ever enquired in such matters?

SHRI K. C. PURI: Yes sir.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Would you please let us know as to how many cases in respect of injuries or deaths you have registered so far? If so, since when these cases have been registered?

SHRIK. C. DASS PURI: Sir, as:
far as I am concerned. I think 12:
cases have so far been taken into
consideration for the last one and
a half year. Actually I do not know
the actual number.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: You see Ga page 3 of your memorandum, Section 83 (3)— you have said that "certain powers to issue exemptions in cases where it is justified, should be vested with the Deputy Director of Mines Safety of the area in case of far flung mines for quick disposal of cases." So In this connection I would like to know, have you ever applied to the Central Government requestion for certain powers to issue exemptions?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: No. Sir, we have not applied to the Central Government.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You see Mr. Daga, we must listen to the suggestions he puts before us and then it is our duty to consider them. Apart from calling an explanation from him, if you want to ask any more questions you can.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: On page 2, Section 17(3)(4). Here in the memorandum you have already suggested that the Managers should be vested with the financial as well as executive powers but as far I am concerned, it is already mentioned in the original Bill. What more concrete idea is yours in this respect now?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: As is evident from the memorandum itself that the managerial staff should be empowered to execute the works as per the provisions of the Mines Act, regulations and the rules made thereunder.

SHRI V. K. SAKHALECHA: Will you please explain to me the financial as well as executive powers?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Sir, with those words I mean that financial powers should be given to the managerial staff so that more responsibility is felt by the managerial staff as well as the workers.

MR. CHAIRMAN: In short he means that the management has not got over all financial powers.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: So far the amendments put forth by them in their memorandum I feel that these are irrelevant and they have no reasons for these amendments.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is for the Committee to decide later on what amendment should be incorporated in the Bill. We should at present allow them to put forth their explanation as they want to put in.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: On page of your memorandum you have proposed amendment in section 2 subsection 1 regarding definition persons (Employed) in a mine. You have said "In the mines where regular despatch of coal is not being done by the owner through railways or trucks, the persons engaged in the transportation and loading of coal from the despatch point, who are not engaged by the Mines Manager should be exempted from the provisions of the Mines Act as in such cases the Mines Manager will have no control over these operations." What is the concrete idea behind this amendment?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: As has been made clear in this particular proposed amendment, the Mines Manager will have no control over the persons employed for the transportation and loading of coal from the despatch point.

SHRI J. N. BHARDWAJ: You want that more powers should be given to the inspector of Mines. Will it not create fear in the minds of workers working in the mines unnecessarily?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: I do not want like this. In fact this provision has been brought by us on the basis: of difficulties being experienced in other states from time to time.

SHRI K. G. DESHMUKH: Do you want any change in the provision of the act whereunder the equipment is required to be purchased as standard one?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: There is already a provisions in the Act that the equipment will be purchased as approved by the DGMS.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: My question is whether management should be held responsible for getting the sub-standard equipment.

SHRI K. C. DAS PURI: It is the responsibility of the manufacturer to supply the standard equipment.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: The management should also see that the equipment supplied is according to their satisfaction.

Dr. T. G. K. CHARLU: I would like to say something in this respect. Generally, equipment supplied by the manufacturer is approved by the D.G.M.S. As such the management cannot take any responsibility in this respect.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: It is your responsibility for the supply of sub-standard equipment. In our country you see it happens in many cases where sub-standard goods are manufactured by the manufacturers. As such if care is not taken at the time of purchase of the goods, it is quite possible that sub-standard goods are purchased.

DR. T. G. K. CHARLU: It is not possible for the management to check the sub-standard equipment at the time of its purchase.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: Anyhow I do not want to argue with you on

this particular point. I feel that certain powers should be invested to the management to ch eck the sub-standard equipment.

My second question is about overtime. Do you agree that the workers working in the mines should get over-time?

SHRI K. C. DAS PURI: Yes, Sir.

have suggested that "In case if the survey examination is conducted in or around the mine, the time spent by any person in connection with survey should be counted as on duty for which, if he does overtime, should be paid to him. But in case the examination is being conducted away from the mine, the period spent should be treated as on duty..." Is it not necessary in such cases to pay overtime?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Generally this provision has been kept for the qualified persons like Chief Engineer and the Dy. Chief Engineer.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: It has been my impression that you want more powers for the management and less responsibility for them.

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: The management do share the responsibility and they have to face many difficulties in this respect.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sen Gupta wants the management should also share the full responsibility.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: You have suggested that "In case of the mines situated in far off places where inspection by the Chief Inspector of Mines or by any officer appointed by him cannot be made within 72 hours of the receipt of the notice by him, from the management of the mine, the authority to re-open the mines should be vested with the Mines Manager as a longer closure of the mine in certain cases may endanger the

safety of the mine or the production may suffer adversely." What is the idea behind this suggestion?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: You know that most of mines in J&K are situated at Kalakoto which is far away from Srinagar. In this way the Chief inspector of Mines will take at least two to three days to reach there from the day he gets the information.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: How far is Kalakoto from Jammu?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: It is about 200 miles from Srinagar and about 120 kilometers from Jammu.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: In case sub-standard equipment is supplied, what does the management do in this State?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Luckily in this State very little equipment is used. Keeping in view the experience of other States we have made a suggestion in the memorandum in this respect.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Do we take that so far J&K State is concerned, this question is hypothetical one.

SHRI K. C. DAS PURI: Yes, Sir.

SHRI MONORANJAN ROY: Can you give any instance where due to the negligence or violation of rules on the part of the workers, some workers might have injured or died in the country.

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: In 1963 I recollect that due to the violation of the rules by the workmen some of them died in the coal mines. Inspite of my repeated warning to them they were suspended by me once for the violation of rules.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: They continued to violate the rules inspite of your repeated warnings?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Did the management pay them the compensation?

SHRI K. C. DASS PURI: Yes sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: With this, examination of J&K Minerals Ltd., is over. We thank you all.

(The witnesses then withdrew)

II. Directorate of Geology & Mining, Government of J&K, Srinagar.

Spokesmen:

- 1. Shri S. C. Chakravarty. Director.
- 2. Shri S. M. Hassan, Joint Director.
- 3. Shri N. U. Vohra, Mining Engineer.
- 4. Shri M. L. Warrihoo, Mining Engineer.
- 5. Shri H. R. Raina, Mineral Officer.

(The witnesses were called in and they took their seats)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Chakaravarty before you start your explanation before the Committee, I would like to inform you that whatever you will say before the Committee, would be treated as public. In case you make a specific request for keeping your explanation as confidential, still it will be made available to the Members of Parliament.

SHI S. C. CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, I will submit that our witness may be treated as confidential one.

(The entire evidence tendered by the representatives of the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of J. & K. has been treated as confidential at their request. Two copies thereof have been kept in Parliament Library for reference by the Members of Parliament only.)

- I.I. Joint Committee of Workers, Kalakot Coal Mines, Kalakot (Jammu)

  Spokesmen:
  - 1. Shri K. R. Khajuria, General Secretary of Workers' Association.

2. Shri O. P. Khajuria, Branch Secretary.

- 3. Shri G. M. Butt, President, All Mines Association.
- 4. Shri A. S. Chauhan, President, Minerals and Industrial Workers' Association.

(The witnesses were called in and they took their seats)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Apart from the memorandum you have given to the Committee, whatever you say here will be published. Anything which you want to be treated as confidential, will also be made available to the Members of Parliament.

Do you want to say any thing more in support of your memorandum or something else?

SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: First of all I, on behalf of my colleagues, extend our thanks to the Members of the Committee that they have given us a chance to express our views before them. I am sorry that we could

not submit you a detailed memorandum because time at our disposal was very short. We received intimation on 23rd instant and that too without the amending bill.

We started from Kalakote on 26th instant and reached here today the 28th instant. We beg apology from the Hon'ble members of the Committee for not submitting a detailed memorandum.

In the State most of the mines are situated in the Kalakote region. At Kalakote eight mines are there.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How far is Kalakote from Jammu? SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: 118 K. metres from Jammu.

This State is backward State and we have not got a lot of equipment to extract minerals from various mines to increase the national wealth of our country. The J&K Minerals Department was established 10 years back. We want to put our difficulties before the Committee so that they could put the same before other members of Parliament in the House because that House is considered supreme in the country. There is sufficient quantity of coal available in Kalakot mines. There is a thermal power station there under the control of the Electric Department of Jammu & Kashmir State. Since the takeover of the Power Station by Electric Department, the Power House is running only occasionally in spite of the fact that there is acute power shortage throughout the country; and as a result of which they have refused to take coal now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why have they stopped to take the coal?

SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: Because thermal power station is closed since last four months. Whatever the reasons may be, they should continue to take the coal.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: How much coal is there?

SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: 23 thousand tonnes, Sir. If they don't take the coal, 12 hundred persons will be rendered un-employed. Now we come to the amending Bill. We have suggested that agent should be given financial powers with only one purpose that delay be avoided in making some immediate purchases.

Then we have made a suggestion in regard to amending section 17 (2). As per the amending section, one representative will be nominated by the management in the Union. This is objectionable. In this way the Union will come under the influence of the Management. We want

that instead proposed two persons, four persons should be there. Two persons must be from one of the organisations i.e., INTUC, AITUC or Hind Mazdoor Panchayat in case the registered unions are affiliated to these foregoing unions; otherwise the nominations should be had from the concerned registered unions working in the areas.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do the safety rules apply in the State?

SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: No Sir.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Have you made the complaint?

SHRI A. S. CHAUHAN: We have made complaints so many times but no action has been taken by the concerned authorities.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: To whom did you make the complaint?

SHRI A. S. CHAUHAN: Director General of Mines Safety.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Did you make this complaint before the enforcement of this Act or after it?

SHRI A. S. CHAUHAN: We made complaint in 1970.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Was the compensation paid to the injured labourers?

SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: Out of seven injured persons, compensation was paid only to two persons.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Did you approach the labour deptt.?

SHRI A. S. CHAUHAN: The labour deptt. of the state does not care of us.

SHRI V. K. SAKHALECHA: Whether you had made the claim for compensation for all the injured persons?

SHRI K. R. KHAJURIA: There is a very complicated procedure for making such claims here.

SHRI M. C. DAGA: Had the labour department challaned at any time?

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SHRI A. S. CHAUHAN: No Sir.

SHRI D. L. SEN GUPTA: To which laour organisation do you belong?

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SHRI K R. KHAJURIA: We do not belong to any such organisation, we are independent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank your very much.

(The Committee then adjourned).

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