

The moment you give notice, if you have a right to raise it, and if everybody gives notice under Rule 377, well, the House cannot continue. The Speaker can regulate only if you follow the rules. If you do not follow the rules, nobody can regulate. Put anybody as Speaker in my place, he will be equally helpless.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You do not equate this with the question of inaccurate statement by a Minister, which comes under Direction 155. That is different altogether. Please apply your mind.

MR. SPEAKER: You would not allow me to apply my mind!

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: All right, Sir. Permit me to raise it tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: I cannot give any promise.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Not a written promise; only verbal.

Demands for Grants, 1977-78 in respect of Ministry of Steel and Mines submitted to the vote of Lok Sabha.

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 30-3-1977		Amount of Demand for Grant submitted to the vote of the House.	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES					
84.	Department of Steel	26,31,04,000	1,86,59,12,000	52,62,09,000	3,27,18,25,000
85.	Department of Mines	10,67,000	..	21,33,000	..
86.	Mines and Minerals	14,50,80,000	22,49,00,000	27,01,60,000	42,98,00,000

*Moved with the recommendation of the Vice-President acting as President.

12.36 hrs.

DEMANDS *FOR GRANTS, 1977-78—
contd.

MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 84 to 86 relating to the Ministry of Steel and Mines for which 5 hours have been allotted.

Motion moved:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1978 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 84 to 86 relating to the Ministry of Steel and Mines."

MR. SPEAKER Hon Members whose cut motions to the Demands for Grants have been circulated may, if they desire to move their cut motions, send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move. Shri George

SHRI A C GEORGE (Mukandapuram) Sir, the Ministry of Steel & Mines has come forward with Demands for Grants amounting to Rs 700 crores. This is a very vital ministry, the backbone of the industrialisation of this country. From a production capacity of 13 million tonnes of steel within a short span of 17 to 18 years we are in the proud situation where in 1976-77 our steel plants were able to achieve a performance of a little more than 10 million tonnes of crude steel and 7.8 million tonnes of saleable steel. There were days when we were entirely depending on import of steel. Even now for some specialised items we depend on imports. Only two or three years ago, we were importing nearly Rs 370 crores worth of different types of steel and at the same time our maximum export was less than Rs 25 crores. For the first time in 1976-77 we have achieved an export performance of more than Rs 350 crores. About imports, I have got figures for only 9 months. On that computation, our import may be just Rs 120 crores, which means in the matter of steel and steel products, our country is next net exporter. For this performance, I would like to congratulate the Ministry and perhaps my good friend, Shri Biju Patnaik also, because at least at one time, he had something to do with planning. This country is universally acclaimed as very rich in minerals especially in iron ore of rich quality. A rough estimate is that the established proven deposits are more than 20,000 million tonnes. And some of our deposits are the best known in the world.

Sir, we feel happy and proud about

the performance of 10 million tons of crude steel or 7.8 million tons of saleable steel. There was a recent study that the production of steel after 2000 A.D. will be roughly 1750 million tons, and it is hoped that perhaps the contribution of the developing countries may be 550 million tons and we put ourselves and feel happy saying "After all it is a good performance". In 1977 our present rate of production was only 10 million tons in comparison to what is going to be 1750 million tons and here is a country which is bestowed and which is rich in everything that is needed for the development of the steel industry. We have got excellent and unfathomable deposits of iron ore we have got the coal we have got the manpower and we can be proud that recently we have the expertise which incidentally was going to foreign countries in competition with sophisticated and developed countries. Let us be proud of MECON organisation which has come up by the expertise and skill of Indians or the brain of our research scholars and they were able to compete with international markets and get many of the contracts even putting up a stiff competition with Japan and South Korea. When we think of the 10 million tons of production, let us also remember that a very small country with a population of 4 crores like South Korea where they have practically no iron ore and practically nothing to speak of in coal except their manpower and skill, their production is slightly more than the Indian production. Some two or three years back when I had visited some of the South Korean steel plants, I was surprised to find that they were able to construct a plant of the capacity which at the second stage will be equivalent to the Billai steel plant within a short span of 40 months. This is what the South Koreans did in regard to Pohang steel plant. But at the same time when we think of the Steel Ministry or what Mr Biju Patnaik is planning or if at all he cares to go by the White Paper presented in May 1976, because of the

gestation period it will come to fruition and it will come to 3-dimensional realisation only after 8 or 9 years. If you think of a steel plant now, every one of us knows that even with the best of expertise that is developing in our country, the production or commissioning will be after 7 or 8 years unless we have got some more re-scheduling. The classic example is that of the Salem steel plant. The Company was formed in May 1972 if I remember correctly and even now we are in the process of acquiring the land and Mr Biju Patnaik the Hon Minister for Steel with a lot of imagination and vision—and I think he has a great fondness for the South Indian States also—has made a provision of Rs 137 crores for the Salem Steel plant and the magnanimity was extended further by making a provision of Rs 1 crore each for Visakhapatnam and Vijayanagar projects. If you go to the figures in regard to the Bokaro project, you will find that between 17 million tons of the existing production capacity which will be finalised in August and the proposed expansion capacity of 4 million tons, the total outlay will be nearly Rs 1900 crores. So we can understand a project which has started 6 or 7 years back at the present rate of cost is going to cost the exchequer Rs 1900 crores. Naturally you can think of what it will be for the steel plant of Salem. The provision for the Salem steel plant is Rs 167 crores and the provision for Andhra and Mysore projects is Rs 1 crore each. Sir, it is time for us to plan ambitiously. We have got the expertise, we have got the necessary raw materials and we are also building the infra-structure. When we think about the non-ferrous metals also, this country is immensely rich. It only needs a proper mapping and a proper geological survey. It has been proved beyond doubt that the bauxite ore deposits in this country are one of the biggest in the whole world.

Sir, I need not remind the hon. Minister, Shri Biju Patnaik, that we have offers for beneficiation and

further processing of this bauxite ore. We have offers even for aluminium. In fact, if I understand correctly, there are some international offers even for bringing up one important aluminium smelter unit. Similarly, copper and zinc, these are vital non-ferrous metals of this country. If only we agree to process and exploit the ores that are at our disposal, this will be one of the richest countries in minerals.

When we think of the steel plants and when we plan for the future, as I pointed out, the proved and established deposits is 20,000 million tonnes. Even if we go in for an ambitious programme, we have got immense iron ore wealth. When I was looking through this Report I found that the projection for 1978-79 of the total mining of iron ore given was only 59 million tonnes. Out of this, nearly 38 million tonnes are to be used up in the steel plants and nearly 20 million tonnes are to be allotted for exports. If you go in for modern methods our country can realise immense foreign exchange from countries which are in need of this. In this we must go in for modern technology. It is not enough that we just mine it out and send it through some crude method and realise much lower than Brazil and Australia who are our competitors.

It is time for going in for an ambitious programme of pelletisation. I know you have made some provision for one or two pelletisation plants. But looking at the background of the immense reserves of iron ore which are of high quality—and incidentally we will get fines from which we can realise some good money, if we plan for pelletisation—the realisation from the iron ore exports in spite of our proposed ambitious programme of steel plants, will be great. We have to adopt modern technology for sponge iron. I find there is some pittance provided for in the matter of sponge iron also.

When we think of the immense reserves, what has been thought of is much too small. It is in this context

[Shri A. C. George]

that I would request the Minister to let us know his intentions, whether he agrees with the white Paper presented on steel in May 1976. In fact I was eagerly looking forward to his speech. That is why, Sir, in spite of your calling me, I was slightly hesitant because I wanted to be benefited by the initial remarks of the hon Minister because then I could have known his idea about his Demands for Grants what is his idea about this year and the coming year in the matter of steel and mines.

I thought that he will spell out his ideas about the functioning of the Ministry. In the absence of that naturally, I have to go by some of his speeches, recent speeches, and here I will recall one about mini steel plants. There are nearly 180 mini steel plants with a capacity of more than 4 million tonnes. The present situation in 1976-77 is, in spite of the slight picking up of the demand, the maximum production is only one million tonnes, which means 25 per cent capacity utilisation. There is of course the problem of excise duty and other problems. Yet the Minister for Steel and Mines, Shri Biju Patnaik the other day was saying that the "situation of the mini steel plants is, not only of sick units but of dying units". Can the hon Minister just throw his hands and say that they are not only sick units but dying units? Don't you think that he has got the responsibility to see that by adopting the various customs duty and financial adjustments necessary to revive this at a time when we are faced with great shortage, especially when the Government of India encouraged the mini steel plants where huge investment has gone into? Lakhs and lakhs of workers are involved in it. Now it is a languishing industry. Many of the units are not working and those which are working are also working only to 25 per cent utilisation, as is shown by this figure. So a scheme has to be evolved to see that the mini steel plants are revived and

put on a sound footing. If it comes to that, they must be allowed diversification so that production improves and they become viable and healthy units. You cannot sit back and say "those 180 units are dying and this is the best I can do".

Then I come to Kudremukh unit, another important aspect of this. For this project we were given help and funds from Iran to the tune of nearly 630 million dollars. Already 100 million dollars have been passed on to the Government of India. The agreement was signed on the 26th February 1976. According to the agreement, we have to make the first shipment of the beneficiated iron ore by August 1980. With all the money coming from Iran with the advance payment made by Iran, the project will be of immense benefit to us and the development of the entire area. If by some chance we slip and are not in a position to make the first shipment in August, 1980, not only will we lose our prestige, but we may ever suffer financially. So, I request the hon Minister that though only stingy provision has been made for the Southern States, at least in the matter of Kudremukh, where the money has come from Iran, he should take expeditious measure to see that the project is implemented according to schedule.

In the matter of non-ferrous metals, it has been proved that in many States including Orissa, we have got great deposits of this very fine raw material. In this context, I may also point out that in the districts of Cannanore, Calicut and Mallapuram in northern Kerala, the Geological Survey of India has proved that one of the best deposits is available. One of the most important raw materials for the processing of aluminium apart from bauxite itself, in fact I may say even the most important raw material, is electricity. Kerala is one State where we have surplus power.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalabandi) Orissa
is also surplus in power.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE It is, therefore, time that we move in for an ambitious project there. I have got the report of the Geological Survey in my hands. The availability of fairly good ore to the tune of 80 million tonnes has been proved beyond doubt, and the Government of Kerala has submitted proposals for some steel plant and steel complexes there. The availability will be for not less than 40 years, and normally, when we plan, I do not think we look beyond 40 years. But this report and the proposals of the Kerala Government have been shelved innumerable times. Since he is in charge of steels and mines, I hope he will mine out this proposal and see that it is implemented.

When we have such immense resources this Ministry has a very important role to play, but I am not quite sure whether he will be guided by the philosophy recently spelt out by the hon. Home Minister, Shri Charan Singh, that he is not so particular about heavy industries. It is heavy industries which have brought this country to its present great economic development, and all that we have achieved in BHEL, Heavy Engineering Corporation, Rourkela, Bhilai, Durgapur and Bokaro speak volumes of the expertise that has been built over the years. Are we to reverse this merely because of the whims and fancies and pseudo understanding of the Gandhian philosophy by some? We have brought this country to a point where we can stand up and how it is widely acclaimed that India is the most developed among the developing countries. In the matter of generators, turbines and other machinery, we are able to compete in the international markets. Recently even in the matter of the second stage of expansion of Bokaro with four million tons capacity. It has been decided that we need not get the help of foreigners, though two years ago we thought we would have to take help from the Soviet Union. Are all these things achieved overnight? If we allow the philosophy that we need not

concentrate on heavy industries, we will become a rustic and backward country.

So, I would request the Minister of Steel and Mines who is in charge of the vast and immense resources of this country which can take the country's prestige and position very high in the world, not to be guided by old pseudo philosophy and take the country to further progress.

MR SPEAKER I would like to remind the hon. Members that the time allotted for this Ministry is five hours and I will call the Minister at 5 o'clock or fifteen minutes later. The hon. Members may now move their cut motions.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN (Cannanore) I beg to move—

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need for more funds for the Salem Steel Plant and for its expeditious completion (25)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100".

[Need for the speedy construction of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (26)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need to solve the problems of the mini-steel plants (27)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need for setting up industries based on the iron ore and bauxite deposits which are found abundantly in the Malabar region of Kerala (28)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Policy of the Janata Government towards steel industry which helps multinational corporations to exploit our country (29)]

[Shri C K Chandrappan]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need for closer cooperation between India and USSR in matters relating to further developing steel industry (30)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need for providing adequate and meaningful workers participation in the management of public sector steel plants (31)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Steel' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need for the take over of TISCO (32)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need to solve the problems of the mica mining industry of Andhra Pradesh and the need to ensure better housing and working conditions to the workers in this industry (33)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need to fully explore and utilise the mineral deposits in the hills of Arunachal Pradesh (34)]

"That the demand under the head 'Department of Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

[Need to settle immediately the outstanding issues between the workers and the management of Hindustan Copper Ltd (35)]

12.57 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

PROF R K AMIN (Sarendranagar): While speaking on the De-

mands of this Ministry I am aware of the limitations which the hon Minister carries with him. He has submitted the report of the working of the Ministry of the last year, i.e. upto March, 1977 and probably, he was not responsible for any of the achievements or any of the failures. It is, therefore, proper for me to confine my comments to the constructive suggestions which I could put forth before him so that he can change the policy of the Ministry of Steel and Mines according to the programme and policy of the Janata Party.

It is true as my hon friend has said, that during the year 1976-77 records have been achieved in production, sale, export of steel and also in export of consultancy services from this country. We have also achieved records in so far as the labour productivity is concerned. In a way I can say that we have turned the corner and can look forward for bigger and bigger achievement in this field. We have production of about 10 million tonnes of crude steel, 7 million tonnes of saleable steel and almost 91 per cent capacity utilisation while at Bhilai, we have crossed even the huddled per cent mark. There is also improvement in the labour productivity. If we take the ingot tonnes per man year as a measure for labour productivity it is 81.6 ingot tonnes at Bhilai, 57 at Rourkela and 48.2 at Durgapur. It should be noted that it was 34 at Durgapur in 1973-74, 44 at Rourkela in 1974-75 and we have certainly made a progress. We have also made progress in exports as indicated by my hon friend. In regard to the technological progress we have exported consultancy services and also constructional services. Two of the SAIL's subsidiaries—MECON and HSCL—are doing very well. MECON is busy in preparing project reports for two steel plants in Nigeria. It is also busy in developing the iron and steel plant in Mexico.

12.00 hrs.

The H.S.C.L. has also got contracts for constructional work in the Arab and African countries.

A question can be raised To what do you attribute this progress? Is it because of the new organisation which we have evolved, known as the SAIL in 1973 or is it because of the Emergency or is it because of the new international situation arising out of the rise in the oil prices and the prosperity of the OPEC countries or is it due to the monopoly situation which we have established for the SAIL, the unified control which we have established for the SAIL? We have to examine which factor is responsible for such good achievements in the field of steel production. When we examine this question, I can say that Emergency does not seem to be responsible for such a record production because soon after March, during the months of April and May, 1977 we have made a progress both in respect of production as well as sale and we have continued to make a progress.

The figures will tell the story. In March, 1976, the production of saleable steel was 8,11,000 tonnes and in March 1977 it was 8,61,000 tonnes, in April, 1976 also it was 5,10,000 tonnes which increased to 5,46,000 in April, 1977. During the month of May, 1977, the progress is the same. In regard to sale also, the same thing happened. In March, 1976, the sale was 5,22,000 tonnes and in March, 1977 it was 7,40,000 tonnes, in April, 1977 also the same rate of progress has been maintained and in May, 1977 too the rate of progress is the same.

It may be thought that such a good performance may be due to good industrial relations or because of the competency of the Chairman, Mr Bilimoria, or maybe because of the business-like decision taking process or maybe it was possible because of the combination of the post of Secretary of the Ministry and the Chairman of

the SAIL, being the same person till December, 1976 or it may be because of the pooling of resources under one command. All these things might have improved considerably. There may be certain domestic and international factors, such as, dollar prosperity in oil exporting countries or rise in prices abroad. Whatever may be the cause I feel, the hon. Minister must assess these achievements and see how it has happened by appointing a new committee which should bring out the factors responsible for such a good record in the field of production, sale, export consultancy services, etc. I would request the hon. Minister to appoint a committee to assess all this and find out what are the factors responsible for that.

I would like to suggest a few points for the consideration of the hon. Minister. We have started a dialogue with Afro-Arab countries for joint ventures in steel making. This should not be left to the professionals nor it should be dealt with in a leisurely fashion. The hon. Minister himself should handle it and, more so, because he happens to have a good business acumen in himself. I can visualise very well in so far as the Arab countries are concerned that their total demand is to the tune of 20 million tonnes of steel every year.

They are only producing 5 million tonnes of steel themselves. Now every country would like to be self-reliant in this regard. So, in the next decade I can very well say that they will go in for an increase of 10-15 million tonnes of steel themselves. Similarly the African countries might go in in the next decade for 10 million tonnes of steel. If this 25 million tonnes are to be provided, probably the investment worth about Rs 6000-7000 crore will be required. Even if we take 10 per cent share of it, then we can obtain Rs 600-700 crores as consultancy and constructional service work. It may increase our foreign exchange earnings to the tune of Rs 60-70 crore every year and that is why I consider it to be an important job which our hon. Minister himself should handle.

[Prof R K Amin]

There is need of taking advantage of the accumulated experience and expertise which has been built up in SAIL. For the last 17-18 years, we have been busy with the manufacture of steel. Now we should adopt inter-plant transfer of personnel so that the badly managed plants could have the advantage of expertise which has been accumulated in the good plants. If there is no such policy, then this should be done immediately.

There is also a possibility of over-centralisation because SAIL controls such a big organisation. We should always be very very careful in seeing that this over-centralisation does not take place. Whatever unified control is there the working should be as far as possible in a decentralised way. Uniform control in regard to information is all right but it does not mean that the General Managers should be running to Delhi every week or from time to time. The General-Managers should remain in their plants in their firms and look after their job because SAIL is already acting as an information tank. Beyond that they should not go.

I am glad to note that formerly HSL had 1500 people on staff at headquarters. Now the SAIL has 250 people and they are managing the something which HSL was managing. In regard to export and import, I must say that last year was a good year and we almost doubled our export. But on the basis of present performance, we have fixed the target of 241 million tonnes. Now this target is based on the last year's performance, but such a good year may not come again. So, care should be taken—while export is important—to see that export should not take place at the cost of home consumption which should be satisfied first and then whatever remains should be exported. Although we have fixed the target

of 241 million tonnes it should not be that this export must take place. That sort of attitude should not be developed in the Ministry of Steel and Mines.

Even now I find that there is a great deal of competition in the international market. This competition prevails both in our export and import. Our former policy was to give greater and greater protection to the home market. Now it is better, in so far as the steel industry is concerned, that the open door policy should be adopted. Even in import, let there be competition so that we can maintain our efficiency. Otherwise, since there is monopoly organisation inside, and if you also give protection to a higher degree by way of controlling import and not allowing the price mechanism to work on it, then this monopoly situation might create such factors which might affect the whole industry and might even make us high cost producers. If you want to have a safeguard against it, openness in the field of import should be introduced.

I would give one more suggestion. The SAIL Board should be properly re-constituted. When I saw the list of Directors on the SAIL Board, I found the names of some politicians also. I do not mind politicians being put on the Board, but they should have the expertise, that is, knowledge in administration or economics or finance or trade or commerce. If politicians without such a background are appointed on the Board, then instead of helping the deliberations of the Board they might adversely affect the working of the Board.

SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) Does it apply to Ministers also?

PROF R K. AMIN: I am talking about the Board. The Minister is responsible to Parliament. The mem-

bers of the Board may not be responsible to Parliament

I suggest that the Board may be reconstituted, persons having a good background in the field of finance or economics or trade may be put on the Board, it does not matter even if MPs or MLAs are put on that, but such a background should be considered essential for being included on the Board of Directors

I understand that SAIL has appointed an expert committee for long-term development plan. Here the composition of the Committee is more important because they are thinking of our requirements say, in the year 2000 A.D. There the persons might have strong views about the type of society we would like to have. If there is a definite commitment made by the nation as a whole it is well and good but there may be certain aspects on which the nation as a whole may not have made any commitment. Therefore the selection of personnel of this Committee becomes more important. This Committee was appointed in 1976 and the Committee was to give its report in June 1977. I do not know whether the report has been given to the Minister or not. If it has not been given, I would certainly like that the personnel of the Committee should be such that they can take a good long-term view of the situation and certainly even of our development in other fields, then they will be in a position to suggest certain concrete steps to be taken in regard to the Steel Ministry.

Now I come to the price policy. It is time that a new price policy was evolved in the Steel Ministry because the difference between the retention price and the sale price is being kept as a separate fund, and with the permission of the Planning Commission, it is being utilised. In this regard I would like to point out that there is no use keeping the price which is lower than the market price, there is no use giving some indirect subsidy to

government departments by showing losses on the part of the steel plants. It is better to allow a market price to prevail so that no black market or any such thing happens. Otherwise, in the name of small industry, some people may get the iron and steel and they may sell out what is allocated to them and you may not have any control on them. If you give at a cheaper price, the iron and steel will be misused, and they may also use more than what is required. If you want the most economical use to be made then the market forces should be allowed to work, there is no need to give any subsidy indirectly to any one.

I would also like to refer to the employment of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in your Ministry. The percentages are different at different places. In Durgapur it is only 8 per cent, in Alloy Steel it is only 11 per cent, in Rourkela it is 25 per cent, in MOIL it is 72 per cent, in NMDC it is 31 per cent, in HSCL it is 25 per cent and in Bolani it is 36 per cent. Why such difference when these units are under the same control? Further, if I examine their categories A, B, C and D, most of them are in C and D categories, hardly 1 per cent are in A and B categories. Now, our efforts should be to raise them to A and B categories as many as possible and also increase the percentages of them.

In so far as housing facilities are concerned, the Bureau of Public Enterprises has fixed up the norm of 76 per cent. None except one unit has achieved that norm. In respect of Bhilai, it is 60 per cent, Durgapur 50 per cent and Bokaro 54 per cent. Only in Bolani, the norm of 70 per cent has been reached. It is 47 per cent in respect of Alloy Steel.

In regard to labour productivity, I would like the Minister to examine

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[Prof R K Amin]

why such a great discrepancy between two plants say at Durgapur and Bhilai exists Bhilai is having 816 ingot tonnes per man year, while Durgapur is having only 48 ingot tonnes per man year Why this discrepancy? Is it because of the different product mix or is it because the structure of the two plants is different or is it because the labour is very good in Bhilai and no good in Durgapur? We would like to know the reasons for such a great discrepancy

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER Please conclude now I have no objection to give you as much time as you want but the result will be that many speakers of the Janata Party will not be able to speak

PROF R K AMIN Only a few minutes more Sir

According to the policy of the Janata Party the Party would not like to put the greater stress on the basic industries at the cost of the consumer industries and the agriculture What has the Minister done in order to rationalise the investment in the iron and steel industry? As for example why should we go simultaneously for increasing the capacity say at Bokaro from 17 million tonnes to 4 million tonnes and in Bhilai from 2.4 million tonnes to 4 million tonnes? An investment of one thousand crores of rupees simultaneously on each of these plants is involved In Bokaro you have not yet reached the first stage which is 17 million tonnes the second stage was 15 million tonnes and the third stage was 4 million tonnes You cross the second stage and come to the third stage while the first stage has not yet been completed Even in Bhilai you have just started for the 4 million tonnes expansion My friends ask for new steel plants at Salem and Vishakhapatnam but I would like to ask are we in a position to invest so much resources in iron and steel? If we want to invest, why not concentrate on Bokaro first, reach up to the capacity of 4 million tonnes and then go to

Bhilai Do the same thing at Bhilai and then go to the rest of the plants You may make a start a little earlier for other plants but the completion ought to be done like this I remember in 1967 the Bokaro plant was sanctioned at a cost of Rs 672 crores and we have already spent Rs 1400 crores while the first stage has not yet been completed I would like to know how many of the on-going projects have been re-phased because of this, how many new projects have been shelved for the time being I would like the Minister to attempt rationalization of investment within the industry Let him concentrate on Bokaro and the expansion of Bhilai or the expansion of TISCO may be stopped for the time being till Bokaro is completed Has he done that sort of exercise in regard to the existing investment? Sooner he does it better it is Otherwise, there would be a long gestation period and our resources will get locked up for a longer period without getting anything out of it At Bokaro, hardly 50 per cent of the capacity is being utilised in the first stage and after ten years we have not got anything at all One does not know when 4 million tonne capacity will be fully utilised It is therefore better that this sort of exercise for rationalisation suggested by me is done as early as possible

SHRI P K DEO (Kalahandi) It is a good thing that the mantle of this important Ministry of Steel and Mines has fallen on the able shoulders of my friend Shri Biju Patnaik

I will first deal with non-ferrous metals So far as aluminum is concerned though the production has increased by 114 per cent the performance in the public sector is far from satisfactory The only public sector aluminium plant we have is the Bharat Aluminium Company which is an integrated alumina and aluminium plant of a capacity of 2 lakhs tonnes and 1 lakh tonnes respectively located at Korba For the full working capacity of the Korba plant we need 248 MW of power A tussle has been going on between the MP State Electricity Board and the Korba Aluminium

Plant regarding the tariff of electricity and it is a highly electro-metallurgical complex and we need cheap power. The Korba Thermal power is based on the coal which is produced at Korba and the MP State Electricity Board is not prepared to give power to BALCO at a price which is much less than the cost of generation. From today's paper we came to know that there has been trouble going on in the HINDALCO because the UP State Electricity Board are not prepared to give power from Rihand for the HINDALCO plant. Because of this trouble, this one lakh tonne capacity of aluminium plant at Korba is not running to full capacity. Only 25 000 tonnes has been commissioned so far in the first phase and in the second phase another 25 000 tonnes should have been commissioned by now but it has not been done. So far as the captive mine of this Korba is concerned I had been there. I saw the Phutkapahad deposit which was estimated to contain 26 million tonnes of bauxite ore is now found to have only 1 million tonnes. So also the Amar-kantak deposits which are estimated to contain 84 million tonnes of high-grade bauxite ore are now expected to produce only 5 million tonnes. The location of the Aluminium plant at Korba is definitely a mistake of the previous government. I had no axe to grind nor I would like to use any bad word against my friend, the late Mr Mohan Kumaramangalam. I think because of the political pull of the MP Government that BALCO aluminium plant came there. There the national interest was sacrificed at the altar of partisan attitude of a particular state government.

In the Bharat Aluminium Plant we have already sunk Rs. 280 crores. So at the present moment we cannot go back. We have already committed Rs. 280 crores there. So the only answer is that the nearest bauxite deposits should be made available to BALCO and the nearest deposit is the Gandhamardan deposits of Orissa which contain 119 million tonnes of bauxite. I believe BALCO has applied

to the Orissa Government for the mining lease of this area and if it is worked out, then the ore will have to be transported from Harisankar Road to Korba, a distance of 347 km. This is the nearest depot for the working of the BALCO plant. We must have this Gandhamardan deposits completely reserved for that purpose. So far as East Coast deposit is concerned more than 1000 million tonnes of high grade bauxite ore with high grade aluminium content and with very little of silicon and titanium has been found there and as we need cheap power for a electro-metallurgical complex like the aluminium plant we will be needing 220 MW of hydro power. The only answer for aluminium plant in that area is to tap a hydro electric potential in that region. Automatically, all the fingers point at the Upper Indravati Project which will generate 600 MW of electricity power and will ensure firm power to the tune of 220 MW required for an aluminium complex. As the Minister is known for his dynamism I beg to submit that he will use his good influence with the other Ministries and with the Planning Commission and with the Government of India and the Prime Minister so that Upper Indravati Project is started soon.

The Janata Government have stressed on the development of agriculture and irrigation. So, besides generating 600 MW of cheap power, it will irrigate 5 lakh acres of chronically drought affected Kalahandi District. I hope the Minister will try his best in this regard.

So far as the location of Aluminium complex is concerned it has to be as near the power house as possible to avoid loss of power in transmission i.e. near Upper Indravati Power House— at Jai Patna. Automatically, the aluminium complex would come there. For that we may be needing a railway line. In 1964 the survey was made of Lenjigarh Road, Nawrangpur and Amgaura. At that time the estimated cost was Rs. 12 crores. I hope the Minister will speak a word to Prof.

[Shri P K Deo]

Madhu Dandavate to see that the construction of this line is taken up soon.

Another redeeming feature is that by the side of the power House in Bafalimali there is a concentrated deposit of high grade bauxite to the tune of 200 million tonnes, as has been estimated by the Mineral Exploration Corporation of India

I come to steel now. Steel consumption is the economic barometer of any country. So far as steel production is concerned the case of South Korea was cited by my friend Mr George. But I know about Japan. In 1947 its production capacity was only 5 million tonnes and in 30 years it has reached 100 million tonnes—which is twenty times. So in this regard I would like to submit to the Minister that he is one of us who formed Ispat Karkhana Sangharsh Samiti and we had dharna in front of the Prime Minister's House—Shrimati Indira Gandhi and he took the leadership to have the second steel plant of Orissa at Nayagarh in Keonjhar District which will be near Malangtoli. It contains 600 million tonnes of high grade iron ore. Bokaro will be drawing its iron ore from here and Bokaro is located in a coal bearing belt. On the basis of cross-transportation principle all those empty wagons which will come from Bokaro to take iron ore can bring coal from Bokaro area to this area. So we could have a big steel plant at Nayagarh. Messrs Kulkarni and Messrs M N Dastur have already given a report and they have given a favourable report so far as location of this second steel plant at Nayagarh is concerned. As early as in 1964 the Government of Orissa had submitted a comprehensive memorial on steel plant and it was prepared by an eminent engineer who happened to be our Governor also, Dr Khosla, for setting up an integrated steel plant at Nayagarh. Messrs M N Dastur in page 28 of Volume I of the report stated this and I want to quote this. They have submitted a voluminous report. They said:

"All 3 eastern region ore-based locations at Nayagarh Barakat and Bonagarh are considered suitable for large integrated steel plants. New rail links will have to be laid and dams constructed for ensuring adequate supply of water for each of these locations. Nayagarh is advantageously located for utilisation of ore from the rich deposits of Malangtoli and Gandamardan blocks."

This is in Keonjhar district which is a backward district. This is full of advantages. It will go a long way to uplift their social life if a second steel plant is located there in Nayagarh.

Some rumours have been floating that the steel plant is likely to be located at Paradeep. In all humility I beg to submit that there should be a national perspective in respect of all such projects. There should not be any parochial interest which should stand in the way. Some progress has been made so far as location of the steel plant at Nayagarh is concerned. We all know that Paradeep is a very good port and it is a deep-sea port. Dastur and Co have mentioned about this that a steel plant could come in the neighbourhood in the Paradeep area but it will be mainly for the purpose of export of our steel products. Paradeep is now connected by railway line to Daitari mine which is being fully worked out. All the dust that has accumulated there could be converted by pelletisation process and that could be taken up and used in any steel plant. Therefore the location of the second steel plant should be decided at Nayagarh and finished products from Nayagarh can be exported through Paradeep port to any foreign country.

With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR (Ratnagiri) While supporting the Demands for Grants I would like to make some suggestions and observations to prompt the Ministry and the officials to some action.

It is needless for me to say that the Steel and Mines Ministry has to play a vital role in building up of our national economy. The development of our country, is, to a great extent, dependent on this particular industry

Sir, many good things can be said about the performance of this Ministry but, as the time at my disposal is very short, I would like to make my submissions only with reference to one project to which great injustice has been done by the previous Government. If I may say so, even in this budget, I find that no proper justice has been done to that project. It is an unfortunate project—the aluminium project—at Ratnagiri. Everybody knows that aluminium is the metal of the day and this metal replaced the copper iron etc. Our country is rich in deposits of the ore for this metal which is bauxite. Through you, I may invite the attention of the hon. Minister to one thing. There are very rich deposits which are of the best quality available at two places in Kolhapur district in Maharashtra. The places are Dharyarwadi Sudgir and the deposits of the best quality are available there. It was because of the availability of rich deposits that the Government decided to start an aluminium project at Ratnagiri. The construction work of Ratnagiri aluminium was entrusted to the BALCO which was formed in the year 1965. Along with this Ratnagiri Project, construction work of aluminium plant at Korba in MP was also entrusted to this particular company, BALCO.

I would respectfully submit that, at that time, it was planned that both these plants would commence the construction at site simultaneously and it was decided that the alumina plant be constructed at Korba and a smelter and foundry project to utilise the alumina that would be available at Korba should be started at Ratnagiri. The BALCO, in collaboration with a Hungarian Company,

decided by a technical consultancy agreement to start construction of that plant. I would here respectfully invite the attention of the hon. Minister to one thing that as far back as August 1969, this technical consultancy agreement was arrived at. Thereafter, the matter entrusted to NIDC for preparing the project report. I may again submit that this project report was prepared and submitted to the BALCO by the NIDC in September, 1971. After all the preparations were made, I may also submit to the hon. Minister that this particular project of Ratnagiri alumina plant was sanctioned in April 1974. Not only that, a sum of Rs 78 825 crores was also sanctioned and earmarked for this Ratnagiri Alumina Project, in the Fifth and Sixth Plans. Out of this amount, Rs 50 crores were allocated for the Fifth Plan. Unfortunately, three or four years have passed after the commencement of the Fifth Plan, still, from the information that has been supplied to us, it seems that only Rs 150 crores out of Rs 50 crores was spent on this particular plant.

I find from the reports that this amount had been spent in the Fifth Plan only for surveying and initial prospecting survey of the project as also on salaries and wages. Not even one rupee had been spent on the construction of the project or even on levelling of the land.

This year also, I say that no proper justice has been done to this project. I find from the report that Rs. 41 69 crores had been invested on the Bharat Aluminium Company—BALCO—out of which, only Rs 10 lakhs—this may be noted down—has been provided for Ratnagiri Alumina Project. This would also show that even the present Government is doing total injustice to this particular project. Sir, my friend Mr. Deo suggested that one aluminium plant should be started on the eastern coast. I have the information that under export-oriented programme an aluminium plant is being constructed at Visha-

[Shri Bapu Saheb Parulekar]

khapatnam for which survey is going on. I would suggest that the new project should not be started at the cost of this project which has been sanctioned. This particular project had been sanctioned long back. If you are starting that project then it would be better to convert this project into an export-oriented project.

Sir, people from Maharashtra—as well as the local people—have been demanding for this project for a long time. People had held dharnas and had taken morchas and they were lathi-charged and tear gassed and even firing was resorted to on those persons. Many people were prosecuted and prosecution is still pending. It would be gross injustice to the people of Maharashtra as well as to this particular project if no amount is spent on this project. This project will benefit the entire national economy.

Sir, we have been informed that there is difficulty regarding power supply. It has been shown in the estimates that have been prepared for this year in respect of this plant that Rs 2 crores more would be required for construction purposes. In this connection, I may submit that this figure has been arrived at by calculating the power charges per unit at the rate of 9 paise. In fact, the Maharashtra government has promised to supply power to this plant at the rate of 7 paise per unit and as a result of this wrong calculation the difference comes to Rs. 1.060 crores.

As far as water supply is concerned MIPC has agreed to meet the necessary requirements. Sir, even a transport committee had been appointed for this particular project. Sir, here I would also like to mention that when we go to the Railway Ministry with the request that the railway line should be taken to Ratnagiri we are told that we do not have any industry and if we request for an industry we

are told that "you have no Railway". This is how neither the railway line nor any industry is coming up in this particular area.

Sir, as far as employment potential is concerned, this plant would employ about 2,700 persons from senior managerial level to semi-skilled level. Sir, so many youngmen from this district have migrated to Bombay in search of job. This becomes apparent from the huge amount of Rs. 80 lakhs being remitted by these persons to their homes every month. This gives an idea as to the availability of labour in this area. Taking into consideration all these circumstances, it is my request to the hon'ble Minister that he should do justice to this particular plant and in this financial year, that is, for 1977-78, an amount of Rs. 100 crores should at least be set apart for this particular plant. In this connection, initially levelling of the land can be made. If the project is delayed, there is a possibility of cost escalation, and the intention of the Government or the policy of the Government, as far as the new projects are concerned, would not be fulfilled. In this context, I may invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the paragraph 18 of the Budget speech of the hon. Finance Minister wherein he has said as follows:

"Simultaneously in executing new projects, we must avoid delays which lead to escalation of capital costs. It is usually not realised how great is the cost of these delays. An analysis for cost escalations in 18 projects which had secured the approval in 1976-77 of the Public Investment Board shows that, in these projects, investment costs had increased to Rs. 535 crores as against the original estimate of about Rs. 255 crores. This serves to emphasise the importance of timely execution of projects and the extremely high social cost of delay."

If some amount is set apart for this project in this current financial year, it would be possible to commission this particular project and production will start after about 4 or 5 years. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to look into this particular matter and take necessary steps.

Now, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister one more point. That is about the exploration of ilmenite ore from Ratnagiri coast. It is available along a 40 Kms. stretch from Purnagad to Malgund near Ratnagiri. Ilmenite is an ore of Titanium metal. Now in the year 1954 about 1500 metric tonnes of this ore were exported to Japan. There has been a demand for this particular ore. But after we had exported this ore to Japan in 1954, we stopped its export. I may also bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that according to the experts if the deposits of ilmenite are not removed or are not lifted, the re-accumulation process is stopped and the particular deposits would again return to the sea-bed. If that is the case, then it would be a great loss to our country. Therefore, I submit that as far as ilmenite ore is concerned, the hon. Minister may kindly take necessary steps.

SHRI K. S. VEERABHADRAPPA (Bellary): We are very fortunate so far as our mineral resources are concerned in our country. We are very rich in them, particularly in high grade iron ore, coal, manganese, limestone and dolomite, which form the most important ingredients for any steel plant. Enough raw material is available in the country and labour is also cheap. So there cannot be any reason why we cannot produce steel at a cheaper rate and compete successfully in international market and make substantial profits also out of it.

The other point is that construction cost of steel plant in India is the highest in the world, i.e., Rs. 5000

per tonne whereas in Japan the cost is only Rs. 2300. We spend much more in setting up a steel plant as compared to other countries. This is the main drawback of not starting steel plants in the country though project reports are ready.

There is another strange thing. The Japanese import raw material from India and after manufacturing steel they export the same to other countries of the world including India at a much cheaper price than what we can afford. We should therefore try to cut the production cost of steel.

We have today the main materials needed, namely, iron ore which probably no other country in the world has in such quantity as we have. Unfortunately we have not fully utilised the resources of our country. It is a surprise that those who do not possess iron ore have far exceeded our steel production while we are standing still when compared to them. That is unfortunate. As I said already, our country is rich in minerals. Here I give the example of states like Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Karnataka which have tremendous resources of iron ore. It is our duty to see that none of the states suffer from not utilising the resources to the full extent possible. It is in this context that I feel it my bounden duty to draw the attention of the august House and also the hon. Minister of Iron and Steel through you, Sir, for the omission in implementing the Vijayanagar steel plant in Karnataka by the Government of India. They have not provided enough funds to the Vijayanagar steel plant in the budget. Even though six years have passed since the laying of the foundation stone by the then Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi in the year 1971.

The scheme was estimated to cost about Rs. 1500 crores. So far a sum of Rs. 2.2 crores have been spent for

[Shri K. S. Veerabhadrappe]

acquiring valuable agricultural land of about 4000 acres and another 0.3 crores have been spent towards prospecting and on the establishment of the project. One can imagine how the Vijayanagar steel plant had been neglected by the government. The steel authority of India which had reviewed the project hoped that this project might start production by 1982-83 but I very much regret to say that the government has not taken care to implement the project and they had neglected the project completely.

According to the latest position, I understand that there would be no foreign collaboration in the working of this project. Nor is the government keen in starting this project by any feasible means. As such the people of Karnataka feel that stepmotherly treatment is being accorded to this project, which has been a long standing demand of Karnataka. If there are no resources to start this project, I should suggest that government can go in for public borrowing or it can approach the World Bank for aid, or just as in the case of Kudremukh iron ore project, the government can seek some foreign collaboration for speedy implementation of the project.

In this connection, I want to draw your attention to the proceedings of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly of the 14th of June, published in the newspapers of the 15th June. That will show how much concerned are the government, and the members of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly as well as the people of Karnataka. From that news I understand that the people of Karnataka will start Satyagraha for securing the Vijayanagar Steel project at any cost. It is the birth right of the people of Karnataka and the government were surprised to note the news item in the paper in April that no new heavy steel industry would be undertaken by the Government of India. If this is so, I wish to bring to the kind notice of the hon. Minister of Steel and Mines, through you, Sir,

that the Vijayanagar Steel plant is an older one, of which the foundation was laid in the year 1971 and the required land of 4,000 acres have already been acquired. As such, I want assurance from the Steel Ministry in this regard whether the Government treats Vijayanagar Steel Plant as old plant or new one.

Sir, I earnestly appeal and sincerely request the Government of India, particularly the Minister of Steel, to take up this project by any means to fulfil the long standing earnest demand and aspirations of people of Karnataka and particularly the people of Bellary District since it gives tremendous employment opportunity for the unemployed youth.

I am happy to bring to the notice of the House that Government of Karnataka have started a post-graduate centre for technical studies at Nandihalli near Sandur (which is my constituency) to train the local candidates so that they would be fully qualified to hold any technical posts in steel plant which has to come in the near future.

Since I have been elected by the people of Bellary District by a big majority of 145000 votes, the voters have given me a mandate to exert all my efforts and influence at my command and persuade the Government to implement the Vijayanagar Steel Plant early which would benefit Karnataka people in all walks of life.

Sir, it may not be out of place to bring to the notice of the House that all the big steel plants are situated at North only. There are no big steel plants in South except the project Reports of Vijayanagar, Vishakapatnam and Salem. As such, I would request the Janata Government to start immediately the three projects of South viz, Vishakapatnam, Vijayanagar and Salem, and take credit for them. Or else, they would give impression to the people that the Janata Government is reluctant in starting

and implementing the steel plants in the South because the people of the South have rejected the Janata Party in the last Parliament elections. I am sure, Sir, that the Janata Government will be more generous in implementing the Vijayanagar Steel Plant in full swing.

Abundant iron ore deposits are found in Sandur—Hospet region, which is the best in the world. It is world famous. I understand the deposits of Donimalai and Kumaraswamy are sufficient to start 100 steel plants for 100 years to come. As such, I once again sincerely request the Janata Government to provide enough funds and implement Vijayanagar Steel plant early.

In view of the steel plant, I would suggest to Government to develop existing (military) airport at Bellary into a pucca one. I suggest that the Minister of Steel may look into the matter. I request Government expedite the Hubli—Karwar railway line to transport iron ore of the Bellary—Hospet sector. I also request Government to take up the Kottur-Harhar—Link line for transportation to Mangalore port.

Secondly Sir there is NMDC working for the past ten years, in our place i.e. Sandur. It has not gone into production yet. I understand that until the pelletisation plant comes, the mine cannot be worked profitably. As such I request the Government to implement the pelletisation plant at Donimalai at an early date, in order to work the mechanical mines of Donimalai effectively. It may not be out of place to mention that the Government of Karnataka have constructed Narballe Dam, which is a multipurpose dam which can irrigate 3000 acres of land and also supply water to the proposed pelletisation plant at Donimalai. As such I request the government to implement the pelletisation plant at Donimalai at an early date.

14.00 hrs.

The N.M.D.C. have acquired nearby agriculture lands of villagers who are mainly dependent on agriculture only. I earnestly request the government to give a substantial amount of compensation for their land so that they can start a new life since they are not fit for any other job. As such I request the government to be liberal in giving land compensation to the displaced ryots.

I thank the Railway Minister for having provided funds for Thoramgallu Mudoklopst line which is mainly useful for N.M.D.C. for transporting the ore.

It is reliably learnt that the employees of Kudremukh iron ore project have got some genuine grievances. It is alleged that most of the officers' posts have been filled by recruitment from other big steel plants of North India, ignoring the claims of eligible candidates among the existing employees of Kudremukh project. The aggrieved employees were working in N.M.D.C. before the formation of the Kudremukh project. It is further learnt that direct recruitments were made for the officers posts ignoring the claims of the existing employees, who are eligible for promotions as per rules. These employees are working with dedication since many years. I request the hon. Minister for Steel and Mines to look into the matter and do justice to the local people working in Kudremukh project.

With these words, I request the minister once again to implement the Vijayanagar steel plant an early date.

श्री लज्जन सात कन्नूर (शुश्रूषा) :
उपरोक्त महोदय, भारत में जोड़े और
हस्तात उद्योग के आयोजन तथा उत्त के
विकास का उत्तरदायित्व हस्तात और शान
विकास के ऊपर है। इसके साथ ही
हाथ जोड़े और हस्तात के निर्वहन-

[श्री लखन लाल कपूर]

प्रदेश और इस के उत्पादन, निर्यात, कच्चा और शिफ्ट के खर्चे में सीधे निर्यात करने की जिम्मेदारी भी लोहे और इस्पात संकाय के ऊपर है।

श्री लोहे के खर्च लोहे का उत्पादन है, स्टील-इस बात को स्वीकार किया है कि पिछले वर्षों में लोहे के उत्पादन में वृद्धि हुई है और वृद्धि के कारण बरेल्य खपत में भी वृद्धि हुई है और इससे साब हज को विद्यत करते हैं, उद्योगों में हम ने काली तरकी की ? लेकिन, इ के बावजूद भी ऐसा क्यों है कि वेल्ड के खर्च पिछले दो वर्षों में 50 प्रतिशत तक की वृद्धि हुई है। इन मूल्यों की वृद्धि का एक कारण यह भी देखने की मिला है कि एम. ए. ए. ए. के भावों में इसका प्रभाव बहुत भारी हो गया। मूल्य वृद्धि होने का कारण जो देश की साधारण जनता है उसकी कम शक्ति कम हुई और शक्ति कम होने के कारण जो लोहे की खपत बरेल्य कायो के लिए होनी चाहिए थी, यह नहीं हो पाई है। जहां तक ए. ए. ए. के उद्योगों का लवाल है मैं समझता हू कि प्रतिक के प्रतिक लोगों को कम मूल्य में लोहा मिलना चाहिए। खर्च कर उन लोगों को तो कम मूल्य में लोहा मिलना ही चाहिए जिसके मार दिन के इस्तेमाल में लोहा जाता है। लोहे का उत्पादन हुआ है लेकिन इसकी खपत में कमी आ रही है। इसलिए खपत में इस कमी को देखते हुए मेरा कहना है कि इसके मूल्यों में कमी हो। हमारा यह उद्देश्य होगा चाहिए कि यह जो प्रतिक को लोहा पर बिके।

लोहे की निर्यात के सम्बन्ध में ऐसा कहा गया है कि जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर के

उद्योगों में है उद्योगों में लोहा का खर्च खर्च करने के सम्बन्ध में। उनके सम्बन्ध में भी लखन लाल कपूर में खर्च का बहुत कुछ इन के खिलाफ से भोजते हैं इसके खिलाफ में ए. ए. ए. के ए. ए. के ए. ए. के लोहा आई हजार रुपए इन में देते हैं। वे ए. ए. ए. के लोहा को लोहा पर लोहा बरेल्य है और इसी वजह से देश में लोहा में मूल्य वृद्धि हुई। देश में मूल्य वृद्धि करके जो भाव होती है वह इसका खर्च में समझी की रूप में बली जाती है। वह भी देखने में आया है कि लोहे ए. ए. ए. के लिए जो कम्पैक्टिजन होने लूते मूल्य से करना पड़ता है, उसके लिए तो हमने कोई राह नहीं की लेकिन सुझावों के रूप में हमने यह साधन दे दिया जो देश में मूल्य वृद्धि करके कमया था। मैं समझता हू कि यह वीज की नहीं है। इसके सम्बन्ध में लोहे की प्रति हम बड़ी कर पाते हैं वे इससे बचत करते हैं।

जहां तक स्टील स्टील का सुझाव है, इसे घातने बाहर से मंगाने की बात कही है और घात पर सीमा मूल्य में 35 प्रतिशत की छूट दी है। बहर से जो स्टील स्टील यहां आया, उसको कम शीत खर्च प्रति टन के खर्च पर यह शीत पड़ेगा। मैं समझता हू कि खर्चे के लोहा में स्टील स्टील का प्रतिकार उपयोग बरेल्य बरेल्य के काम में किया जाता है। भारत जैसे बरेल्य मूल्य में कमी हमने के लय में हम लोहा उद्योगों का इस्तेमाल कर सकते हैं लेकिन ऐसा न करके इतने बरेल्य में लोहा स्टील-इस लोहा का इस्तेमाल करते हैं। स्टील का मूल्य में लोहा के लय में है। इसके अलावा लोहा के लय में लोहा है। अपने लोहा के लय में लोहा पर इसे हमें लोहा लोहा है और लोहा

संगत बात नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि भारत जैसे गरीब मुल्क में स्टेनलेस स्टील का इस्तेमाल हमें बर्तन बनाने में नहीं करना चाहिए। हम इसका इस्तेमाल केमिकल्स इण्डस्ट्रीज में, मेडिकल लाइन में, हॉस्पिटल के इंस्ट्रूमेंट्स बनाने में कर सकते हैं। जो स्टेनलेस स्टील का प्रयोग साधारण बर्तन बनाने के काम में होता है इसको हमें बन्द करना चाहिए। जो हमारे अत्यावश्यक काम हैं उनमें इसका प्रयोग होना चाहिए और इसके लिए हमारे भारत में जितना स्टेनलेस स्टील का प्रोडक्शन होता है उससे काम चल सकता है। इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूँगा कि वे इसको देखें।

सभापति महोदय मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान राऊरकेला स्टील प्लांट की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। राऊरकेला स्टील प्लांट में मिस्टर ए० एस० अग्रवाल एक एक्जीक्यूटिव आफिसर हैं। उनके वहाँ रहने से, वहाँ के कर्मचारियों के अन्दर भाफा असन्तोष है। एम जेंसी के द्वारा उन्होंने बहुत ज्यादा एक्सीसिव वेजेंसियाँ दी हैं। इसके कारण से उनके खिलाफ ल गों में बहुत ज्यादा असंतोष है। और उनके खिलाफ उन्होंने प्रदर्शन किए हैं और डेपुटेशन भी लोग ले कर गए हैं। उनके खिलाफ सब्जत एक्शन लिया जाना चाहिये और सरकार को उनके खिलाफ कड़ा कदम उठाना चाहिए।

जो इन कारखानों में चोरियाँ होती हैं उनकी तरफ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिए। मुझे मालूम है कि केवल राऊरकेला जैसी फैक्ट्री में प्रतिदिन एक लाख रुपए की चोरी होती है। उसी तरह दुर्गापुर में भी कमोवेश इतने रुपए की चोरी प्रतिदिन होती होगी। इन चोरियों को रोकने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। जो दोषी व्यक्ति हैं उनके खिलाफ आपको

कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए। ये चोरियाँ आज से नहीं पिछले दो तीन साल से हो रही हैं। यह पुराना धंधा है जो चला आ रहा है। जनता पार्टी तो अभी सत्ता में आई है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि हमारी सरकार इस और ध्यान दे और इन चोरियों को रोकने के लिए कड़े कदम उठाए।

बिहार का प्रश्न भी मैं उठाना चाहता हूँ। वहाँ पर सिंहभूम जिले में लोहे के डिपोजिट्स मिले हैं। उनका एक्सप्लोरेशन होना चाहिए। अगर ऐसा किया गया तो मैं समझता हूँ कि 62 परसेंट लोहा उ में निकलने की उम्मीद हो सकती है। इस लोहे को काम में लाया जा सकता है।

अन्त में मैं कुछ सुझाव मंत्री महोदय की सेवा में रखना चाहता हूँ। पहला मेरा सुझाव यह है कि एच० एस० एल० को जनहित में व्यावहारिक मूल्य नीति अपनानी चाहिए और जन साधारण के हितों को ध्यान में रखते हुए अपनी मूल्य नीति निर्धारित करनी चाहिए। यह नीति मुनाफा कमाने की दृष्टि से निर्धारित नहीं की जानी चाहिए। मुनाफा कमाने की दृष्टि से तो टाटा आदि जो कम्पनियाँ हैं वही निर्धारित करती हैं और उन कम्पनियों के द्वारा ही बड़े बड़े मुनाफे कमाए जाते हैं। लेकिन एच० एस० एल० को ऐसी नीति अपनानी चाहिए जिससे अधिक से अधिक उपभोक्ताओं के हितों का संरक्षण हो सके और सस्ते मूल्य पर उनको सामान दिया जा सके।

उत्पादन बढ़ाना हमारा उद्देश्य होना चाहिए। उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए यह आवश्यक है कि श्रमिकों का सहयोग लिया जाए। उनको प्रबन्ध में भागीदार भी बनाने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। अगर उनको भागीदार बनाया गया तो

सहायता मिल सकती है।

में समझता हूँ कि हमारे सामने जो बेरोजगारी की समस्या है उसको हल करने में भी हम को सहायता मिल सकती है। सरिया, डी प्रायरन, छोटे ऐंगल्स आदि जो वस्तुएँ हैं वे रमाल स्केल फैक्ट्री में मनुफैक्चर हो सकती हैं और वही इनके उत्पादन की छूट होनी चाहिए। उनको प्राप संरक्षण दे सकते हैं। ये वस्तुएँ बड़े कारखानों में न बन सकें, ऐसी प्रापको व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए। इससे मैं समझता हूँ कि बेरोजगारी की समस्या को हल करने में प्रापको सहायता मिल सकती है। इन वस्तुओं के उत्पादन को लघु उद्योगों के लिए सुरक्षित कर दिया जाना चाहिए।

छोटे, मध्यम और बड़े कारखानों में तारतम्य स्थापित किया जाना चाहिये, उन में सहयोगिता की भावना पैदा की जानी चाहिए।

आज हम देखते हैं कि पचास साठ परसेंट चावरो, प्लेटो के तथा इसी तरह की दूसरी चीजों के दाम बढ़ गए हैं जो एग्रिकल्चरल इम्प्लेमेंट्स बनाने के काम में जाती हैं। ये पिछले दो बरस में बढ़े हैं। एग्रिकल्चरल इम्प्लेमेंट्स के दाम बूँकि बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ गए हैं इस बास्ते किसान जो गरीब हैं उनको खरीद नहीं पाते हैं। इससे उनके कृषि उत्पादन पर भी बुरा असर पड़ता है। इसका असर भीषणोष्णकरण की जो नीति हमारी है, उस पर भी प्रतिकूल पड़ता है। इस बास्ते प्रापको इनके दाम घटाने की ओर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये। प्रापको लघु और मध्यम वर्ग के उद्योगों को ज्यादा बढ़ावा देना चाहिये और बड़े कारखानों पर रोक लगानी चाहिये।

कड़ाही, कुवाल खुरी, तथा आदि चीजें भी बड़े कारखानों में बनती हैं। ये भी बहुत मंहगी मिलती हैं। बड़े कारखाने इनको न बना सकें, ऐसी रोक प्रापको इन पर लगानी चाहिये। प्रापको छोटे कारखानों को बढ़ावा देना चाहिये और बड़े कारखानों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करना चाहिये।

SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO (Parvathipuram): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister for Steel and Mines must already be ware of the fact that a sound steel producing programme is necessary for industrial growth to accelerate the industrial progress of the country

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a spate of reports appearing in newspapers and journals regarding certain remarks made by the hon. Minister in respect of the Vizag Steel Plant. The hon. Minister is said to have stated that underground water resources were not enough to have a steel plant at Vizag, and that land had not been yet acquired for this purpose. These were factors which were taken into consideration while this project was being considered and the State Government had also given an assurance that there would be no underground water difficulty. Proceedings have also been undertaken as far as land acquisition is concerned in the proposed steel Plant area at Vizag.

I would also like to draw his attention to a remark made by a Spokesman of the SAIL criticising the Andhra Government for creating this infrastructure. What is most significant as far as this matter is concerned, however, is that there are reports that the hon. Minister of Steel and Mines is actually more interested in having a steel plant at Paradiep with the help of Japanese investment. It is not practicable to have two port-based steel plants so close to each other.

Even if there is foreign investment, the burden on the national exchequer would be quite heavy, as each Plant would involve an expenditure of over Rs 2,000 crores. If the Government is insistent on having a coastal based steel plant with foreign investment, I do not see any reason why Vizag should not be considered as there is a scheme where a lot of spade work has already been done at this juncture, however, there is absolutely no justification for the hon Minister to have a steel plant at Paradeep. Primary importance should be given to the Vizag plant to which we are already committed. This is a very sensitive subject and would affect the emotions of the people of the area, and any deviation from this will mean that the Government will have to face grave consequences from the people of Andhra Pradesh. Though the hon Minister has already made a statement that his Ministry will not delay or defer this project, yet I would like him to give me a categorical assurance that the Vizag steel plant would be taken up on a time-bound basis. I would also like him to clarify the position of his Ministry as far as the Paradeep steel plant is concerned.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon'ble Minister to the deposits of bauxite ore which have been found in Vizag District at Chintapalli and Anantagiri. They are massive deposits and can even sustain conversion to alumina and aluminium. A plant of 0.6 million tonnes capacity would require an investment of Rs. 220 crores, and the setting up of a smelter would require Rs 500 crores. Investment of this money in such a backward, rural and tribal area would give the entire area new face-lift and contribute to the development of the rural economy, a concept to which the Janata Party is committed. I would also like the hon. Minister to state whether Government has taken any final decision as far as exploitation of this ore is concerned and if so, I would also like to know from the Minister the plan-

ing and financing that would be involved for the same.

श्री पंचाचर म्प्या मूरडे (गिर)

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज हम एक महत्व के विभाग की मांगो पर चर्चा कर रहे हैं। इस्टी की प्रोच के लिये इस्पात एक आवश्यक भग है, लेकिन उसके साथ ही हमारे कृषि प्रधान देश में कृषि के विकास के लिये भी यह आवश्यक भग हो सकता है, उसकी बहुत प्रहमियत है। भारत में इस्पात की खपत प्रति मनुष्य केवल 14 किलो प्रति साल होती है जब कि दुनिया के दूसरे देशों में, यामलैव, मलाया, जो कि प्रबल विकसित देश है, जो इस्पात की खपत होती है, हिन्दुस्तान में इस्पात की खपत उनसे बहुत कम होती है। एक तरफ यह बात है और दूसरी तरफ इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय ने जो रिपोर्ट पेश की है, उससे सिद्ध होता है कि जो इस्पात देश में पैदा होता है, उसकी भी देश में खपत नहीं होती है। लेकिन कुछ विनो पहले देश में इस्पात खरीदने के लिये प्रीमियम देना पड़ता था, लेकिन आज इस्पात के लिये मार्केट नहीं है। जब जनता पार्टी ने सत्ता हाथ में ली, उस वक्त डेढ़ मिलियन टन इस्पात का स्टॉक पड़ा हुआ था। उस समय भारत में इस्पात का प्रोडक्शन 6 मिलियन टन था।

इससे साफ होता है कि हिन्दुस्तान में जो कुछ भी प्रोडक्शन इस्पात का होता है उसके लगभग 25 प्रतिशत को खरीदने वाला देश में नहीं है। नई सरकार से आशा की कि इस्पात की खपत बढ़ाने के लिये खास कोशिश की जायेगी, लेकिन इसके बजाय सरकार ने विगत पर ही बोर दिया है और काफी इस्पात बाहर बेचा जा रहा है। इसके लिये सरकार की सरकार से प्रति टन खरीद-करीब 400 रुपये की कमीती की गयी थी। अब

[श्री गंगाधर अग्गा बुरांडे]

यही सब्सीडी हिन्दुस्तान के किसानों और दूसरे लोगों को दी जायेगी तो खेती के लिये और मकानात के लिये यहां पर इसका काफी उठाव होगा और इस्पात ज्यादा खरीदी जायेगी, इससे देश में इसकी खपत ज्यादा होगी। निर्यात पर निर्भर रहने वाली नीति देश के हित की दृष्टि से ठीक नहीं है। इस पर उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से इस्पात मंत्री का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। एक तरफ स्टाक पड़ा हुआ है, लेकिन साथ ही साथ हिन्दुस्तान में इस्पात का आयात भी होता है। यह अफसोस की बात है। इस्पात और खदान मंत्रालय की 1976-77 की रिपोर्ट के पेज 85 पर यह दिया हुआ है कि सरकार ने रेल की पटरियां, ट्राम की पटरियां, व्हील्स, एक्सल्स स्लीपर्स की आयात की है, जिसके लिये 2 करोड़ 51 लाख का खर्चा बतलाया हुआ है। इस तरह की चीजें हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा हो सकती हैं, जो कि बाहर से मंगाई जा रही हैं।

जब देश में इस्पात का इतना स्टाक पड़ा हुआ है तो यह आयात की नीति देश के हित में विघातक नहीं है क्या? यह तो पिछली कांग्रेस सरकार के जमाने में हुआ था जो कि उनकी जन-विरोधी नीतियों के अनुसार थी। लेकिन नई सरकार ने इसके लिये क्या ठोस कदम उठाये हैं, इसका स्पष्टीकरण नहीं हुआ है।

इसलिए मैं इस बात पर जोर देना चाहूंगा कि दुर्गापुर के इस्पात कारखाने में रेलवे के व्हील, एक्सल्स बन सकते हैं, लेकिन अभी भी यह सामान दुर्गापुर के स्टील प्लान्ट से खरीदने के बजाये रेलवे विभाग जपान से सामान मंगाता है। दुख की बात यह

है कि जो पार्ट्स जपान से मंगाये जाते हैं, वह दुर्गापुर स्टील प्लान्ट्स में तैयार होने वाले पार्ट्स से बहुत महंगे होते हैं। इसलिए हिन्दुस्तान में इस्पात का धंधा कभी भी प्रगति के रास्ते पर नहीं जा सकता। अभी भी इस्पात मंत्रालय ने यह सोचा है कि इस से आगे भी जो स्टील की पैदावार होगी वह सब एक्सपोर्ट करनी पड़ेगी।

इस्पात की इस समय अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में मन्दी है और बहुत से देशों में आपस में कंपीटीशन भी चल रहा है। जब कि हमें इस्पात बाहर भोजना पड़ेगा, फिर भी सरकार ने अभी भी इस्पात की नीति पर पुनर्विचार नहीं किया है।

यह सुना जा रहा है कि स्टील मंत्री महोदय को बाहर के देशों से सुझाव मिले हैं कि वह सिर्फ 3 हजार मजदूरों से 6 मिलियन टन इस्पात तैयार करने का कारखाना दे सकते हैं और यहां का सारे का सारा उत्पादन निर्यात होने की भी संभावना है। इससे मजदूरों का शोषण और भी बढ़ेगा और यह नीति देश के हित में नहीं होगी क्योंकि विकसित देशों के पूंजीपति भारत के नैसर्गिक सम्पत्ति और सस्ते मजदूरों का शोषण करना चाहते हैं और करते आये हैं।

हमारे देश और खासकर जनता सरकार को इस जाल में फँसाना देश के हित में, उस के पक्ष में नहीं होगा। हमारा इस्पात का उद्योग जब तक हमारे बाजार के ऊपर निर्भर नहीं होगा, तब तक इस्पात का धंधा प्रगति के रास्ते पर नहीं आयेगा।

इस तरह के कारोबार की वजह से मजदूरों में असंतोष फैला हुआ है। दुर्गापुर का कारखाना ठीक तरह से नहीं चल रहा है। मैनेजमेंट इस की जिम्मेदारी मजदूरों पर थोपना चाहता है। हिन्दुस्तान स्टील एम्प्लाइज

यूनियन ने काफी सुझाव मैनेजमेंट के सामने रखे हैं, लेकिन उन पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है। अगर इस्पात मंत्रालय नौकरशाही पर निर्भर रहने के बजाय मजदूरों पर विश्वास रख कर काम करे, तो इस्पात उद्योग को प्रगति हो सकती है।

हिन्दुस्तान स्टील एम्प्लॉयज यूनियन ने मैनेजमेंट के सामने यह सुझाव रखा है कि दुर्गापुर के स्टील प्लांट और एलाय स्टील प्लांट का विस्तार करने से ही प्लांट कम खर्च पर चलेगा और उस की प्रगति भी होगी।

यह सुन कर खुशी होती है कि इस्पात मंत्रालय सब ट्रेड यूनियनों को बुला कर इस्पात उद्योग के पुनर्गठन और औद्योगिक सम्बन्धों पर विचार करने जा रहा है। किसी भी कांग्रेसी स्टील मंत्री ने अभी तक ऐसा कदम नहीं उठाया था। वे तो अपनी पिट्टू यूनियन, इनटक, पर भरोसा करते थे। मुझे आशा है कि इस बातचीत से कुछ नतीजा तो निकलेगा ही।

लेकिन मैं इस्पात मंत्री का ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ कि जब आपस में यह बातचीत चल रही है, तब इस्पात कारखाने का मैनेजमेंट मजदूरों पर नये नये हमले भी कर रहा है। इस के कारण मजदूरों में काफी असंतोष बढ़ रहा है। मजदूरों की मांगों पर विचार नहीं हो रहा है। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि इस्पात मंत्री इन मांगों पर जल्दी से जल्दी निर्णय देने का फल्ट करेंगे।

जहाँ तक मजदूरों की समस्याओं का प्रश्न है, वीनस की समस्या इस्पात मजदूरों की एक ज्वलंत समस्या है। इस्पात का उत्पादन पिछले साल की तुलना में बढ़ने पर भी मंत्रालय इस्पात मजदूरों को 8.33 परसेंट न्यूनतम वोनस देने के बारे में नहीं सोच रहा है।

इस उद्योग में कंट्रैक्ट लेबर की समस्या काफी गम्भीर है। द्विपक्षीय बातचीत में

कई बार यह तय हो चुका है कि कंट्रैक्ट लेबर की प्रथा को समाप्त करना चाहिए। लेकिन अभी तक इस बारे में नहीं सोचा गया है और इस्पात जैसे अच्छी तरह से संगठित उद्योग में कंट्रैक्ट लेबर की प्रथा अभी भी चालू है। सरकार को इस बारे में कदम उठाना चाहिए।

इस्पात मजदूरों के लिए मकानों की समस्या काफी गम्भीर है। नये मकान बनाए गये हैं, लेकिन बहुत कम मजदूरों को उस से लाभ हुआ है। भिलाई के करीब करीब आधे मजदूरों को गन्दी बस्तियों में रहना पड़ता है, जहाँ पानी का कोई इन्तजाम नहीं है और हमेशा रोग फैलने का खतरा रहता है। भिलाई इस्पात कारखाने के दो तीन फ्लॉग पर एक बस्ती है, जिस का नाम मजदूरों ने "मुर्गी कालोनी" रखा हुआ है, क्योंकि वह कालोनी सिर्फ मुर्गियों के ही रहने लायक है। बरसात के दिनों में वहाँ चारों तरफ पानी इकट्ठा हो जाता है। मजदूरों ने कई बार इस तरफ ध्यान दिलाया है, लेकिन उन बस्तियों को सुधारने के लिए अभी तक कोई कोशिश नहीं की जा रही है।

वहाँ के मजदूरों के विक्टिमाइजेशन की भी एक समस्या है। आपातकालीन स्थिति में इस्पात मजदूरों का बहुत दमन किया गया था। रिट्रेचमेंट और विक्टिमाइजेशन का तांता लगा हुआ था। इस्पात मंत्री महोदय ने इस अवस्था को सुधारने की कुछ कोशिश की है। लेकिन विक्टिमाइज किये हुए मजदूरों के बारे में अभी तक सोचा नहीं गया है।

चासनाला की दुर्घटना के बारे में सब लोग जानते हैं, इस में 375 मजदूर मारे गये, उस के बाद इस दुर्घटना की जांच हुई और इस की रिपोर्ट सरकार ने प्रकाशित की है। लेकिन मैनेजमेंट ने अपने को बचाने के लिए जांच के काम में काफी रूकावट डाली थी। कमेटी के सामने जो वक्तव्य मैनेजमेंट ने दिया था वह बिल्कुल झूठा था। सच घटनायें बताने के बजाय इन की तरफ से गुनाहगारों

[श्री गंगाधर भप्पा बुरांजे]

को बचाने की कोशिश की गई, मजदूरों में भातक पैदा किया गया, जिस की वजह से मजदूर अपनी गवाही देने को तैयार नहीं हुए। इस सदन में हमारे नेता कामरेड समर मुकर्जी जब चासनाला गये थे तब काफी मजदूरों ने घटनाओं के बारे में सही सही रिपोर्टें भी थी लेकिन कोर्ट ने जब श्री मुकर्जी के जरिये मजदूरों को साक्ष्य के लिए बुलाया तो भी मजदूर तैयार नहीं हुए। इस से भातक की भयानकता की कल्पना होती है।

एबिडेंस नष्ट करने की कोशिश मैनैजमेंट की तरफ से की गई। इस घटना में सब से महत्वपूर्ण गवाह सर्वेयर श्री एस० राय चौधरी हैं जिन को खदान के नक्शों के बारे में काफी जानकारी थी और वे कमेटी के सामने सब बातें रख सकते थे। लेकिन उन के प्रोटेस्ट के बावजूद उन को चासनाला खदान में भेजा गया और उस दुर्घटना में इन का देहान्त हुआ। उन का देहान्त हुआ नहीं, बल्कि उन को जान-बूझ कर मारा गया। खदान जाने के पहले राय चौधरी ने जो निवेदन मैनैजमेंट को दिया था वह मैं पढ़ रहा हूँ।

"Today the 28th February, 1976 I am going down the pit (West Mine) to survey the connection from 1st horizon to 'K' level of old workings as per instruction of Sri S. K. Banerjee, Area Manager Sri S. K. Bhattacharjee, Manager, and Dr. R S Roy, Manager 7 incline. The place was declared unsafe by Mr. S. Bandyopadhyaya and Mr. D. Sarkar, Group Safety Officer and previously were withdrawn from the same job from the same place. If any accident happen to any person of my party the above mentioned persons will be responsible."

इसके बाद सभी सभी घबराहटों में वह झापा है कि श्री किन्हां जिनको बांध के लिए नियुक्त किया गया था उन्होंने

भी वही राय ही है, जो नाम इसमें धाए हैं वे वही नाम हैं जो श्री राय चौधरी ने दिए थे। इस निवेदन से यह साफ हो जाता है कि लोग मरे नहीं, बल्कि मारे गए। इसलिए वे मांग करता हूँ कि बसनाला कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भपराधियों को कड़ी से कड़ी सजा मिलनी चाहिए और मैनैजमेंट तथा उस बक्स के इन्स्पैक्ट मंत्रालय ने इन भफसरो को सरक्षण देने के लिए जो कोशिश की है उसकी भी जांच होनी चाहिए। जब तक इसके ऊपर कठोर कदम नहीं उठाया जाएगा तब तक इस तरह के भ्रमानुषिक दृष्टिकोण को हम दूर नहीं कर सकते।

इसके बाद अभी हाल ही में दुर्घटना हुई है दल्ली राजहरा की। जहां तक खदानों का सवाल है हर जगह पर परिस्थिति काफी खराब है, भ्रायटन और माइन्स, बोक्साइट, मैंगनीज, डोलोमाइट, आदि के मजदूरों की तनक्वाह बहुत कम है उसमें सुधार करने की कोई कोशिश नहीं की गई है। इन सारी खदानों में प्रसल में कंट्रैक्टरों का राज चल रहा है। जनता पार्टी की सरकार आने के बाद भिलाई के पास दल्ली राजहरा से 3 जून को मजदूरों के ऊपर गोली चलायी गई जिसमें दस से अधिक मजदूर मारे गए। वहां की सारी एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन कंट्रैक्टर के साथ मिली हुई थी और मैनैजमेंट ने मात्स्यता प्राप्त ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० की यूनिवर्स के साथ जो कामचार विरोधी एग्जीमेंट किया था उसके खिलाफ मजदूरों का संघर्ष चल रहा था। लेकिन मजदूरों की उचित मांगों को अंकुर करने के बजाय मजदूरों पर ही दमन किया गया और कंट्रैक्टरों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई नहीं की गई। अभी भी काफी मजदूर जेल में हैं। उनको रिहा करना चाहिए और वहां का भी कंट्रैक्ट विस्तर रद्द करने मजदूरों

को भिलाई स्टील प्लांट में लेना चाहिए ।

घापके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि जो भिलाई स्टील प्लांट तथा दूसरे स्टील प्लांटों के मजदूरों के ग्रहण सञ्चालन हैं उनके ऊपर विचार करें और जो उनकी कठिनाइयाँ हैं उनको दूर करें तो हमारा विकास अच्छी तरह से हो सकता है । मैंने जो भी सुझाव रखे हैं इस्पात मंत्री महोदय उस पर अच्छा तरह से विचार करेंगे और उचित कार्यवाही करेंगे ऐसी मेरी प्रार्थना है । इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी स्पीच खत्म करता हूँ ।

डा० बलदेव प्रकाश (भूमतसर) : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, आज स्टील और माइन्स की घाट पर इस हाउस में बहस हो रही है, मैं इस मीके पर सिर्फ एक-दो प्यार्सिन्स हाउस के सामने घाप के द्वारा प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ । जनता पार्टी की सरकार जनता से इस बात के लिए बचनबद्ध है कि वह देश को स्वच्छ प्रशासन देवी और भ्रष्टाचार का पूर्ण-तया उन्मूलन करेगी । जहाँ तक इस मन्त्रालय का सम्बन्ध है, पिछले 30 वर्षों में सब से अधिक भ्रष्टाचार इसी मन्त्रालय में हुआ है । अगर हम सारे देश की तरफ नजर डीढ़ाएँ तो घाप देखेंगे कि न जाने कितने साइसेंस और परमिट्स मोहे के ऐसे लोगों को मिले हुए हैं जो कारीबार नहीं करते हैं । मैं आज सरकार से यह माँग करता हूँ कि जहाँ हम लोहे और इस्पात की दूसरी कठिनाई की तरफ ध्यान दें, वहाँ हमें इस दृष्टि से भी सोचना चाहिए—कौड़ी ऐसी योजना बनाएँ जिससे कि इस तरह के भ्रष्टाचार की रोक बंधे ।

मैं घापके सामने 'एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ — पिछली सरकार ने पिछले 30 वर्षों में भाई धनीजाबाद को प्रोत्साहन देते हुए, घापके लोगों को फायदा पहुँचाने के लिए, ऐसी योजनाएँ बनाईं जिस का कोई हिसाब नहीं है और ऐसा ही स्टील तथा माइन्स मन्त्रालय में हुआ । इन्होंने सारे भारतवर्ष में लोहा और इस्पात का डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन करने के लिए, उस को बेचने के लिए प्राइवेट एजेन्सीज का प्रयोग किया, उनको एजेन्सी देकर कमीशन बेसिस पर लाखों रुपए महीने के अन्दर और करोड़ों रुपए साल के अन्दर फायदा पहुँचाया । ये लोग कौन थे । ये थे लोग थे जो राजनीतिक दृष्टि से कॉलेज पार्टी के साथ सम्बन्ध थे । पंजाब का उदाहरण लीजिए—पंजाब में लोहे और इस्पात का सारा डम्प बटाला के अन्दर है । बटाला में एक एम० एल० ए० थे, जो कांग्रेस पार्टी के थे और पिछले चुनाव में वे हार गए हैं । वहाँ जिस फर्म के पास एजेन्सी है, उस में उन का भी इन्टरेस्ट था । इस फर्म को सारे पंजाब के अन्दर "सील" की तरफ से लोहा वाटर्न और बेचने के लिए सील एन्ड टर्म्स किया गया था । मैंने अभी बतलाया था कि बटाला में लोहे का बहुत बड़ा डम्प बनाया गया, तमाम लोहा वहीं पर जाता है और वहीं से तमाम फैक्टरी चीजें और मैन्यूफैक्चरर्स को माल बेचा जाता है । जितनी सील होती है उस पर उनको कमीशन दिया जाता है, जब कि इस में उन का कोई काम नहीं है, सिवाय इस के कि वे कॉलेज पार्टी के साथ थे, इस लिए उन को फायदा पहुँचाना था ।

एक तरह हमारी सरकार कहती है कि हम बीच में से मिडिल-क्वैलिटी को समाप्त करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन दूसरी तरह इस तरह के लोगों को खान-पान

[[डा० बलदेव प्रकाश]]

फायदा पहुँचाया जा रहा है। बंगाला की जनता की तरफ से हमने एक मैमो-रेण्डम सरकार को पेश किया था, मैंने खुद उस मैमोरेण्डम को तीन महीने हुए भेजा था, लेकिन अभी तक उस पर कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई है। क्या इस तरह से आप भ्रष्टाचार को समाप्त करवा चाहते हैं? देश में सिर्फ यही एक एजेन्सी मशीन है, पचासों ऐसी एजेन्सीज है जो "सैल" की तरफ से प्राइवेट फर्मों को दी गई हैं, जिन का डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन में कोई काम नहीं है। ये लोग फेब्रुअरी अर्नर्स से दो-चार महीने पहले ही खंया ले लेते हैं और उस की अपने काम में इस्तेमाल करते हैं। उसके बाद लोगों को माल प्राप्त करने के लिए अनेकों चक्कर लगाने पड़ते हैं, तब जा कर उन को माल मिलता है। इस लिए मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि जहाँ हम स्वच्छ प्रशासन और भ्रष्टाचार उन्मूलन दावा करते हैं, तो फौरन इन एजेन्सीज को समाप्त किया जाये और डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन तथा सैल का काम स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन को सौंपा जाए या स्टेट की स्माल स्केल इण्डस्ट्रीज कारपोरेशन को सौंपा जाये। इस काम में किसी प्राइवेट व्यक्ति का स्थान नहीं होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात - हमने अपने बजट के अन्दर जो योजनाएँ रखी हैं, उन में यह कहा गया है कि हमारी योजना स्वदेशी होगी, एम्प्लायमेंट और एन्टेड होगी और नीड बेस्ड होगी। लेकिन कुछ चीजें ऐसी सामने आती हैं जिनसे इन चीजों को खतरा है। स्टेनलेस स्टील पर हमारे सरकार के जो बजट के प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं उन में इम्पोर्ट

ड्यूटी घटा कर 320 से 120 परसेन्ट कर दी है यानी 200 परसेन्ट एकदम से कम कर दी है। मैं थोड़े से फेक्ट्स आप के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। पिछले सालों में हमारे इन्डिजिनस जो प्रोड्यूसर्स हैं और जो छोटी-छोटी फैक्ट्रियों के अर्नर्स हैं, उनके कुल 1500 यूनिट्स हैं और देश के अन्दर जो वे स्टेनलेस स्टील के शीट्स तैयार करते हैं, वे तर्करीब न इम्पोर्टेड शीट्स के मुकाबले के ही होते हैं। आज वह इन्डिजिनस इंडस्ट्री काफी डेवलप हो गई है और उसने इतनी तरक्की कर ली है कि इम्पोर्टेड स्टेनलेस स्टील के बने हुए जो बर्तन हैं और जो यहां स्टील के बने हुए बर्तन हैं, उन दोनों को देखने से कोई भी खरीदने वाला उनमें कोई फर्क नहीं निकाल सकता है। उस इंडस्ट्री में आज लाखों आदमी काम कर रहे हैं लेकिन हमारी सरकार की पालिसी है और सरकार ने जो इम्पोर्टेड स्टेनलेस स्टील पर इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी इतनी कम करने का फैसला किया है, उससे जो बाहर से स्टेनलेस स्टील आएगा, तो उस की कीमत मार्केट में बहुत कम हो जायेगी और नतीजा यह होगा कि हमारी फैक्ट्रियों में जो स्टील बनती है और जिसकी कीमत रु 2 रुपए प्रति किलो है और उस के जो बर्तन बनते हैं वे 80, 90 रुपए किलो के हिस्सा से मार्केट में बिकते हैं, उन का कोई स्थान नहीं रहेगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि इम्पोर्टेड ड्यूटी कम करने से हमारे यहां की इंडस्ट्री खत्म हो जायेगी और फैक्ट्रियाँ भी बन्द होने पर मजबूर होंगी और जब ऐसा होगा तो इस से बहुत से वर्कर्स भी बेकार हो जायेंगे। तो जहाँ हम यह कहते हैं कि देश के अन्दर अपनी स्वदेशी इंडस्ट्री को बढ़ावा देना चाहते हैं ताकि लोगों को अधिक से अधिक एम्प्लायमेंट मिल सके, लोगों को अधिक से अधिक

कारोबार मिल सके, वहाँ ड्यूटी कम करने से हमारी ये फैक्टरियां बन्द हो जाएंगी।

मैं यह भी बताना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले साल जो एम० एम० टी० सी० ने 15 हजार मीट्रिक टन स्टेनलैस स्टील इम्पोर्ट किया था, इन फैक्टरियों के कारण उसका इम्पोर्ट कम हो कर 3 हजार मीट्रिक टन ही रह गया है। मेरा कहना यह है कि इस से ज्यादा इम्पोर्ट अब स्टेनलैस स्टील का नहीं होना चाहिए क्योंकि हमारे यहाँ जो स्माल स्केल सेक्टर में छोटे छोटे कारखाने खुले हैं, उन्होंने मेहनत कर के जो देश के अन्दर डिमान्ड है, उस को पूरा किया है और कर रहे हैं। अब अगर इम्पोर्ट ड्यूटी कम होती है, तो उसके कम होने से स्टेनलैस स्टील बाहर से काफ़ी मात्रा में आएगा और मार्केट में सप्लाई होने के कारण जो हमारे कारखाने हैं उन के लिए कोई चारा नहीं रहेगा सिवाय इसके कि वे बंद हो जाएं।

एक बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि एक मीट्रिक टन स्टेनलैस स्टील अगर आप बाहर ऐसे मंगाएँ, तो उन स्टेनलैस स्टील की शीट्स पर 16,000 रुपये फारेन एक्सचेंज के खर्च होते हैं लेकिन दूसरी तरफ अगर आप देश में स्टेनलैस स्टील बनाने के लिए निकल इम्पोर्ट करें तो उस पर आपको सिर्फ 3,000 रुपये फारेन एक्सचेंज के खर्च करने पड़ेंगे। इसलिए हमारे लिए फायदेमन्द यह होगा कि हम बाहर से निकल इम्पोर्ट कर के वहाँ पर स्टेनलैस स्टील की शीट्स बनाएँ और इस तरह से जो छोटे स्केल पर फैक्टरियां चल रही हैं उन को बढ़ावा दिया जाए। इससे फारेन एक्सचेंज भी कम खर्च होगा और यहाँ की इन्डिजिनस इंडस्ट्री

को भी बढ़ावा मिलेगा तथा लोगों को एम्प्लायमेंट मिल सकेगा। इसलिए मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहूँगा कि सरकार जो यह योजना लेकर आई है, उस में छोटे छोटे काम करने वाले जो लोग हैं चाहे उनका स्टेनलैस स्टील से सम्बन्ध न भी हो, और चाहे इस डिमान्ड के अन्दर वे न आते हों, उन लोगों का ध्यान रखा जाए और एक्साइज ड्यूटी कम लगाई जाए।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं यह कहूँगा कि मैं ने जो आप के सामने दो प्वाइन्ट्स रखे हैं, उन पर मंत्री महोदय विचार करें और हाउस को विश्वास दिलाएँ कि इन दोनों चीजों को सरकार फौरन तय करेगी।

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Can-
nore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, we are considering one of the Ministries which is very important in so far as the future of this country is concerned. I think, the Janata Ministry, particularly the Minister incharge of the Ministry of Steel is giving a new direction to the steel industry in our country. By new direction, I do not mean that he is taking the country forward, on the contrary, he is trying to reverse the whole policies which were pursued by this country for several years.

I would like to bring to the notice of this House some of the very important statements made by the hon. Minister, Shri Biju Patnaik. He, in a way, is trying to revive the old argument of bread vs. steel which was raised by a section of the people in the early fifties when we were thinking of setting up steel plants to build a firm foundation for our economy. Now, Mr. Patnaik says that because a large proportion of our people are living below the poverty line in this country, there is hardly any relevance for this country to spend on

[Shri C. K. Chandrapan]

steel industry. That is what he said in a seminar in Delhi and also he said that we need not give priority to steel industry as was done in the past. As a result of this, what will happen to the various plans this country has been working out for the last several decades? Sometime last year a White Paper on Steel was presented and it visualised that by the end of this century we will achieve a production of 75 million tonnes of steel in this country. Now, the argument advanced against production of more steel in this country is that we are already in surplus, our internal consumption is so low and the external market is also not lucrative. We cannot plan the future of this country on the basis of certain temporary factors. For example, Mr M. N. Dastur who is considered to be a steel expert in this country, said that by the turn of this century if we have to advance industrially and if our economy is to progress, the internal consumption of steel in this country should go to the extent of 100 million tonnes a year. Now the production that we have is hardly 7.5 million tonnes and also it is stated that whatever be the situation of the internal market in the country today, in 1980s this country will face a shortage of steel and internationally also experts met in Vienna under the UN Industrial Development Organization and they said in 1980s all over the world there will be a steel shortage. At that time Mr. Patnaik cannot produce steel. In 1979 he cannot take a decision and produce steel in 1980 because it is said that a long period of gestation is necessary for the steel industry. So, we should not base our future planning of steel industry merely on the basis of some temporary factors. If I may be permitted to say, the USA, Japan and countries like that who are big producers of steel in the world have not decided to cut down their production.

In that context, what exactly does it mean when Mr. Patnaik is trying to pose the question of steel vs. bread before the country and when he says that we cannot spend more money on a priority basis for the development of steel industry?

14.50 hrs.

[SHRI SONU SINGH PATIL in the Chair].

Here I have a hunch. Further, that is also made plain by Mr. Patnaik. He said, 'We will have to open our gates wide for foreign participants to come to this country and invest their money and produce steel here.' He also raised the argument that if you go in for production of steel in this country, the coal that we have will get exhausted within 40-45 years. He also said, if we go in for the production of steel, as was visualised in the White Paper, in 22 years this country will get exhausted of its coal production. The whole coking coal will get exhausted. I do not agree with all these arguments. No expert will agree with this view. We have an enormous wealth of coking coal and yet there are areas where we have to find out the coal deposits in the hills of Nagaland, in the hills of Himachal Pradesh, in the Himalayan areas. There are vast deposits of coal in these areas. Coal deposits can be found out with the help of the Geological Survey of India for meeting the requirement of this country.

If we open the flood gates for the multi-nationals to come in (as in Kundramukhi Project Iran is investing a lot of money) it will not help the interest of this country. Multi-nationals will exploit us. We will remain in the old colonial order in a different form. The form will change, that is all. I think we have to have a second look at the propositions made by the hon. members.

I would also like to draw your attention about some of the cunning

moves made by Ministry in relation to the expansion programme of Bokaro and Bhilai. On-going programmes are all right. Money has been provided for that. But what about the final goal that this country has set in—10 million tonnes of production for Bokaro and 7 million tonnes production capacity for Bhilai. I think you have said a good bye to that. That is not in the interest of this country and also they have taken a decision not to have collaboration with the Soviet Union. If this country can afford to produce steel on its own, I have no quarrel with that. It is good if we can go on our own for producing steel. Can we? I doubt very much. The Minister said, "We can." Two years ago when the experts analysed the whole question and discussed the Soviet collaboration in the case of Bokaro it was told that 65 per cent of the work of fabrication can be done by ourselves. But what about the rest—35 per cent? It is for that that this country entered into collaboration with the Soviet Union. That collaboration is scrapped. As a result of that, what will happen? Either the Government will have to go to West Germany or the Government will have to go to the United States. Are they going to help us? Are they always friendly with us?

I know, perhaps, the Government is trying to put into practice the philosophy enunciated by Shri Jaya Prakash Narayan I quote from "Every Man" of July 28, 1973—

"Soviet Union could not meet our economic development needs. India must diversify its economic and strategic dependence by forging and strengthening mutual ties with other nations and communities that are in a position to help meaningfully, such as West European Economic Community, Japan and the USA."

Is it not a fact that at the time of setting up Bokaro, we went to the United States and they promised that they are going to help us? But they went back. They were not ready to help a public sector undertaking. Today I do not think there is any Messiah sitting in the Presidential chair of the United States. If you go in for it what does it mean? What is the rate of interest? The rate of interest of the U.S. is 3.5 per cent, whereas the rate of interest of the Soviets and the socialist countries is 2.5 per cent. Regarding the capacity of the country to meet the requirements Mr. Patnaik expressed his doubts saying that they are not in a position to meet our requirements. I would like to quote Mr. Hazari. He said this:

"The East European countries and the Soviet Union are by and large capable of meeting the requirements of this country technologically."

He also said:

"The East-European countries do not charge anything separately as knowhow fees for their patents and processes, Drawing, blue-print and other technical documents relating to the project are handed over free of charge to us."

So, these are some of the advantages. So, I would like to ask the Minister to spell out as to what are the intentions in this regard. Are you going to reverse the whole thing? Are you going to open the womb of India for these multinationals to penetrate deep into our country? Is it the reason? Are you going to allow collaboration of multinationals without taking into account the question of pollution in the country? They are coming here to make profits. Mr. Patnaik said that ours is a big country and pollution is not a big problem but this country will have to pay a very heavy price if you allow indiscriminately these multinationals

[Shri C. K. Chandrappan]

to come in and pollute the whole atmosphere, including water and other things. If it is political we will have to suffer much more seriously.

Regarding the per-tonne cost of producing steel in this country, it is true that the per-tonne cost now is Rs. 5,000. There are favourable factors for us to think of bringing down the per-tonne cost of steel. We have got very big stock of raw materials with us and enormous manpower and so far as the fabrication is concerned, our country is really capable of meeting all its requirements. In Bokaro we could do upto 65 per cent. If we can bring our best talents into this, we can do even more than that. So, we have got fairly good infrastructure in our country so far as the production of steel is concerned. We have got the necessary kind of expertise in regard to making designs, in regard to construction, in regard to operation of steel plants. Our expertise is also sold abroad to European countries, countries in Africa, Latin-America and so on. So, I am sure, if the hon. Minister takes proper steps, he will be able, in the near future, to produce steel at lesser cost. But the main question is this. Is there a mind for it? If that will be there, then, I am sure, there is a way.

15.00 hrs.

Coming to certain other aspects, Shri Patnaik, while speaking in the other House—I think it was in the other House—said that 'I declare that the mini steel plant in this country is sick'; he also added 'I am also declaring that they are dead'. Is this the responsibility of a Minister? I doubt very much. It is like this that after giving a shot for mercy killing, a doctor is announcing that the patient is dead. You should not have done that. The mini steel plants are patients and the Minister should have

treated them carefully with the knowledge that we have and with the capacity that we have and found that the patient recovers and comes back healthy. On the contrary, you gave a new shot for mercy killing. That is the duty that you have imposed on it. You cannot do that. That is not the way to deal with the problem. Since the time is less, I do not want to take much time of the House.

11 About the Salem Steel Plant, everybody said that at this pace, it will take two or three decades. It will be a mirage. We will never reach the completion of the Salem Steel Plant, Vizag and Vijayanagar Steel Plants. I would like the Minister to make a very categorical statement here that the steel plants will be there. You doubted this because you doubted whether there would be water availability and whether the technical feasibility of the plant was there or not. You doubted that. But, I think, sufficient expert enquiries were made before we had gone in for these. So, in this House, let us know whether the Andhra people will have this plant or not.

Coming to another problem, in Kerala, we have got a lot of iron-ore. Your Ministry concerned with the mine had found out that there was a lot of iron ore and also bauxite deposit.

I request the Minister to do something to set up certain Industries based on that. Here, a word about the iron-ore export. We still remain a kind of a colonial country for the raw material base for the advanced countries even to-day. There should be pelletisation plants, sponge iron project and you have to process that. Then only you will be able to earn much more than what you earn by merely sending the iron ore to other countries. This was what the U.N. also advised us namely that we should remain as an iron-ore exporting country.

would like you to make an enquiry into the rusty steel scandal. All the papers reported about it—not only a section of the papers—and even all the Economic papers in the country reported that if you want, I can give you the date when this appeared in the press. I think it was reported in the *Economic Times*, Bombay in their 22nd May 1977 that 3,000 tonnes of rusty steel were sold at a throw away price to some people. Shri Patnaik and Shri Patil might be knowing that the steel gets rusted when it is in the stock yard. But, normally what happens is that from the upper layer, the rusty steel is sold at a cheaper price. Now, here, the entire stock of 3,000 tonnes were sold at a price which was Rs 600 less than the market price. Your Ministry's top officials, it is said, are involved in this. I would like you to look into this matter.

Another thing is about the sales machinery of the steel. There are certain big stock yards in this country who stock the steel on behalf of the various steel producing plants and even they sell it. Even to-day, when there is a glut in the market, they sell it at a black market price. What is happening is that we do not have the machinery to reach the people in a wider region so that they can come and select and purchase it.

I hope the Minister will make some arrangements so that the steel will go to more people.

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Chandrappan, you have already exceeded the five minutes. Please conclude your speech.

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN Sir, I shall take one or two more minutes. Now, I would request the Minister to look into certain agreements entered into by MECON.

928 LS—8.

Sir, MECON has entered into an agreement with Hockett Engineering Company—an American multinational. I stand subject to correction. If it is not MECON it might be some other government agency. What is the benefit out of this agreement?

Sir, finally a word about the workers. Mr Patnaik has certain views about the workers which are dangerous. In a seminar organised at Delhi he expressed those views, namely, the workers should not go in for strike without first discussing with the Steel Minister. While we agree that there should be a discussion, my point is: Can you insist on it as a pre-condition? Secondly, there are workers who have been retrenched or were imprisoned under MISA. Mr Patnaik has said that they will be given back the job but not the benefits with retrospective effect.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK)
No No

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN If you clarify, I will be only too happy. Sir, a strike is going on in Jadugora uranium mines near Jamshedpur since 27th June. I think the Minister has been informed about it. A large number of tribal people are working there. I would request you to intervene.

Sir, these are some of the observations that I have to make about the Demands for Grants of the Steel Ministry. I would like to request the hon'ble Minister to make it clear whether there is any change in the basic policy regarding steel.

बीजरी बलबीर सिंह (होशियारपुर)
सभापति महोदय, मैं बंसी महोदय का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि उन्हें स्टील इंडस्ट्री की बुनियादी प्लानिंग पर ठीक संय से गौर करना

[श्रीधरी बलवीर सिंह]

चाहिए, ताकि देश में स्टील ठीक भाव पर बाजार में बिक सके। जापान लोहा और कोयला हिन्दुस्तान से खरीदता है, जबकि हिन्दुस्तान के पास अपना लाहा और कोयला है, लेकिन बढकिसमती की बात यह है कि हिन्दुस्तान में स्टील की लागत 2200, 2300 रुपए टन है और जापान हम से, या किसी दूसरे देश से, लोहा और कोयला खरीद कर जो स्टील बनाता है, उसकी लागत 1200 रुपए है। अगर इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट में स्टील 1700 रुपए टन के हिसाब से बिके तो जापान को तो 500 रुपए फी टन का मुनाफा होगा और हिन्दुस्तान को 600 रुपए फी टन का घाटा होगा।

इस लिए दुनियादी तौर पर सोचने की बात यह है कि हमारा खर्चा क्यों ज्यादा है। इस खर्च को कम किए और दुनिया की मार्केट में स्टील बेचने से हमें नुकसान ही होगा।

आज तक स्टील के बारे में हमने या तो अमरीका और दूसरे मगरिबी मुल्कों से मदद ली है, या रूम से। लेकिन असल में हमें जापान से नो-हाऊ लेने की जरूरत है, ताकि जापान की तरह हम भी अपनी लागत को कम कर सकें। जापान में स्टील उडस्ट्री का जस्टेशन पिरियड तीन साल है, जबकि हिन्दुस्तान में बहू दम साल है। यह इनका फर्क जो है इसको अगर हम ठीक न कर पाए तो इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट में हमारी कोई अगह नहीं होगी।

हमारे देश में छोटे छोटे कारखाने बने हुए हैं। अगर हम उन्हें सस्ते भाव पर स्टील दे सकें तो इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट में हम जापान को कम्पिट कर सकते हैं और दुनिया की मंडी में अपनी अगह

बना सकते हैं। आज हमारे देश के छोटे छोटे कारखाने महा स्टील ले कर उससे स्टेनलैस स्टील बनाते हैं। जलन्धर में और दिल्ली में स्टेनलैस स्टील के कारखाने हैं। अभी हमारे साथी बलदेव प्रकाश जी ने भी इस के बारे में कहा। यह सारा का सारा पहले हम बाहर से मगाते थे। लेकिन अब 80 प्रतिशत से भी उपर हम अपने यहाँ बनाने लगे हैं। लेकिन उसमें जा इन्टरनेशनल मार्केट में मगाते हैं उसका मुकाबला हम नहीं कर पाते क्योंकि जो राड इसके लिए कारखाने वाले को दिए जाते हैं वे महंगे हैं और उससे चदर बनाने में जो खर्च आता है उसके कारण बाहर से आने वाले स्टील का मुकाबला नहीं कर सकते। अगर उन्हें स्टील ठीक भाव पर हम सप्लाय करे तो ये स्टेनलैस स्टील के छोटे छोटे कारखाने उनके मुकाबले में सस्ता स्टेनलैस स्टील सप्लाय कर सकते हैं। यह सब देखने की जरूरत है।

कांग्रेस वाले बहुत शोर मचाते रहे हैं कि हम ने भिलाई, बोकारो और दुर्गापुर के स्टील प्लान्ट बनाए। लेकिन सरकार की जो अपनी रिपोर्ट है उसमें ये लिखा है कि बोकारो का कारखाना अपनी नार्मल कैपेसिटी में काम करे तो 20 करोड रुपए का उसमें घाटा है और नार्मल कैपेसिटी में काम करता है तो घाटा और भी ज्यादा होगा लेकिन नार्मल कैपेसिटी से काम करे तो 20 करोड का घाटा है। दुर्गापुर स्टील प्लान्ट की भी कहानी कोई दूसरी नहीं है? वहाँ पर भी अगर नार्मल कैपेसिटी में काम करे तो 20 करोड का घाटा वहाँ भी है, तो यह देखने की बात है कि हमसे इतने बड़े बड़े कारखाने लगाए लेकिन उन को लगाने के बाद अगर वहाँ पर घाटा है और फिर मार्केट में इतना महंगा भाव देने के बा:

भी उन कारखानों में घाटा है तो इसके बाड़े में हमें बुनियादी तौर पर सोचना पड़ेगा।

मैं एक और बात मंत्री जी को नोटिस में सामना चाहता हूँ। यह जो कच्चा माल हम बेचते हैं यह बेचना बन्द कर दे। उसका एक्सपोर्ट बन्द होना चाहिए। यह तो हमारी दौलत है और उस दौलत को आप बेच रहे हैं। इसका आप को कोई हक नहीं है। देश को जब भी कभी जरूरत पड़ी तो घाने वाली नरले हमें ताने देगी कि इन लोगों ने अपनी दौलत जाया कर दी। मेरा यह कहना है कि कच्चा माल बाहर भेजने के बजाय अगर हम उसको तैयार कर के एक्सपोर्ट करें तो वह ज्यादा उचित होगा।

इस मन्त्रालय में जो मंत्री आए हैं, मेरा ख्याल है वे इस बात को देखेंगे कि किस ढंग से इन कारखानों को ठीक ढंग से चलाया जा सकता है ताकि इनमें घाटा न हो क्योकि अगर घाटा है तो लाजिमी तौर पर टैक्सेश और ज्यादा बढ़ेंगे और उससे लोगों की मुसीबतें बढ़ेंगी। जो माल उससे बनेगा उस माल की खपत नहीं हो सकेगी। आज आप देखें गोदामों में माल पड़ा है लेकिन कोई खरीदने वाला नहीं है क्योकि खरीदने की शक्ति नहीं है। अगर यही माल सस्ते भाव पर मिले तो लोग ले सकते हैं। कारोमेटेड शीट्स जो आज से पांच छ. साल पहले 12-14 रुपए के हिसाब से मिलती थी वही गैलवनाइज्ड कारोमेटेड शीट्स आज 45 और 50 रुपए से भी ऊपर मिलती हैं। यह जो बार-बार या पांच-पांच गुना फर्क पिछले पांच-छह सालों में हो गया है, इस को देखना चाहिए कि क्यो इसका बड़ा फर्क हो गया है। मैं, सभापति महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा— इस मामले में मेकनल-मेकनल पर सोचें कि इस सिमिस्ट्री

को, इस महकमे को किस तरह से ठीक ढंग से चलाया जा सकता है, ताकि हमने जितने कारखाने बनाये हैं उनका उत्पादन बढ़े, लोगों के लिए काम पैदा हो और इस मुल्क के लोगों को जो माल दिया जाना है, वह उन को सस्ते भावों में मिल सके। जो हमारे बड़े-बड़े कारखाने हैं, बोकारो, भिलाई, दुर्गापुर, उनसे माल लेकर देश छोटे-छोटे कारखाने टूल्ज बनाते हैं, दूसरी तरह का फिनिशड माल बनाते हैं, उन को माल सस्ता मिल सके, ताकि इन छोटे कारखानों में बनाया हुआ माल बाहर की मर्किया में जापान और दूसरे मुल्कों के मुकाबले में सस्ता दिया जा सके, हमारी एक्सपोर्ट ट्रेड बढ़े और हम फोरन-एकमचैन्ज कमा सकें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दोबारा इसी बात की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो हमारी प्रोडक्शन की लागत ज्यादा है, आप देखिए कि वह क्यो ज्यादा है। इसके लिए जहा से भी हमें नो-हाऊ मिल सकता है, उस को लेकर कास्ट को घटाने की कोशिश करें।

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN (Deogarh) Sir, I whole-heartedly support the Demands moved by the Minister. At the outset, I would say that the Department has not been very very serious about the survey of mineral resources in India. Of course, after independence, big strides have been taken, but the steps are patchy, piecemeal, haphazard, hanky-panky and happy-go-lucky. So, I expect that the minister will think over this matter and rapid strides should be taken in the matter of survey so that the nation may know the quantity of mineral resources in our country. Unless we know the quantity, the nation will not be in a position to spend it properly. Either we will go on spending in such a way that it will be exhausted in a period of 40 or 50 years maximum or we may not spend it. The present

[Shri Pabitra Mohan Pradhan]

world is a world of competition. We in India are going to have a socialist society and the society we are going to build under the Janata Government is a society based upon total revolution which is more than the communist society, but based on democracy. In this respect I want to give a suggestion as to how to use the minerals. From the various speeches I come to understand that we must be very cautious in spending the reserves. If we go on spending at a very fast rate I apprehend that within a period of 50 to 60 years the entire reserves may be exhausted. I sound a note of caution to the hon. Minister to be very particular about this. Although we have very large reserves still considering the vastness of the country and the bigness of the population reserves may not last beyond 50 to 60 years. India is a country with 60 crores of population at present. It is one house. The Government is the owner of the house. The owner of the house must think how to spend these reserves. So expenditure of the mineral reserves must be done in such a manner that at least for the coming 100 years there may not be paucity or dearth of these mineral reserves. After these suggestions I have one complaint about the Steel Ministry.

From the various States recommendations about grant of lease have been sent to the Central Government. It is a matter of pity that for years together the Steel and Mines Ministry sits silent over the files. I am happy to learn that a few days back, the hon. Minister held a conference of his staff and he has very sternly directed that within a very short period these files must be disposed of. I hope the Minister is very serious and sincere about it and he will get the work done.

I have some other grievances and doubts. These doubts are not only about this department, but the entire Government. This department has so many corporations and industries.

They are something like business houses and industrial houses. But their behaviour is not the same as that of industrial houses and business houses. By that I do not mean the way they talk the way they receive us. They give in their annual report and balance sheet, plus, minus, etc. and about production also. They give of course the quantity they produce. Whatever they write may be right. But what about Balance sheet—everybody has doubts about the balance sheet of the entire Government, both State Governments and Central Government and also the balance sheets of the corporations and the Government owned public sector factories. I hope that the hon. Minister who himself knows the tricks of business and the finances of industry will take special care to see that the balance sheets submitted to the Government and published are true balance sheets. I doubt if in the balance sheet, the true picture of income and expenditure has been given. The income might have been given but not the entire expenditure. I doubt sincerely if the entire expenditure is given in many cases. In a few cases it might have been given but not in many cases. If they include the pay of the managerial staff and others and also the payments of instalments of capital and interest, that will help us a great deal in understanding the position. I hope the minister will take note of this.

Coming to my State of Orissa, I have some grievances against the Government of India, the Ministry of Steel & Mines and against the ex-Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi. I am not an enemy of Shrimati Indira Gandhi. Everybody knows that Orissa is full of minerals especially iron ore. There is one steel factory at Rourkela. The people of Orissa, the Janata of Orissa, all the parties of Orissa, requested the Government of India to give licence to us for starting a second steel factory in Orissa. We have been crying for it for the last so many years. We have been requesting, imploring, entreating,

demanding and quarrelling with the Government of India, but the Government of India is not listening to us. The present Minister also organised an agitation, when he was out of the Government in Orissa, for the location of a second steel factory in that State. I was Deputy Chief Minister in that non-Congress coalition government. Mr Patnaik was not in the Congress then. He became the President of the Utkal Congress. But the Congress people created such a situation that nothing could be done. The demand for a second steel factory in Orissa is very genuine. I do not think the Minister alone can do it. The entire Cabinet will have to do it. Through you, Sir, I implore entreat request and demand that a second steel factory should be located by Central Government in any place in Orissa. I have no fancy for this place or that place. Let it be at Nayagarh in Keonjhar District as someone demanded or let it be at Paradip or some other place. I want that there must be a second steel plant in Orissa.

We have another demand. At Sargapally in Sunderbans District we have vast deposits of lead and there when I was Deputy Chief Minister I was also Minister in charge of mines. We had a scheme and infrastructure to establish a lead factory, but nothing has yet been done.

SHRI P K DEO (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) at the time of election

SHRI PABITRA MOHAN PRADHAN
Yes. But nothing has been done further and I hope the Ministry will take note of it and will begin the work earnestly. At Sukhinda in Cuttack district there was to be another factory, a nickel factory. A scheme for it is there, but nothing has been done. I have another grave complaint against this Steel Ministry's policy. In Orissa we have some 12 to 15 foundries, iron foundries, and from Rourkela steel plant those foundries were getting scrap and pig iron to

manufacture their commodities. Of late the Ministry has made a policy that no smaller quantity than a raketoad which means about 2000 tons would be sold to any individual factory owner. Sir in Orissa which is rather economically poor and where there are no capitalists Oriya people have established those foundries and they cannot borrow Rs 10 to 15 lakhs to get a raketoad of pig iron and deposit in their factory and go on paying the interest for the amount of Rs 10 to 15 lakhs they borrow. That means by adopting this policy you compel some medium industrialists to close down their industries and go on looking for either service or for cultivation if land is available. Virtually some owners of foundries in Orissa have closed down their factories. The factory owners are advised to purchase from Central depot by paying Rs 95 more over and excess the ex-mill price and this is uneconomic to the industrialists. So the hon Minister will take note of this and change the policy so that the small and medium industrialists in this respect will get the benefit. In this Janata Raj this capitalist system and this capitalist policy should be totally avoided.

Mr Chairman I have taken much of your time. I now resume my seat with these words. Once again I conclude by supporting the demands for grants moved by the hon Minister.

SHRI T A PAI (Udipi): Mr Chairman Sir I had the privilege of being in charge of the Steel and Mines Ministry for some time in this country and I know what Mr Biju Patnaik inherited and I know the problems of development of the steel industry in this country. No doubt all the plants that we had planned in the First, Second and Third Plans were got executed in time. In fact, 12 or 13 or 14 years ago even in the case of the Bhilai plant we got only 4 or 5 per cent of the components made in this country and Soviet Russia had to supply 95 per cent. To-day we have

[Shri T. A. Pai]

built up in this country such a capacity that even in the case of expansion of Bokaro, 92 per cent to 93 per cent of it would come from India; and 7 per cent from abroad. But that does not mean that we have learnt the technique of completing a project in time. It is a tragedy that in this country, time is not considered a very important resource that a developing country has. If it takes 5 or 3 times the time that is required in other countries to complete a project, it begins with losses right from the beginning. Let us look at Bokaro. I am afraid it has taken more than 12 years and an investment of Rs. 1500 crores. If, for some reason or the other our financing methods of these projects have gone wrong, it is time that we look at them; because we can not afford to have large amounts of money invested either in irrigation or industrial projects with the best of intentions but getting nothing in return. That is going to be, and I suppose it has been, one of the factors for growing inflation in this country; and a time has come when we get into the concept of commitment budgeting. If the project is taken seriously, the Finance Minister should present this Parliament with the annual expenditure that he wants to incur on it year by year, so that the Parliament knows when it is going to be complete; and that should be the first item of commitment in the next budget that he provides. Otherwise, we were thinking in terms of bringing into existence a National Development Bank with resources being provided both by the Centre and by the States, and with possibilities of borrowing from international institutions like the World Bank, so that once the project is approved by the Planning Commission, it should be financed purely as a viable proposition by an institution; and it does not have to come through the budget year after year. We have found that whenever money is short, these important projects are given the

go-by, while a lot of staff is kept without work and salary is being paid to it. A time has come when we have got to think of it. Take for instance the Salem project. It has been said that we are bound to complete the Salem project. Perhaps it may be completed before the other two southern projects. But against an investment of Rs. 150 crores, hardly Rs. 15 crores has been provided. How long will it take? This way of building up a project is very expensive. The Minister's predecessor had provided a White paper. It was not because we were capable of achieving it. But I think it is better to have a dream, we say that we are one of the largest producers of iron ore, and that we have got all the capacity needed—and I have heard the hon. Minister saying that it is better to export finished steel than pig iron, and better to export pig iron than pellets; but in the implementation of all this, it is essential to see what progress we have made and what resources we have provided. I find that there is only a talk. Even in the pelletisation plant for Balladilla, where the maximum of iron dust must now be piling up, or at Donamala, hardly Rs. 20 lakhs have been provided. I do not know what you can do with it. I do not know what is being provided with that amount. We do not have funds. All these projects cost money. Mr. Chandrapan said that it is wrong to get money from outside. I must say that even Soviet Russia and East European countries have, for their development, depended on capital coming from Japan and other countries. Of course, you can safe-guard your interests by providing any clause that you like. These cannot be in the private sector. They have got to be in the public sector. After agriculture, the only source of providing large-scale employment is minerals. When we say that local resources must be utilized for developing the industries, what do we mean? Either it is agricultural resources or mineral resources.

ces There are mineral resources in the most backward States of this country like Orissa, Bihar or Madhya Pradesh where the wealth we have is the mineral wealth. What do we have to do with it? Do we keep quiet saying it is too big? Even the railway system, which was built in the past, had nothing to do with the development of these resources. We know today that when it is a question of mineral development it will have to be a total project, incorporating shipping, ports, railways and so on, all things will have to be dove-tailed and it becomes much more expensive. I strongly believe, therefore, that a time has come when we have to think of a different strategy.

What is wrong with the Kudr. muk project? After a few years it is possible for us to utilize it ourselves. Once the borrowings that we have made from Iran are paid in terms of export why should we not have more of similar projects? If the Vizag plan has any chance to come up I think we will have to think of getting foreign investment involved in this and possibly a link up with Japan which may be anxious to extend its own industry. It may be possible for them to begin with pig iron or, later on, whatever they want from a plant like this with loans coming from that country. I am only giving an example not that Japan is anxious.

In the case of iron ore this country is very rich. Well, there has been very little development. I may also tell you that wherever you go more and more iron ore is being found and there is a demand that there should be a steel plant everywhere. It is this which encouraged your predecessor in office to have a White Paper, once we know that we have these mineral resources in plenty we have got to develop them.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK White Paper or white elephant?

SHRI T A PAI: It is for you to ensure that you do not convert it into a white elephant. It is only a blue print. Today India is producing only 1.5 per cent of the total steel production of the world. Now with all the iron ore resources that we have and with all our coal deposits, is this all that this country is capable of? If we want to produce by 2,000 AD about 75 million tonnes, we have to change our strategy completely because this is not the way to achieve our dream of 75 million tonnes. It is wrong to think it is only a dream. I think our method and our approach to the problem will have to change if we want to achieve this target by that time.

In the case of bauxite, we have put forward proposals to Soviet Russia. We have said let us have a production programme agreement with you, you convert our bauxite into alumina and help us to export it because the production of aluminium requires a great amount of power. That effort was made and we pursued it with Iran. I do hope that similar efforts will continue even with Iraq for a pelletisation plant collaboration.

What I am hinting at is, without enormous resources coming from outside, most of these projects cannot be built up within a reasonable time. I think the country should not hesitate in this matter. I would certainly agree with Shri Patnaik that it is a question of providing employment, true that village industries will provide it but it will not solve all the problems in this country. Further, the capacity of the country and the confidence of the country, they all depend upon its using its natural resources. Take for instance nickel. I know it was approved when I was a Minister. I do not know how far it has gone. There has been a great demand, but that project has not been translated into action.

Take Kerala, for instance. My hon. friend, Shri George, said they have

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

iron ore The Kerala Government, at the time of Shri Achutha Menon had come forward with a proposal that Czechoslovakia is willing to collaborate with them to make special steel Well if there is a possibility that Czechoslovakia can give them assistance have no inhibition as to where the money comes from So long as we get the money on our terms and without damaging our national honour whether it comes from Soviet Russia or from Czechoslovakia or from any other Western countries we must go in for that without any inhibitions After all, it is only those who have money that can give it all others can only give a lecture why we should not take the money Since the whole world is busy developing itself, I do not think we can continue keeping quiet Even China, contrary to all beliefs I know when it comes to sophisticated technology, is as anxious as anybody to get it from anywhere

So far we have depended on loans and grants from others We thought it was all free which is not true and we thought that self-reliance meant making even nuts and bolts in this country Therefore in the name of self-reliance we had also uneconomic production in certain sectors We have to get away from this Self-reliance is the ability of the country to earn free foreign exchange and with that to buy any technology anywhere in the world I think this country cannot afford to have outdated, rejected technology from anywhere We have reached a stage when the best of technology will have to be sought

So, I am not asking for foreign capital to come into this country in driplets of Rs 10 or Rs 25 lakhs in the name of collaboration for any industry I do not want the multi-nationals to come into this because, knowing the industrial structure of this country, I am not one of those

who believe that multi-nationals alone will help us. But in respect of these major industries, what alternative do you have except getting large funds as we have done in the case of Kudremukh and looking after their development as quickly as possible so that in future we may lay the foundations for utilising the resources for our own benefit?

A comment has been made that the hon Minister has been uncharitable to the mini steel plants. I hope he did not predict their death, he was only saying that they were dying, which is a fact I am not saying that it is his intention that they should die. When SAIL was created its Chairman was the Secretary of the Steel Ministry. He thought in terms of creating a situation where the interests of the steel industry were not paramount. He thought that SAIL was the steel industry, that nobody else should come in. When SAIL came into existence in 1974 20 per cent of the steel in this country was produced by the mini steel plants. Their production was 120 million tonnes, when the total production of integrated plants was very low. I would like to ask why even today we are not able to sell steel in this country. At one time it was so easy to sell steel. We find that if you create controls and have only a few approved dealers, you can create a tremendous demand. Once that disappears, the demand also disappears. This industry was responsible for creating black money at one time to the extent of Rs 400 to Rs 500 crores per year. Therefore, when these conditions disappear the steel industry will have to realise that it is not the master. Is the steel industry today oriented to the interests of the consumers in this country? Those days are gone when they told the other industries to take it or leave it. Now production will have to be reoriented, they will have to be more efficient than they have been before. I hope the hon. Minister will not leave them to their own fate, but give them challenges for meeting

the requirements of the country. Otherwise, we will continue to import at least Rs 100 to Rs 115 crores worth of steel every year. Even now we are importing special steel. If we export Rs 300 crores of ordinary steel and get other steel, this country must be interested in adding to the per-unit profit of the items that it manufactures and exports. Otherwise, it is a tragedy.

We have been told that the indication of a country's economic progress is its per capita consumption of steel. But now we find that steel is not saleable. I am glad that SAIL is making efforts to find out what kind of rural development it can bring about by the use of steel. I am glad you are looking for customers. I hope you will see to it that the industry is properly re-oriented.

Now I would like to draw his attention to the distribution system. We opposed the increase in the price of steel for very good reasons because I for one, believe that there is no point in controlling the price of end-products in this country. The prices of raw materials at least will have to be stabilised, they should be kept constant at least for a period. And, therefore, when the idea of SAIL was to increase the price in order to show profit, I was insisting that profits might be made on the production and not on the limited production that they have had. Now, afterwards, stockyards were arranged and rake-loads were arranged but how could the people make the payment and get the rake-loads. I am sure it is not unknown to the Minister that the price of steel went up by Rs 200 to 300 by this stock-yard arrangement and the profits had also increased. The stockyards made the consumers to pay a much higher price. I would like him to look into this because if he wants to make a straight forward increase in the price of steel, it is welcome but let us not try to create other sources of profit over an item by creating monopoly conditions and creating such

difficulties.

Again, four Ministers of Steel & Mines beginning with Mr Mohan Kumaramangalam, myself Shri Malaviya and Shri Yadav, had promised that the price of steel made available to the small scale industry would be equated with that of large scale industry but this has not been done. Please look into it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK It has been done.

SHRI T A PAI I am extremely happy if it has been done. This is something which was eluding us because the Finance Ministry had not made up its mind.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK We did not ask them.

SHRI T A PAI When the mini-steel plants were established, what was their objective? Their objective was to use the scrap. After all, this industry even now, can specialise in making certain types of steel which may be uneconomic for large units to make. In fact, when I came into the Ministry I found that we were importing carbon steel and other specialised steel worth Rs 50 crores every year merely because we had said that these were reserved for the public sector without the public sector manufacturing them. So, this kind of limited specialisation should be made only by the smaller plants.

Again everybody knows that production of Steel by the Arc-Furnaces is power intensive. It is not as if every Electricity Board has not given them in writing that they will give power and they had invited all the States and public financial institutions provided them Rs 250 crores for this industry. At that time, the price was high and the Government thought that they should mop up the surplus by excise. Now, they continue to collect even when the price is not there and they are not saleable. In this country, there is a strange argument of loss of revenue if excise is reduced.

[Shri T A Pai]

generally given by the Finance Department. They forget there is no tax on non-production. If a unit cannot produce, they cannot collect the tax. So, they cannot say that they are losing. So, it is better to keep them alive so that if not now, in future they will be able to pay the tax that is expected of them.

Of course in the Budget, the Finance Minister has said that he has transferred the excise from the rolling plants to the mini-steel plants for his administrative convenience. His administrative convenience will certainly kill all small plants because already they are in the financial distress. Now they have to find additional money for excise. Let them be in existence. Now you say that they can diversify. Who will give the money for diversification when their balance-sheets are showing losses? Unless the development concept is that this industry also requires modernisation finance on soft terms just like any other industry even their investment will go. I would request the Minister that this is taken up with the public financial institutions.

In the past steel got lot of importance but I am afraid non-ferrous metal did not.

This year for instance, the production of aluminium is going to be less merely because there is power shortage. Of course I saw in the newspapers that he has declared it as a policy that they can have their captive plants. But they do not have the money. The money also will have to be provided for captive plants.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK You should have done it five years ago.

SHRI T A PAI We now expect you to do what we did not do. Otherwise, what is the use of an alternative Government? An alternative Government promises to do what we did not do. To say that we did not do is not a compliment. You

have a wonderful chance to do it. Please do what we did not do. I am sure you are capable of it. Otherwise, the people will think that you and we are the same.

I would like that the importance of the steel industry is appreciated and that we think from a large perspective. Take for instance, countries like Kuwait and Middle-East countries. The moment they had money everybody thought that they should have a steel plant because steel became a symbol of progress. But there are still countries like Kuwait where they do not have the man-power. They have to import all the man-power, even including raw material. I think we should have a dialogue with them that we are able to manufacture the steel that they require with their capital also coming in.

On this side we have been always the strongest advocates of a strong steel industry in this country. I for one always believe that gigantism is not the only answer that this country should follow. There is no point in saying that we will manufacture 7 million or 10 million tonnes of steel when our capacity to manage a smaller plant has proved to be better than to manage a bigger plant. When there is a break-down in a bigger plant we are completely ruined. The concept of gigantism will have to go. Then many countries of East Europe which are poor in these resources have been trying to re-cycle the minerals and the waste. The fullest encouragement should be given for re-cycling the waste and, in that way, that will also become a very important industry.

In my coastal area, there is a poor quality bauxite available for the manufacture of aluminium. Soviet Russia uses poor quality bauxite for manufacturing aluminium. In this country, when God has given us both rich quality and poor quality bauxite, we do not know what to do. We go on

arguing which should be used without using it I think the days of arguments are over and the days of action are now I wish the new Minister all success in his endeavour to give the country one of the best industries possible

श्री बाबुल सुम्बरई (सिंहपुर) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आज मुझे प्रथम बार पार्लियामेंट के सदन में बोलने का अवसर मिला है। यह मेरे लिए बड़े सौभाग्य की बात है कि मैं इस्पात तथा खान मन्त्रालय की मांगों पर बोल रहा हूँ। इस विभाग के जो मिनिस्टर बने हैं, वे भी उड़ीसा क्षेत्र से आते हैं, जा खानों से भरा प्रदेश है।

मैं अपने भाषण में इस विभाग की आय और व्यय के सम्बन्ध में नहीं बोलना चाहता हूँ, इस विषय पर तो अनेक माननीय सदस्यों ने प्रकाश डाला है, मैं इस विषय में सम्बन्धित विभागीय प्रशासन में जो त्रुटियाँ हैं, जो कमियाँ हैं उनको और आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। मेरा क्षेत्र सिंहभूम जिला का छोटा नागपुर भी खानों से भरा हुआ प्रदेश है, जहाँ मैं मैं चुन कर इस सदन में आया हूँ।

मैं आप का ध्यान "जिल्टज" अखबार के 18-6-1977 का अंक तथा "न्यू-वेव" के 5-6-1977 के अंक की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ जिसमें "कोम", "कोमाइट" माइन्ज से सम्बन्धित 200 करोड़ रुपये के खोटाए पर प्रकाश डाला गया है।

26 hrs.

इस पत्रिका को मैं आपके सामने रखना चाहूँगा। यह जो कोमाइट माइन्ज हमारे बिहार एवं उड़ीसा प्रान्त में है, जोकि सिंहभूम डिस्ट्रिक्ट एवं कैम्पेजर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में है, इससे श्री मिसरी लाल जैन सम्बन्धित है और उनके सुपुत्र राज्य सभा के सदस्य हैं और उनका नाम श्री धर्मचन्द जैन है। सिराचुरी के कम्पनी भी इससे सम्बन्धित है और हो सकता है कि और भी कई माइन्ज क्षेत्रों से सम्बन्धित हों। यह जो जिल्टज में भेजे अक्षरों में 200 करोड़ रुपये के खोटाए की बात छपी है, इसकी

पहले से मालूम होगा कि यह रायस्टी से सम्बन्धित है सैल्स टैक्स से संबंधित 'इन्कम टैक्स' से संबंधित है, विदेशों में माल भ्रजन से संबंधित है और 'दूरो' की बेंचस देने से संबंधित है और इस में अनेक प्रकार की त्रुटियाँ हैं। इसलिए आप के माध्यम से मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहूँगा कि यह जो श्री जी० डी० गांधी के नाम से दिल्ली से प्रकाशित हुआ है, इस की सरकार जाच कराए। श्री मिसरी लाल जैन श्री श्री धर्मचन्द जैन से इसका संबंध है और पायथासा के निवासी भी है जो हमारी कास्टीट्यूटोरी से सम्बन्धित है। हो सकता है कि इसमें से जो लिखा हो वह गलत लिखा हो। इसलिए इसकी जाच होनी चाहिए और अगर य त 1976 का कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही लिखने वाले के खिलाफ करनी चाहिए। यह कोई थोड़े से रूपों का मामला नहीं है। यह 200 करोड़ रुपये का मामला है और अगर इतने सारे रुपये हमारे आर्थिकी में खर्च जायें, तो उनका ठेक बहुत उच्च तक पहुँच जाएगा। इतने सारे रूपों के दुरुपयोग से सम्बन्धित यह मामला है और अगर सचमुच में कम्पनी द्वारा इतने सारे रूपों का दुरुपयोग किया गया है, तो सरकार को उनके खिलाफ कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए। इसलिए मैं मांग करता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस मामले की जाच कराए।

इसके साथ साथ मैं एक बात और कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि हमारे यहाँ एच० एम० टी०सी० की किराई बुरी, मलटोमी एच मेधाटाबुक प्रोजेक्ट है। अभी 18 दिसम्बर, 1976 को आपने अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा कि माइन्ज के निकट करीब 20 किलोमीटर दूर हमारी कास्टीट्यूटोरी के हाटगाभरिया में श्री लक्ष्मण गांधी का आगमन हुआ था। जब से वहाँ पर आए तो 7 सरकारी हवाई जहाजों और बिहार राज्य परिवहन निगम की 200 से ऊपर बसों और ट्रकों का व्यवहार किया गया था उस वकत मेधाटबुक और किराई प्रोजेक्ट

[श्री बागुन मुखर्जी]

के जो प्रबन्धक थे, जनरल मैनेजर या मैनेजमेंट के जो लोग थे, उन्होंने दो दिन तक खदान के काम तथा प्रोडक्शन को बन्द करके वहाँ के काम करने वाले लोगों को ट्रकों और बगानों में उन जगह भिजवाया था जहाँ भी सजय गाड़ों को आना था। इस तरह से वहाँ पर बहुत से लोगों की भोडभाड की गई थी। हम यह समझने हैं कि उनकी इस कार्यवाही से प्रोजेक्ट का उत्पादन को दृष्टि में रखते हुए उसमें नुकसान हुआ है यह देशहित में नहीं था। दो दिन जो वहाँ प्रोजेक्ट पर काम नहीं हुआ है, उसके बारे में मैं आप के माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहूँगा कि उसको जांच कराई जाए कि उसमें लाम हुआ है या नुकसान हुआ है। मेरा विश्वास है कि नुकसान जरूर हुआ है। इस नुकसान के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार है? इसके लिए भूतपूर्व सरकार, पुरानी सरकार जिम्मेदार है या वहाँ का मैनेजमेंट जिम्मेदार है। इसकी जांच कराई जाए और जिन्होंने नुकसान किया है, उन पर कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए।

इसके साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहूँगा कि हमारे यहाँ जो यूरेनियम की खदानें हैं, क्रोमाइट, कायनाइट, बाक्साइट की खदानें हैं, लाइम-स्टोन की खदानें हैं, ग्राइटर और और चाइना क्ले आदि की माइंस हैं, ये जितनी भी माइंस हैं और साथ साथ जो वहाँ पर बोकारो स्टील प्लांट है या हातिया रांची में दूसरा स्टील प्लांट है, उन के कारण बहुत से लोगों की खेती की जमीनें बर्बाद हो गई हैं। उनको देशहित में बनाया गया है। इसलिए मैं मंत्री महोदय, यह कहूँगा कि ऐसे आदिवासी लोगों को जो जमीनों से हटाया गया है, उन के लिए भी कुछ किया जाए। उन लोगों को, "डिस्प्लेसड परसन्स" को संबंधित प्रोजेक्टों में नौकरी दी जाएगी लेकिन इस पर भी दो हजार आधे बीघा जमीन खूब रहे हैं। वे लोग डिस्प्लेसड हो गए हैं, उनकी खेत

से बंचित कर दिया गया है। अब नौकरी के बलावा उनके पास और कोई साधन नहीं है। हमने अपने स्तर से सरकार से जमीन के बदले जमीन की मांग की। केन्द्रीय सरकार एब बिहार सरकार से दोनों ने जमीन देने से इन्कार कर दिया और कहा कि आप लोगों को कंपेंसेशन मिल गया है। आखिर इसका रास्ता क्या है? हम लोग कम पड़े-लिखे लोग हैं, हम लोगों के पास रोजगार का और कोई साधन नहीं है। हमारी मांग है कि जहाँ खदान के नाम पर, कारखाने के नाम पर हमारी जमीन ली जाए, वहाँ हम लोगों को निश्चित रूप से, गारन्टी के साथ नौकरी मिलनी चाहिए। चाहे एच०ई०सी० हो, बोकारो स्टील प्लांट हो, चाहे बिडिया माइंस हो, मालन टोपी स्टील प्लांट हो, एन०सी०डी०सी०, हजारीबाग, किरीरूष एवं मेवाहातूरूष, रूषा, जमदा, एब नोवा मून्डी माइन्स हो, जहाँ पर भी हमारी खेती योग्य जमीन ली गई है वहाँ पर लोगों को काम मिलना चाहिए।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो यह मेधा हातू प्रोजेक्ट किरीरूष, मलाटोली बिडिया प्रोजेक्ट इसका हैब्रिफाफिस हेदराबाद में है। प्रोजेक्टों के निकट क्षेत्र में, उनके हैब्रिफाफिज भी सिहभूम डिस्ट्रिक्ट में होने चाहिए। इससे वहाँ के लोगों की सभी प्रकार का लाभ होगा। हमारी मांग है कि वहाँ हैब्रिफाफिस बनाया जाए और किसी भी व्यक्ति को डायरेक्टर या एडीशनल डायरेक्टर के रूप में वहाँ भेजा जाए या किसी और पदाधिकारी को वहाँ पदस्थापन किया जाए। इससे वहाँ के लोगों के साथ साथ सरकारी प्रशासन को भी सद्गति होगी। वे जो भी मांग करेंगे, चाहे नौकरी की मांग हो या कोई और मांग हो उसके लिए उन्हें बिडडी पत्रों हेदराबाद नहीं करनी पड़ेगी। हेदराबाद जाने में वहाँ के लोगों को बड़ी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ा है। हरिजनों और आदिवासियों के हित में यह है कि हैब्रिफाफिस वहाँ सिहभूम जिजें में

हो। इससे वहाँ के डिप्लोमेट परसंस को आसानी से नौकरी भी मिलेगी।

इसके साथ साथ हमको बताते हैं कि हमारे यहाँ "किस्को" कम्पनी और "इस्को" कम्पनी प्राइवेट सेक्टर में हैं। इन दोनों कम्पनियों के लिए हमारी जमीनें गई हैं ये "टिस्को" और "इस्को" कम्पनियाँ गुवा, जमदा, नोवामुन्डी, माईस जो सिंहभूम जिले से हैं, से सम्बन्धित हैं। माइनिंग एरिया डक्लस करने के लिए जॉर्ज जमीन की गई उसके साथ साथ नया एरिया एक्सप्लोरेशन के लिए भी लिया जा रहा है। इन कम्पनियों में एम्प्लोयेमेंट के बारे में भी यह पुराने नियम हैं कि नौकरी करने वाले के लड़के, लड़की या उसके दामाद को मिलेगी। अगर कोई और लोग नौकरी मांगता है तो उसको कह दिया जाता है कि तुम कम्पनी के इम्प्लॉई के लड़के नहीं हो या दामाद नहीं हो। कम्पनी के ये नियम बहुत पुराने हैं और उन्हीं पर आज भी ये कम्पनियों चल रही हैं। जो हमारे मा-बाप, दादे तीन-तीस, चालीस-चालीस वर्ष से इन कम्पनियों में काम कर रहे हैं उन लोगों को भी यह जवाब मिलता है कि आपका लड़का नहीं है, दामाद नहीं है। अगर इस प्रकार से हमें जवाब मिलेगा, अन्ध्याय एवं पक्षपात होगा, चाहे वह सरकार की ओर से हो चाहे प्राइवेट कम्पनी की ओर से हो तो हमारे पास कोई और रास्ता नहीं रहेगा सिवाय इसके कि हमें अपने हक के लिए तीर और तलवार का प्रयोग करना पड़े। वहाँ पर शान्ति भंग भी हो सकती है। मंत्री महोदय उड़ीसा के हैं। सिंहभूम वहाँ से कोई दूर नहीं है। वहाँ वह जाकर स्थिति को सम्मानें। मेघालयपुर माइनिंग प्रोजेक्ट में भी यही हाल है। वहाँ भी शान्ति भंग का खतरा है। स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए उनको पन उठाने चाहिए। हम लोगों से यह जो व्यवहार किया जा रहा है इसका अन्त करवाने

एवं न्याय के लिए उनको कदम उठाने चाहिए.

श्री बीजू पटनायक : मैं तो आपका दोस्त हूँ।

श्री बागुन मुन्धर्षी : यह ठीक बात है। लेकिन अगर आपने हाँ स्थिति में सुधार लाया तो आपकी और हमारी दोस्ती और भी पक्की हो जाएगी। प्रत्यक्ष या अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से हमारे मंत्री महोदय को कई खदानों एवं कारखानों का मालिक कहा जाता है और प्रत्यक्ष या अप्रत्यक्ष रूप से उनका इनके साथ सम्बन्ध भी है। सौभाग्य से यह इस्पात एवं खनन पोर्ट-फोलियो उनको मिला है। हम उन से अच्छे काम की आशा करते हैं। उनको इस काम का तजुर्बा है। उन पर हमारे देशवासियों को पूरा विश्वास है। जिस तरह से पहले इन पदों पर भारतीयव्यक्तियों ने अपने पदों का दुरु-प्रयोग किया है और अधिक फायदा उन्हीं उठाया है ऐसा अब नहीं होगा। वह देश के हित को सर्वोपरि रखेंगे और इस प्रकार का कोई कार्य नहीं करेंगे जिससे देश को नुकसान हो इसका मुझे पूरा भरोसा है।

चाहना बले मा (ज भी केन्द्र से सम्बन्धित है। सिंहभूम डिस्ट्रिक्ट में और उड़ीसा में प्रहृ बरस के करीब से हमारे राज्य सभा के जो सदस्य हैं श्री धर्मचन्द जैन के साथ साथ वहाँ अठारह खदानों के मालिक हैं। हम लोग एरिया रंगडते रहे गये हैं कि हमारे मजदूरों को मिनिमम वेज मिलनी चाहिए लेकिन नहीं दी गई। वहाँ पर दिसम्बर महीने तक उनको दो रुपये वार आने मजदूरी मिलती रही है। हम इस ओर प्रधान मंत्री, होम मिनिस्टर और अन्ध्याय मंत्री तथा सेक्टर मिनिस्टर का भी ध्यान आकर्षित करते रहे हैं लेकिन इस पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया। अब फरवरी, 1977 में जा कर दो रुपये वार आने से बढ़ा कर पांच रुपये वार करने की गई है। आर

। श्री बागुन सुम्बर्हई।

देखे कि खेत मजदूर को बहा पर क्या मिलता है। उनको छ रुपए पचास पैसे सिहभूम जिले में बिहार सरकार के आदेश से दिए जाते हैं। इसके मुकाबले में माऽ के मालिकों ने पाच रुपए ग्रस्ती पैसे देने शुरू किए हैं। यह सरकार के लिए बहुत लज्जा की बात है। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि अन्य खदानों में और कारखानों में जो मजदूरों का मजदूरी दी जाती है वही इनको भी दी जानी चाहिए। बहुत ही कम मजदूरी उनको दस पंद्रह बरस से मिलती आ रही है। इसका बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए।

कांग्रेस हकूमत ने एक वर्ष पहले उनके बोनस को भी घटा दिया था। पहले उनको 8 33 प्रतिशत बोनस दिया जाता था। एजीपतियों के साथ साठगाठ करके कांग्रेस सरकार ने और शायद उनके साथ दोस्ती करके चुनाव में लाभ उठाने के लिए बोनस चार प्रतिशत कर दिया। अब जब नई सरकार बनी है, जनता सरकार बनी है, तो मैं मांग करता हूँ कि इस बोनस को बढ़ा कर 8 33 फिर से कर दिया जाए।

हमारे यहाँ नेबर को बहुत कम मजदूरी मिलती है। दैनिक मजदूरी भी ठीक से नहीं मिलती। उनका बोनस भी छीन लिया गया है। उनको क्वार्टर की सुविधा नहीं मिलती, मीडिकल फीसिनिटी, बिजली, पानी आदि सुविधाएँ नहीं दी जाती हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में कम में कम उनका बोनस तो 8 33 प्रतिशत दिया जाए। इतना बोनस उनका मिलेगा तो वह गरीब मजदूर अपने बाल बच्चों की भलाई के लिए उसको खर्च कर सकेगा, उनके कल्याण एवं विकास पर खर्च कर सकेगा।

बिहार के सिहभूम जिले में लाइम स्टोन माइन्स और लाइट स्टोन माइन्स आदि कई माइन्स हैं जो बन्द पड़ी हैं। बिना नोटिस के उनको बन्द कर दिया गया है। जैसे जे०डी०

शारदा एंड कम्पनी की चाईबासा में माइन्स है। वो तीन सौ जो उन्होंने ली हुई है उनको उन्होंने चार महीने हुए बन्द कर दिया। बिना नोटिस के उन्होंने उन खदानों को बन्द कर दिया। वहा पर आज मजदूर रोटी के बगैर है, रोजी के बगैर है, वे बेरोजगार हो गए हैं। हम लोगों ने जत्र अस्मिन्ट नेबर कमिशनर, सिहभूम चायवामा को इसके बारे में लिखा और बताया कि बिना नोटिस इन खदानों को बन्द कर दिया गया है तो उन्होंने उनको बुलाया क्योंकि यह एक रीर कानूनी काम था। ऐसा मान्य होता है कि उनके साथ उनकी साठ गाठ थी या दांती थी कोई कार्यवाही अभी तक नहीं की गई है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार की जो बन्द माइन्स हैं इनकी जांच की जाए और इनको खुलवाया जाए। अगर वे लोग इन पर कुर्य करना नहीं चाहते हैं तो दूसरों को आप इनको सौज पर दें और वे लोग इन पर काम करें। सरकार खद चलाये या कोई प्रोग्र प्रबन्ध करे ताकि मजदूरों को काम मिले।

इसी तरह से हमारे यहाँ ए०सी०सी० सीमेन्ट फैक्ट्री चायवामा, चिकरानी में है, हालांकि उसका सम्बन्ध मानवीय पटनायक से नहीं है, लेकिन चूक खदान में सम्बन्धित है, इसलिए चाईबासा में जो यह फैक्ट्री है, उसके बारे में हमारा कहना है कि इसका जो धूआ और डस्ट 6 मील के रेडियस में गिरता है उससे छ. मील के क्षेत्र में फसल भी नष्ट होती है और मनुष्यों के स्वास्थ्य को भी हानि होती है। इसलिए ऐसा इतजाम किया जाए कि उसकी डस्ट सीधे फसल पर न पड़े, बल्कि पानी पर छतारी जाय ताकि फसल और प्रायिमियों को नुकसान न हो।

1968 में चाईबासा में एक सी०पी० डब्लू० डी० माइनिंग आफिस बनने की बात थी, जिसके लिए अमीन एक्वायर की गई

कस का, हम लोग मांग कर रहे थे कि इसके बीच में जो देवस्थान खाने जाने का रास्ता था गया है उसके लिए 15, 20 फीट चौड़ा रास्ता छोड़ दिया जाए और फिर आफिस बने जब हमने आफिस बनाने वाले प्रिस्टेंट इंजीनियर से बात की इस बारे में, उसी दिन पकड़ा धक्की मुर हा गई। इसी बात को ले कर झगड़ा हुआ और उसी दिन हमारे ऊपर पुलिस केस चला जा अभी तक चालू है और महीने में चार बार हमारी पेशी हाती है। हम चाहते हैं कि केस चल, लेकिन गवाह कम्प्लेन्ट के होने चाहिए और जो फंसला हागा हम मान्य हागा। हम चाहते हैं कि आफिस बने उस स हमारा फायदा हागा, लेकिन देवस्थान जाने के लिए 20 फीट चौड़ा रास्ता छोड़कर बन। जिस तरह से हमका परेशान किया जा रहा है वह ठीक नहीं है। जब हम बिहार में मंत्री थे ता एक दिन वार्ट में हम 5 मिनट लेट पहुंचे ता मुन्सिफ न कहा कि आप लेट क्यों आये, काट दूज वार्ट बन्न कर वारन्ट का प्रादेश दिया। इस प्रकार से जो अनियमित प्रशासन चल रहा है उस का जनता सरकार ठीक करे। हम इस केस से बचना नहीं चाहते लेकिन फंसला जल्दी होना चाहिए।

अन्त में मैं पुन निवेदन करूंगा कि सिद्धभूमि में जो अनियमितताये हैं, सुटिया है उन को दूर करें। और जा हमने निर्णय लिया है कि अगर प्रोजेक्टों के एपा टर्मेट में स्थानीय लोगों के साथ बड़बड़ी हामी ता हम लोग हथियार उठावगे जिससे शांति भंग होने की सम्भावना है। इसमें आप इंटरफीयर करे ताकि हम शांति से रह सके।

SHRI GOVINDA MUNDA (Keonjhar) I thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Steel and Mines, which is under the worthy control of Shri Biju Patnaik

We the Adivasi people had heard very very baseless and tall talk from the previous Congress Government. But all of you might have heard of the cost that we had to pay or suffer. We are happy that Janata Government has come to power. We hope that this Government will do something for us.

We are Scheduled Tribe. We live in jungles. The jungles are full of mines. The tribal people, who are economically weak are engaged in the mining area on low wages. There are no facilities—housing or others—for them. The previous Government has been exploiting us. This Janata Government has not declared its policy as yet. I want to know what is the policy of this Government so far as the development of mineral resources in those areas is concerned.

For a couple of years, there has been a loss in mineral production, I know this. A few years ago, our previous Government introduced mechanised system. There are two kinds of operations in mineral areas. One is under the Private Sector and another is under the Public Sector. I know it and it is known to all of you. Keonjhar has plenty of resources. There are huge deposits of iron ore, manganese ore, chromite, bauxite and so on. You also know that there is the Paradeep port nearby which is based on Daitari and Gandhamardan mines. You might have heard that there is an agreement with the Japanese Government. But the Japanese Government is not willing to take all the ore from Daitari as it has low percentage of iron whereas the Gandhamardan mine has got 68 per cent iron content. The difficulty is that there is no facility of railway communication. How is this to be exported? We have to find out how we can increase the production from the mines so that our poor adivasi people will be benefited by getting suitable employment.

Of course, some of my friends brought it to the notice of the Gov-

[Shri Govinda Munda]

Government of India, that there is need to establish a second steel plant at Nayagarh in the district of Keonjhar. For the last 10 years, our people of Keonjhar district and the people of Orissa in general have demanded for this thing. How this has been neglected, I do not know. I earnestly request the Government, the popular Government the Janata Government to please look into it and do it immediately, otherwise we will be very much ungrateful to the Government. I hope that the Central Government would not disappoint the people of Keonjhar of Orissa.

16 27 hrs

[SHRI M SATYANARAYAN RAO in the Chair]

Let me speak in Oriya

*Keonjhar district is well-known for its mineral wealth. A large number of Iron Ore and Manganese Mines are situated around Barbil and Banspani Railway Stations and are feeding the Steel Plants as well as export.

Though a lot of prospecting efforts have been made in this area, there are also very good prospective areas further inside the District. In this connection, I would like to mention the recent discovery of bauxite of good quality near village Kuanr in the Bhuyanpirh area. Such deposits has not come to lime-light earlier because they were too far from rail head and there was no possibility of economically working such minerals. However, I am very glad to know that the Jakhapura-Banspani Railway line has been taken up. For a proper development of the natural resources of this District, this rail line is very essential. I would only request that the construction of this line should very much be speeded up and completed in the shortest possible time. We find that mining is one

industry which is generally taken up in the economically backward tribal regions of the State and is also substantially labour-intensive. Very often when the agriculture production is affected by a bad monsoon, it is the mining industry which is providing alternative employment for the rural people. In this background, once the Jakhapura-Banspani railway line is completed, there will be immense benefit for the tribal areas of this district by way of vastly improved employment opportunities.

About 2 million tonnes of iron ore are now being despatched from the Badbil-Banspani railway line for export via Paradip. This is being taken by a roundabout route via Rajkansa and Kharagpur. There is the fore an additional cost of Rs 15 p/tonne incurred by the Mineral and Metal Trading Corporation. Once the direct link is established, the iron ore can move through the short-cut from Banspani via Jakhapura and Cuttack to Paradip, saving Rs 3 crores of freight per year. The diversion of the traffic will not necessarily result in any loss to the Railways because they can utilise the same traffic capacity to move additional iron ore from Badbil-Banspani sector to Haldia. This will result in the increase of the total mineral production in this area and thereby lead to a great improvement in the employment of the tribal people of this area.

We have been anxiously looking forward to the establishment of a Steel Plant near about Nayagarh of Keonjhar district. This was proposed over 10 years ago and we had been often informed that this Steel Plant would be taken up in the next round of new Plants. The people of Keonjhar district sincerely hope that Government would give serious consideration to the proposal now.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrack-pore) Sir, while speaking on the Demands of the Ministry of Steel and Mines, I take the opportunity of

*The original speech was delivered in Oriya.

congratulating Shri Biju Patnaik for taking over this new Ministry. Though he is not here his counterpart his colleague, the Industries Minister, is here and I hope he will convey my views to Shri Patnaik.

We remember Shri Patnaik as a prodigy of Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, who was a dreamer and exponent of the public sector in this country. The steel mills in India which he calls 'as the new temples of new India, were built up in his time. Before Independence we had only two small steel plants in the private sector. But in thirty years after Independence the steel industry in India has gone a long way. Particularly last year was a good year for the steel industry when we produced ten million tonnes of steel. Though it was very small as compared to the advanced countries a small country like Japan had produced 120 million tonnes of steel the USA had produced 130 million tonnes of steel a big country like us producing 10 million tonnes of steel is of course no mean achievement. Compared to what we had in 1947 this is definitely a marked advancement. But in spite of this production last year there was demand recession as a result of which we could not sell all the steel we produced in the domestic market. The SAIL had to go out for export and last year we managed to export about 14 lakh tonnes of steel. Just because steel did not sell last year there seems to be a new theory floating in this country, namely when we produced such a small quantity and the people of this country do not have the purchasing power then what is the point in having the steel plants. Let us export all the steel and let the country go back to agriculture. This is a dangerous theory to which I hope, Mr Patnaik does not subscribe. I hope he will bring his dynamism to the new Ministry and not only put the steel industry on better footing but also change the structure of the Indian economy so that such a small production does not go unutilised.

993 LS—9.

Mr Chairman, Sir, an injustice has been done to my State in the grants of the Steel Ministry for this year. Sir, Eastern India is the heart and head of the steel industry in India. Both the public sector and private sector steel plants—excepting Mysore Iron and Steel Works—are in eastern India, namely in the three States of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

Now we have this Durgapur Steel Plant which for a long time is supposed to be the sick baby among the steel mills. Whenever in the past any demand had been made from Bengal for expansion of Durgapur it was said that due to bad industrial relations the capacity of Durgapur could not be expanded. Sir last year was a year of unprecedented peace in Durgapur where the capacity utilisation went up to 68 per cent. In spite of that in this year's grant, there has been no provision for any expansion in the Durgapur Steel Plant. What is more dangerous in the case of our State is that there is an allotment of rupees one crore and odd only for the Alloy Steel Plant. Together with this small provision for the alloy steel plant the Steel Ministry has taken a decision to reduce the duty on imported stainless steel. I have written a letter to Mr Patnaik this morning on this aspect. Up till now the imported and indigenous steel were available at par. They were being sold at the same price. With the reduction in the import duty the imported steel will become much cheaper as a result of which the Alloy Steel Plant will have to be closed down. So I request Mr Patnaik to consider this matter in the interest of our State and give protection to this public sector steel plant which utilised 93 per cent of its capacity last year. I also bring to the attention of the Steel Minister the condition of the Indian Iron and Steel Company. In 1972 the Government of India had taken a decision to take over the Indian Iron & Steel Company to safeguard the interests of the nation and also that of the workers from the hands of a very incompetent manage-

[Shri Sangata Roy]

ment I would like to submit that in the last five years, very little has been done to modernise it and to complete the modernisation work, it is taking a very long time. I understand the work is still going on. The production of one million tonnes should be achieved at the earliest so that the money invested in this unit may not go waste.

16 40 hrs

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

I have got another point to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that is with regard to the Bokaro Steel which has got rolling mills. Formerly the design for this unit was based on Soviet Design. The Soviet Union had promised a credit of Rs 2500 crores for the project. But recently the Steel Ministry has taken a decision for changing the design of the plant and give this design work to MECON which is a subsidiary of SAIL. The MECON has developed a high expertise and it is setting up a steel plant in Nigeria. But I would have been very glad if MECON did work out its own design for this plant. For this purpose MECON is going to tie up with the V-United and Davy Ashmore Company of the United States of America as a result of which not only will it not be able to utilise the Soviet credit of Rs 100 crores but also the amount that has already gone into civil engineering works will be wasted. I would therefore request Mr Patnaik to look into this and give us a satisfactory answer. A number of Members have pointed out the flaws in the export policy of raw materials from this country. It is true that in a country like ours where capital is short and foreign exchange reserves are not adequate, it may sometimes be necessary to export raw materials, but my submission is that a country has to look forward to the next hundred years or so. In such a case, we can-

not go on exporting our precious raw materials.

Not only that I would also submit that the terms of export trade which MMTC has entered with Japan formerly are still continuing and it is not at all favourable to us. It is less than the world market price. I think the hon. Minister will take a decision to change the terms of trade.

I would also bring to the notice of the hon. Minister about the condition of the private iron ore mines in this country. Our Advisory friend has already pointed out some of the flaws. But he has not suggested the ultimate solution. The solution does not lie in the leasing it out to somebody else. Though this material is being canalised through the MMTC it is necessary to take over these mines from the private owners. This will also put an end to the sufferings of the workers. Not only that there is a nefarious thing going on in this country yet in the small Union territory of Goa, there are companies which have monopolised this trade. They are Chougules, Saigonkars and Darpos. They are not only owning the mines but they are exporting the ore to the foreign countries through their own ships. Chougules have got their own barges and ships to carry the ore. They almost own the port of Mormugao. I appeal to you that you should consider taking over at least the export of iron ore from Goa so that a great loss to the national exchequer can be saved.

Lastly, I would request the hon. Minister to consider opening of steel plants in the Southern States. I would like to remind him that an assurance to this effect has already been given to the people of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. And also a small one in Kerala. I hope before giving in to the pressures from his own, native people which is only natural because he has become a Minister, he should fulfil the commitment of the previous government.

Steel Industry has come a long way in this country and with 1400 crores of money investment in the public sector in this industry, it is a sector in which the public sector has achieved commanding heights. I hope Mr. Patnaik will not only continue to keep up the commanding heights of the economy but will take it up to greater heights.

SHRI RAMACHANDRA MALLICK (Jaipur): Mr. Speaker, I am thankful to you for the opportunity you have given me to speak on the demands of grants of the Ministry of Steel and Mines. At the same time I must congratulate the hon. Minister Mr. Biju Patnaik who is of a socialist mind, he is very active and dynamic person in nature. I hope that under the leadership of Mr. Patnaik the Ministry of Steel and Mines and the related industries will progress satisfactorily. I also hope that this ministry will make rapid progress towards self-sufficiency and will also do more exports earning valuable foreign exchange for our country. This ministry can change the economic conditions of the country. It is needless for me to say that the Ministry of Steel and Mines has to play a vital role in building up our national economy and the total development of our country.

I want to make an important point about my state of Orissa. The population of Orissa according to the census report of 1971 is 2,19,44,615 out of which the population of Scheduled Castes and Tribes comes to 83,82,791. I request that proper attention may be paid to the employment of SC/ST candidates in steel factories. The people of Orissa are fortunate that so far as the mineral resources are concerned, there are many good mines in Sukindh, Barabil, Keonjhar and other places. The mines are rich in high grade iron ore, coal, manganese, limestone and dolomite which form the most important ingredients for steel. According to the Geological Survey of India enough raw material is available in our state as well as in our country. There is no reason why we could not

produce steel cheaply in our country and compete successfully in international market, making good profits. I therefore suggest for the kind and sympathetic consideration of the hon. Minister the establishment of a second steel plant at Sukindh in the district of Cuttack or at Nayagarh in Keonjhar. I can say that there will be no problem of land, water, electric power, labour or raw materials. Sukindh is centrally situated and is surrounded by Keonjhar, Dhenkanal, Mayurbhanj, Balasore and Cuttack. This place is nearer to Jajpur-Keonjhar Road Railway station. There are vast areas in Sukindh which are vacant and which can be utilised for this purpose. Further I want to say about water supply. The rivers Baitarani and Brahmani are there and they will serve the purpose easily.

The Paradeep port is there nearer to Sukindh which can help in export. I want to draw the attention of the Minister and the hon. Members of Parliament to the quantity and value of iron and chrome ores exported through Paradeep Port during the year 1972-73. The figures are as per Government report submitted by the Bureau of Statistics and Economics, Orissa. The total quantity of iron ores exported during 1972-73 to Japan, Rumania, Poland and Czechoslovakia was 18,70,742.345 M.T. and the foreign exchange earned was Rs. 11,83,24,227.59 and chrome ores exported to Japan in that year was 1,12,071.458 M.T. and the foreign exchange earned was Rs. 2,30,79,457.50.

The Express Highway connecting Dairari mine with Paradeep port is a short cut way and therefore the cost of transportation of goods will be less. I further want to say that the Railway line from Jakhapura to Barapani is under construction. There will be no problem for manpower and labour. The labour charges are very cheap in Orissa in comparison to other places. This can solve the unemployment problem, from which Orissa has been suffering for many years.

[Shri Rama Chandra Malik]

Another point I want to say is regarding electric power. I can say that there will be no problem in this respect also because Hirakud and Talcher Thermal Power Stations are there in Orissa, nearer to mines and so the expenses for that purpose will also be less.

Considering all these points, I request and strongly suggest to the hon. Minister that the second steel plant may please be established at Nayagarh in Keonjhar or at Sukinda. Its establishment will also give a tremendous impetus to the economic development of the State and besides being a source of great internal and external profits, it will earn huge foreign exchange for the country.

I, therefore, say that it is high time for us, for the Janata Government to do the needful in the matter. The people of Orissa believe in this Janata Government and this was proved in the last Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Orissa. I, therefore, request the hon. Minister that the second steel plant for Orissa may please be sanctioned. I thank you once again.

श्री मोहन जैन (दुर्ग) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं केवल भिलाई कारखाने के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ जहाँ से मैं चुना गया हूँ। इस इस्पात कारखाने के निकट दल्ली राजेहरा खदानों के निर्दोष श्रमिकों पर 2 तारीख की रात को एवं 3 तारीख करीब 10 बजे गोली चली जिस में 10 आदमी घटना स्थल पर ही मारे गये और एक आदमी अस्पताल में मर गया। जनता पार्टी की सरकार की स्थापना के बाद यह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण दुर्घटना हुई है, मैं आशा करता था कि मंत्री महोदय समय निकाल कर वहाँ आयेंगे और इस दुर्घटना के पीछे क्या कारण हैं उनको दूर करने का प्रयास करेंगे।

वहाँ के श्रमिकों की समस्या के बारे में कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। राजेहरा में ठेकेदारों के श्रमिकों की संख्या बहुत अधिक है, करीब 8,000 से अधिक मजदूर ठेकेदारों

के अन्तर्गत काम कर रहे हैं। लेकिन जो ठेकेदारों से समझौता हुआ है उसकी शर्तों के अनुसार जो सुविधायें मजदूरों को मिलनी चाहिए वह आज तक नहीं दी गई। जिस के कारण श्रमिकों में निरन्तर असंतोष बढ़ता गया और यह स्थिति पहुँची कि अपने न्यायोचित अधिकारों की मांग करने पर मजदूरों पर गोली चली।

ठेकेदारों को निविदा की धारा 13, 14 और 15 का पालन करना चाहिए जो इस प्रकार है :

धारा 13 : ठेकेदार नीचे शर्तें सुविधायें अपने कर्मचारियों को देंगे।

(अ) कर्मचारियों को कार्यस्थल के पास आवास की सुविधा देना।

(ब) साफ सफाई की व्यवस्था करना।

(स) ठेकेदार अपने कर्मचारियों के बारे में कानून के तहत आने वाले सभी रिकार्ड और रजिस्टर रखेंगे और प्रत्येक कर्मचारी को वेतन और हाजिरी कार्ड देंगे।

(ड) लेबर कैंम्पों में और कार्यस्थल पर शीतल पेय जल की व्यवस्था करेंगे।

(ई) खदानों की भीतरी सड़कों को मरम्मत ठेकेदार की जिम्मेदारी होगी।

धारा 14 : कम्पनी ठेकेदारों को नीचे दर्शाई हुई सुविधाएं देगी :

(अ) चिकित्सा सुविधा कम्पनी दरों पर ठेकेदारों द्वारा भुगतान किये जाने पर दी जाएगी।

(ब) जहाँ तक सम्भव है, कम्पनी द्वारा पीने के पानी की व्यवस्था निर्धारित स्थानों पर, ठेकेदारों की बस्ती में की जाएगी। ठेकेदार वितरण की व्यवस्था अपने खर्च पर करेगा।

(स) माल के ऊपर देन रायल्टी कम्पनी द्वारा दी जाएगी ।

धारा 15 :

(अ) ठेकेदार कांट्रैक्ट लेवर एक्ट, 1970 और अधिनियम 1971 के प्रावधानों का पालन करेगा ।

(ब) ठेकेदार का यह कर्तव्य है परोक्ष अथवा अपरोक्ष रूप से कार्य पर रखे गये श्रमिकों के लिए बनाये गये, केन्द्रीय राजकीय या स्थानीय शासन द्वारा श्रम प्रावधानों का, जैसे कि नौकरी की शर्तें, स्वास्थ्य सुविधाओं, साफ सफाई की व्यवस्था, वेतन भुगतान, भविष्य निधि, ग्रेज्यूटी, कल्याण एवं सुरक्षा व्यवस्था आदि की दृढ़ता से पालन करें । इन कानूनी प्रावधानों को ठेके की शर्त मानी जायेगी । इसके अतिरिक्त कम्पनी द्वारा, समय समय पर इन विषयों पर दिये गये आदेशों को ठेकेदारों पर लागू माना जाएगा, और वे इनका दृढ़ता से पालन करेंगे ।

परन्तु जहाँ तक मुझे जानकारी है ठेकेदारों द्वारा इन शर्तों का बिल्कुल पालन नहीं किया गया । मजदूरों के आवास का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं किया गया, पीने के पानी का प्रबन्ध नहीं किया गया । 4 जून को मैं वहाँ था और मैंने देखा उन के लिए न आवास का प्रबन्ध है, न पीने के पानी का प्रबन्ध है, न उनके बच्चों के लिए शिक्षा का भी कोई प्रबन्ध है, न कित्सा की कोई सुविधा है । यह सारी अव्यवस्थायें वहाँ पर हैं जिस की वजह से यह भीषण स्थिति पैदा हुई । मंत्री जी इन सारी अव्यवस्थाओं को अविलम्ब दूर करें ।

भिलाई इस्पात कारखाने के अन्तर्गत जितने लेवर आफिसर काम कर रहे हैं वह अपने कर्तव्य का भली प्रकार पालन नहीं करते हैं । राजेहरा गोली काण्ड की चर्चा अन्य कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने भी की है ऐसी स्थिति

क्यों बनी वह मैं बताता हूँ । ठेकेदारों के मजदूरों को भी 100 रु० बोनस दिया जाए इस प्रकार का शासन की तरफ से एक आदेश था कि जिन ठेकेदारों को कुछ लाभ हुआ है वह बोनस दें । जिसका ठेकेदारों द्वारा पालन नहीं किया गया, परिणाम स्वरूप श्रमिक हड़ताल पर चले गये ।

2-3-77 एवं 3-3-77 को भिलाई होटल के अन्दर मीटिंग हुई जिसमें ए० आई० टी० यू० सी० और आई० एन० टी० यू० सी०, दोनों ट्रेड यूनियन्स की उपस्थिति में यह समझौता हुआ कि मजदूरों को 70 रु० ऐडवाक पेमेंट के रूप में दिया जाए और शेष राशि का भुगतान ठेकेदारों के कागजातों की जांच के बाद किया जाएगा । लेकिन किस प्रकार वहाँ पर घाँघली होती है, यह देखिये । 23-3-77 को ठेकेदारों ने मजदूरों की अज्ञानता का लाभ उठा कर के एक नया समझौता किया और उसके अनुसार 25 तारीख को 25 रु० और 28 तारीख को 25 रु० यानी टोटल 50 रु० दिया गया और शेष 20 रु० नहीं दिया गया । यह भी उनके असंतोष का एक बहुत बड़ा कारण था ।

12-5-77 को वहाँ के मुख्य खदान अभियन्ता श्री वी० मुखर्जी, उप-कार्मिक प्रबन्धक श्री एस० दावकृष्णन और अधीक्षक (दिल्ली) श्री सी० एस० ब्रह्मा की उपस्थिति में एक समझौता हुआ कि फाल बैंक वेज दिया जाएगा यानी आयरन वेज बोर्ड के अन्तर्गत न्यूनतम वेतन दिया जाएगा । जिस दिन मालिक की गलती से काम नहीं मिलेगा तो फालवेज दिया जाएगा । परन्तु उम समझौते का पालन नहीं किया गया । यह भी मजदूरों के असंतोष का मुख्य कारण था ।

17 hrs.

31-5-77 तक जब इस समझौते का पालन नहीं हुआ तो फिर से श्रमिकों में असंतोष

[श्रीमोहन जैन]

हुआ और 8,000 मजदूर हड़ताल पर चले गये। 31-5-77 को छत्तीसगढ़ माइन्स श्रमिक संघ के साथ पुनः समझौता हुआ जिसमें यह तय किया गया कि फ़ॉल बँक वेंज दिया जाएगा और 100 रुपया उनके आवास और झोंपड़ी बनाने के लिए दिया जाएगा। लेकिन ठेकेदारों ने रिपोर्ट की कि यह समझौता दवाब के कारण हुआ है। श्रम मंत्री का आदेश उसी समय प्रसारित हुआ कि दवाब के कारण कोई समझौता होता है तो उसका पालन नहीं होगा। इस प्रकार उसका भी पालन नहीं किया गया।

इससे श्रमिकों का असंतोष बढ़ा और 2 तारीख की रात को ठेकेदारों ने पुलिस के साथ मिलकर, पुलिस की जेब में उनके पैसे थे, शराब पीकर रात के 2 बजे श्री नियोगी, जो कि मेरे साथ मीसा में जेल में बन्द थे, को पकड़ने के लिए पुलिस को भेजा गया। वहाँ पर रात के अन्धेरे में, किसी प्रकार की बिजली का प्रबन्ध नहीं था, रात को गोलियां चलाई गई जिसमें 7 लोगों की वहाँ पर मृत्यु हो गई। उसमें एक महिला जो कि गर्भवती थी, उसे भी गोली लगी और एक 12 साल के लड़के को भी गोली लगी। दूसरे दिन फिर 11 बजे बर्बतपूर्ण गोली चली और 3 लोग और मारे गये। इस प्रकार 10 लोगों की वहाँ मृत्यु हुई। 20 लोग गोलियों से जख्मी हुए जो कि अस्पताल में एडमिट थे, उनमें से भी एक व्यक्ति मर गया। इस प्रकार एक दुखद और दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण घटना घटी।

इसी प्रकार दिल्ली राजैहरा क्षेत्र में जो आदिवासी हैं, उनकी जमीन भी खदान के लिए ली गई। उनको भी मुआवजा अभी तक नहीं दिया गया। 8 हजार मजदूर ठेकेदारों के अन्तर्गत काम कर रहे हैं, जिनका शोषण किया जा रहा है और किसी प्रकार के कायदे-कानून का वहाँ पालन नहीं किया जा रहा है।

मैं इस्पात और खान मंत्री से अनुरोध करूंगा कि वह कन्ट्रैक्टर के अधीन जो लेबर काम कर रही है, उनकी असुविधाओं की ओर ध्यान दें, नहीं तो यह इस्पात कारखानों कभी भी खतरे में पड़ सकता है। वहाँ की स्थिति दिन-प्रतिदिन बिगड़ती जा रही है और मजदूरों के खिलाफ धोखाधड़ी होती है।

भिलाई कारखाने में आपातकाल के दौरान 90 से अधिक श्रमिकों को, जो अच्छी पोस्टों पर काम कर वाले हैं, टर्मिनेट किया गया। यदि कोई मंडर करता है और अदालत से छूट जाता है तो उसको भी सारा वेतन मिल जाता है लेकिन आपातकाल हटने के बाद इन 90 से अधिक कर्मचारियों को काम पर तो ले लिया गया है लेकिन उस पीरियड का वेतन उनको नहीं दिया गया है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि वह स्पष्ट घोषणा करें कि उन्हें कारावास के इन 20,22 महीनों का पूरा वेतन दिया जायेगा।

भिलाई कारखाने में भी जब मैं चुनाव के 5,7 दिन पहले गया तो वहाँ आपरेशन और कंस्ट्रक्शन में काम करने वाले लगभग 5 हजार लोगों ने प्रदर्शन किया। उनकी मांग थी कि जो आपरेशन के कर्मचारियों को सुविधाएं मिलती हैं, वह सब को मिलें। मैंने जनरल मैनेजर से कहा, तो उन्होंने कहा कि आमदनी इतनी नहीं है, इतना देने से गड़बड़ी ही जाएगी। मेरा इस्पात मंत्री से निवेदन है कि वह पर जो भ्रष्टाचार व्याप्त है, यदि उसे रोक दिया जाए तो उसी से वहाँ के कर्मचारियों की सारी मांगें आसानी से पूरी की जा सकती हैं।

कांग्रेस के शासन में वहाँ एक मगडम्प कांड हुआ जिसमें 600 रुपए टन का माल 60 रुपए टन में उठाया गया। लाखों करोड़ों का घपला हुआ। वहाँ के ठेकेदार पर मुकदमा

चला, उसने कहा कि हमने 20 लाख रुपए चुनाव फंड में दिये हैं, हमारा कोई कुछ नहीं बिगाड़ सकता।

मेरा मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन है कि वहाँ जो कर्मचारी अपना खून-पसीना बहाकर उत्पादन कर रहे हैं, सारे देश की दुनिया की निगाहें उनकी ओर हैं। परन्तु वहाँ के श्रमिकों की भलाई का कोई विचार नहीं करता। यह उमी प्रकार है जैसे कि हलवाई की दुकान पर जो मिठाई रहती है, वह सब को अच्छी लगती है। लेकिन उस मिठाई बनाने वाले हलवाई की तरफ किसी का ध्यान नहीं जाता कि उसकी हालत क्या है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि उन श्रमिकों की ओर ध्यान दिया जाए। अगर कर्मचारियों की उपेक्षा की गई तो भिलाई कारखाना खतरों में पड़ सकता है। मैं मंत्रों महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बैलाडीला में भी एक स्टील प्लांट बनाया जाय। प्रदेश की भलाई एवं वहाँ रोजगार के अवसर प्रदान करने के लिए मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बैलाडीला में भी इस्पात कारखाना खोला जाय।

अन्त में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिन 90 कर्मचारियों की सार्विसिज को टर्मिनेट किया गया था, उन को पूरा वेतन दिया जाय। जो श्रमिक दिल्ली राजेहरा और भिलाई कारखाने में ठेकेदारों के अन्तर्गत 15 साल से काम कर रहे हैं, उन को कोई सुविधा नहीं दी जा रही है। भिलाई कारखाने में काम करने वाले मजदूरों को 15 रुपये प्रति-दिन मिलते हैं, जब कि ठेकेदारों के अन्तर्गत काम करने वाले मजदूरों को 6 रुपये प्रति-दिन भी नहीं मिलते हैं। जिससे उन को दो समय का भोजन भी नहीं मिलता है। न उन के पास रहने के लिए मकान हैं, न तन ढकने के लिए कपड़े और न ही उन के लिए

प्रकाश, पानी या शिक्षा की व्यवस्था है। मंत्री महोदय से मेरा निवेदन है कि वह मजदूरों की सुख-सुविधाओं की ओर ध्यान दें ?

श्री किरंगी प्रसाद (बांसगांव) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप का आभारी हूँ कि आप ने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया।

देश के औद्योगिक विकास के लिए खान और इस्पात का बहुत महत्व है। जनता पार्टी ने अपने घोषणापत्र में कहा है कि छोटे उद्योग-धंधों का विकास किया जायेगा। उधर के कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने इस का अर्थ यह लगाया कि जनता पार्टी बड़े उद्योग-धंधों का विरोध करती है। लेकिन जनता पार्टी और उस की सरकार की विचारधारा यह नहीं है। हमारा मत यह है कि जिन चीजों का उत्पादन छोटे पैमाने पर नहीं हो सकता है, उन के लिए बड़े पैमाने पर उद्योग-धंधे चलाने पड़ेंगे, लेकिन जिन चीजों का छोटे पैमाने पर बनाया जा सकता है, उन के लिए गांवों में छोटी छोटी इकाइयाँ स्थापित करनी चाहिए, ताकि काफ़ी लोगों की रोज़ी रोटी की समस्या हल हो सके। जहाँ तक स्टील का सम्बन्ध है, हमें उस का उत्पादन बड़े पैमाने पर करना है और उस की खपत को बढ़ाना है।

विदेशी कम्पनियों के माध्यम से जो उद्योग-धंधे लगाये गये हैं, वे घाटे में चल रहे हैं। आज उन की स्थिति क्या है, इस के आंकड़े मेरे पास नहीं हैं।

स्टील का उत्पादन काफ़ी बढ़ा है, लेकिन उस की खपत बहुत कम हो पा रही है। इस का कारण यह है कि विदेशी मार्केट में कम्पीटीशन में हमारा माल नहीं टिक पाता है, जिस से वह लागत से कम मूल्य पर विकता है और हमें कम विदेशी

[श्री किरागी रमाध]

मुद्रा मिलती है। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय ऐसी व्यवस्था करेंगे कि हमारे देश में बने हुए माल को विदेशों में अच्छी कीमत मिल सके।

इस बात की भी आवश्यकता है कि प्रबन्ध में मजदूरों की भागीदारी की व्यवस्था अधिक अच्छे ढंग से की जाय और कर्मचारियों का पूरा बोनस दिया जाय ताकि वे पूरे मन से काम कर सकें।

इस रिपोर्ट को देखने से गिंसा लगता है कि बुद्धिमुख धायरन और बम्पनी लिमिटेड में अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियाँ के प्रति बड़ी उपेक्षा की जाती है। जनता पार्टी न अपने घोषणापत्र में कहा है कि अनुसूचित जातियाँ और अन्य पिछड़े वर्ग का हर क्षेत्र में उचित प्रतिनिधित्व दिया जायगा। मंत्री महोदय का इस ओर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए, ताकि जो वर्ग निराशा और सदेह की दृष्टि में जनता पार्टी का देख रहा है, वह अपने भविष्य के सम्बन्ध में आशा की किरण का देख सके।

साथ ही साथ खानों में काम करने वाले जो लोग हैं उन की ओर भी मैं ध्यान दिलाऊंगा। खानों में कुछ ऐसे असभावित समय पर दुर्घटनाएँ हो जाया करती हैं जिस में लोगों की जान चली जाती है। उन के लिए उचित मुआवजों की रकम होनी चाहिए ताकि उन के पीछे जो परिवार पलता था उस परिवार को सही मुआवजा मिले और उस में उन का पालन पोषण हो सके।

कम समय में मैं यही निवेदन करते हुए मंत्री जी से कहूंगा कि इस उद्योग की ओर विशेष ध्यान दें और खास कर छोटे पैमाने पर जो इस का काम करते हैं खुरपी, कुदाल और कण्ट्री बरैरह बनाने का उनकी ओर

वह ध्यान दें ताकि काफ़ी लोगों की जो फौज बेकारों की है वह उस में लग सके। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ और इस भाव का समर्थन करता हूँ।

MR SPEAKER SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK He should come here instead of speaking from there

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) Sir with your good wishes I will continue sitting here

I have to support these demands But I would like the Minister to assure this House that within six months he will come before this House and give us a report as to what he has done to get the Ministry out of the terrible condition in which it is at present

Today you have Rs 400 crores worth of unsold steel It is a fact 15 million tonnes is the quantity unsold for 1976-77 The foreigners always like your natural resources and cheap labour a combination of the two They have been freely co-operating What is the solution they have found? It is playing to the gallery, because the export is at a cost which is much below the cost of production And the publicity they are giving is India becomes self-reliant and it has also become an exporter" This is what Mrs Gandhi's Government did and they did a lot of drum beating about it But the severe recession that has overtaken the country is not known to many it is known only to one in a thousand in this country And that has resulted in what? In lesser investment in development and plan programmes That is one of the reasons why there is a depression in domestic consumption, and you have become a victim of that today You are a victim of the evil of the disease created by the previous Government You have to get out of it.

Compared to the advanced countries our production is little USSR with a population of 220 million is producing 100 million tonnes of steel USA with a population of 200 million is producing 141 million tonnes, Japan with 100 million is producing 110 million tonnes India with a population of 650 million which as I understand is the population is producing 48 million tonnes of steel

The cost of production here as I understand it ranges between Rs 1500 to 1800 per tonne and export price is in the range of Rs 1254 to Rs 1356 I hope Shri Patnaik will corroborate me when I say this Therefore you are subsidising the rich advanced nations from the coffers of the poor Indian nation The Indian price is about double Sir if you want to make an additional room in your place in Andhra Pradesh

MR SPEAKER No I do not want it

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU In two years we have increased the price of steel for domestic consumption three times I would like to know why billets are being exported Is it not a conspiracy of the foreign consumers? Now they have brought down the built-in capacity for pellets at least in three countries namely USA Japan and West Germany by 30 to 40 per cent Why? Because they can get billets from you at a much lower price Therefore they have shut down their plants and they are now exploiting Indira Gandhi's socialist India which has a public sector What is the position in wagon building? It has come to the lowest step The expected requirement of the Calcutta Metropolitan Transport was 150,000 tonnes but the actual was 15,000 Hooghly Bridge anticipated a requirement of 60,000 tonnes and the Bhatinda project 50,000 but in actual practice they have come to a virtual stop Our steel plant in Durgapur is facing difficulties Why is it? Because the previous Government has given a fantastically

large licence for the import of stainless steel from Japan for a consideration as in the case of oil which Mr Dharfa was elaborating Everything for a consideration The elections are coming MLAs and MPs have to be bought So let us bring stainless steel from Japan for a consideration and destroy our own public sector That is the socialism which Mrs Gandhi understood but we do not

What happened to their Industrial Policy Resolution that steel production should be in the public sector? When IISCO was taken over why is it that the Tata Iron & Steel Co was not nationalised? Is it because there is a powerful lobby here?

I request the hon Minister to look into the matter of the Kalta Mines in Orissa owned by Hindustan Steel The management said that they agreed to the demands of the workers but on 28 June they sent policemen and magistrates This is not good thing The workers and management should come together

There is another dangerous thing I am not being parochial, because a communist is never parochial The national retention price of steel should be reviewed because it has reversed the economic process of the country I will give an example What has happened to the economy of eastern India? The built-in capacity of the engineering industry is remaining idle but they are creating new capacity in other areas Black sheets are being taken from the mills in Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal to Bombay and Gujarat Steel almshouses are being built there and again transported to Calcutta That sort of economic is this? I do not understand this So this national retention price of steel must be reviewed dispassionately, and it should be put right because it is reversing the growth of economy. You should not be guided by these phoney vote-catching slogans

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

Coming to aluminium, this is one of the vital metals today. The difficulty with the transport system is its teeth-tail ratio. I said it ten years ago, but I have not been able to get it into the skulls of the Ministers. They are digging their own graves. Aluminium is most necessary for the transport industry, but all the four plants are in the private sector, and they go on blackmailing the Government.

SHRI T A PAI: One is in the public sector.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Yes, I am sorry.

They are now manufacturing luxury goods, dabbling in blackmarketing of aluminium sheets. Why is not the aluminium industry being nationalised? It is very important. It is the lightest metal which can be used for transport.

The Kudremukh project with Iranian finance is expected to earn billions of dollars in foreign exchange and they have received the first instalment of 100 million dollars as advance. The iron ore is to be transported through a pipeline. They say it is very modern, but I know that it is out-dated since 1970. The Bechtel Corporation which was indicated by the Takru Commission have been inducted. The Commission have said that their actions were *mala fide* and that favouritism was shown to Bechtel by people who were in power. Non-justifiable payments not sanctioned by Government of India were paid and they also received the same. The Commission made very adverse comments about this company—Bechtel. But influential interests within the then Government and from outside and persons like Dadachandani, a great friend of foreign enterprises brought back Bechtels again for this slurry pipeline which has been installed at Kudremukh. The former

head of the Engineers India Limited and Member, Planning Commission was greatly interested in Bechtels. Since the end of 1975, he has been employed with Bechtel Corporation of USA first in Canada later in San Francisco and lately as Management Trainee. You can either confirm or deny the fact. The brother of previous Steel Ministry Secretary and Chairman of SAIL works for Bechtel in San Francisco. Whether it is a fact or not, I want to know. The cost of this pipeline in Kudremukh is hundred per cent more as compared with the price quoted by William Bros Engineering Company. This means six million dollar extra is being paid to the Bechtels. The decision about this tender was taken within two hours. How prompt they are! If we write a letter we won't get a reply even in six months but in this case they were very prompt. The main contractors were ordered that Bechtels should be accommodated. With the joint efforts of Birla and Maruti Bechtels were brought back in order to help Sanjay. The then Petroleum Minister who was a Member of this House directed the Goa Chief Minister to go slow with the anti-pollution move against the Birla Zuary Agro-chemicals. This Kudremukh project is a huge drain of US dollar. I demand a probe should be instituted into it. I certainly expect the Minister to come before the House within six months to say that these are the improvements that he has been able to effect in it.

SHRI S KUNDU (Balasore): I want to start with an old story. Sir, you are aware that in 1965 when you were the Steel Minister a memorandum was given to you from Orissa saying that there should be a steel plant in Bowna—Nayagarh. The Dastur Committee reported to the Government in 1965 that all the three eastern region ore-based locations at Nayagarh, Barakot and Bownagarh are considered suitable for large integrated steel plants. But you would be sorry to know that till now this has not been done. In 1971, when

there was strike and all that, we were assured about locating a steel plant in Orissa. But later on, these three steel plants were announced at different places and purely on political considerations.

SHRI K LAKKAPPA (Tumkur)
That will affect the interest of Karnataka

SHRI S KUNDU I want in the best interest of India that wherever it is feasible it should be located. If a steel plant is feasible even at the top of Himalayas it should be located there. Are you satisfied Mr Lakkappa?

With all anguish I want to appeal to the new Minister that he should not be pressurised by other groups of persons who have not taken country's interest but have taken political interest in deciding where the location of steel plants should be. Even when Mr Bhagat was there he said in the Rajya Sabha that the location studies were being conducted and that it will be located in Bonagarh. I would request the hon Minister to follow it up.

I do not want to detail the whole story. There is so much justification that there will be cheap raw material, there will be cheap ingots, the carrying charges will be cheaper and all that. Even in 1967-68, when the Orissa Government had wanted it, the Congress Government did not give us the report which Dastur had submitted to them, certifying the reports about the steel plants which were to be located in Goa, Salem and other places. I want that justice should be done.

Secondly about the technology involved in manufacturing steel, I want the hon Minister to go very far in improving the technology. I have got reports that in spite of the very cheap things available here, the raw materials, the labour, land, building and other things and perhaps, our ore being 1/8th cheaper as compared to Western countries and Japan, our steel price is

high. I do not know how other countries sell steel cheaper than us. We use ore containing 55 per cent iron content whereas Japan and Western countries use ore containing 34 to 35 per cent iron content. Then, we use 800 Kg of coke per tonne while the Western countries and Japan use 500 to 600 Kg coke per tonne. Again, refractory consumption of steel per tonne is 15 Kg compared to 3 to 4 Kg per tonne in other countries. If we can save 1 Kg consumption of refractory, we can save about Rs 7 lakhs per million tonne of steel. Our young engineers must answer these questions. There must be some sort of a real war on technology. Otherwise our poor country will not be able to spend so much of money on these capital intensive projects, like, steel plants and other things.

Coming to SAIL and HSL, the SAIL was formed with very good ideas. The SAIL was formed in 1972-73. At that time, it was said that the SAIL will coordinate and bring about uniformity. The intention was that it will concern itself more with policy and planning and that it will not concern itself with actual operation or production or any such other things. There was some apprehension that the holding company may perhaps have a tight hold on administration and other things. In this connection, I would like to refer to an article written by Mr Bagaram Tulpule who was one of the managers of the Durgapur Steel Plant and who, through his labour brought out the Durgapur Steel Plant from its sick condition and, when it came to full stream he was kicked out and he left it. In his article published in the Economic and Political Weekly dated January 8 1977, he states

"The board of directors of SAIL was reconstituted at least thrice within the first three years of its existence. Apart from the full-time directors, there was little continuity to the tenure of other direc-

[Shri S Kundu]

tors For a brief spell of a few months in 1974, I was also nominated to the board From what I saw of its working during those few months, and from what I saw of the working of SAIL as a whole, it was clear that its culture was entirely different from that of HSL There seemed to be much less openness, too many things depended upon the verdict of the chairman who was, it was said, not easily accessible even to his own full-time directors Nobody was left in any doubt about who the boss was Indeed a highly centralised, authoritarian organisation had clearly come into being in sharp contrast to the open, participative, friendly culture of HSL'

I think, the Chairman is not there now It is high time that the hon Minister also made a policy pronouncement as to how he is going to lay down the future policy about it and what is the clear distinction between the work of SAIL and HSL

I would like to know from the hon Minister one thing more During the Emergency period when we were in jail, the radio used to blurt out that the production had gone up, the production had gone up and so on

The Report is there It is true that the production has gone up The production during the last three-four consecutive years has been going up My friend should bear in mind that the production had gone up not only during the emergency period but even otherwise it has been going up You can see the Report which has been published by SAIL for the financial year ending 31st March, 1976 It says, "The company earned a net profit of Rs 4660 crores in 1975-76 against the profit of Rs 4842 crores in 1974-75 and so on" The profit for the year would have been more, but due to a number of factors,

it would not be so The profit would have been more by about Rs 39 crore This profit has not been there Perhaps less subsidy has been given for export If we export with this sort of subsidy, perhaps this country would not have been able to sustain such a financial burden

There are areas of corruption, there are areas of losses I would like to identify the areas of corruption, losses sale and purchase It is said that the fabricated items which are used in Rourkela are brought at Rs 23 000 but if you manufacture them it can be done at a cost of Rs 5 000 This matter may also be enquired into There are other areas of corruption like disposal of spare-parts, jobs, labour contract system sale of waste products like steel scrap and so on These are causing a lot of hardship to all of us here

Then we want that the steel must be healthy because steel and electricity are indicators of the real growth of the country But in a developing country like ours, it is not only necessary that our industry should be production-oriented but it should be profit-oriented also We had seen the hollowness during the emergency period Nobody could buy You can see the conditions of the people and the level of their poverty Do not mistake us We are not opposed to heavy industry, but we do not certainly want heavy industry In 1967, I went to Ranchi I remember that heavy industry was there With scarce money, they were having heavy industry and they were producing only 70 per cent of the total production Can a country like this with such a fashionable big industry afford to have such a big industry Even in Europe, they do not have big industries The point is that we are going to fix the priority, but the priority must be fixed in agriculture and small industry.

In that way, the strategy of new development must be drawn up and the Janata Government is drawing up the strategy in that way. To conclude, I take the big empire, the steel empire. Many workers have been troubled and dismissed from the service. Some days ago, about 50 people came to see me and they told that during the emergency period, they had been troubled. I request the hon. Minister to see that this sort of fear should not be there.

Crores and crores of rupees have been piled up as profit by these four magnets, but the minimum wages are not paid to the workers. Even the minimum wage of Rs 8, wherever it is fixed, has not been paid. In Orissa, the Labour Officer had recommended Rs 18 as the minimum wage. In Coal industry it is there. After taking a lot of trouble the minimum wage of Rs 18 was sanctioned by the Government.

During the emergency, my union was completely thrown out of office. My union office was demolished and my union workers were troubled. Even the minimum wages were not paid. I request you to see that the minimum wages are also paid and that these wages should be increased to Rs 18.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK) Mr Speaker, Sir, I must, at the outset, thank all my hon. colleagues in this House for giving me the types and varieties of information which would make almost an encyclopaedia of knowledge. I expect that most of them are true or near the truth.

Before I proceed with the heavies as they are like the steel plants, aluminium plants, the big mining operations and things like those, I would like to dispose of some smaller but more vexatious matters which have been agitating my colleagues in this House.

On the question of dying mini steel plants, I can assure the House that I

shall ensure that they are not quite dead, we shall take necessary fiscal measures, in consultation with my colleague, the Finance Minister, and other measures which we can think of through the Steel Authority of India for obtaining the raw materials like scrap and so on. The industry which was born out of an euphoria of delusion of grandeur, of a great deal of surplus money has suddenly found itself like a plucked hen. Even so since it happens to be on the soil of India we will ensure that it does survive. I have no sympathy for these people but I can assure you that I will see that they survive because the House desires it. The other day I was pleading with Mr Subramaniam when I made an intervention. I asked him, 'What kind of planning is this? When you are short of power, you put up mini steel plants which consume a great deal of power, what sort of planning is this? When your integrated steel plants produce four million tonnes you create capacity for another four million tonnes.' It is a totally wrong planning. It was not planning at all. It was allowed to grow like a mushroom because there was a great shortage of steel. Merchants became the owners. And the House demands that I save these merchants. Only because you demand so I shall save them. I have no sympathy for them, but they will be saved.

I have a great deal of sympathy for that little man who is making little plates, *katories* and things like that from stainless steel, he buys stainless steel rods from the government factory at Durgapur, he has introduced his own engineering, he employs his whole family for making steel, for polishing it and for making little pots and pans. I have and my Minister have, after considerable deliberation with all these little indigenous manufacturer, come to the conclusion that the policy of substantial reduction of import duty on stainless steel has, perhaps, been a little hasty. Therefore

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

I and my colleagues, the Finance Minister and the Commerce Minister, are trying to put our heads together to ensure that this small indigenous industry not only survives but also flourishes. That will also, incidentally, save the Durgapur Alloy Steel Plant because, I have learnt that, the moment this policy of reduction of duty was announced all the sales orders on government stainless steel plants have been cancelled. Therefore, a certain amount of rethinking is required, and we shall ensure that the correctives are applied very soon.

There are two or three small items which I wish to dispose of. There was—I think Mr Saugata Roy was not here—a cut motion on wolfram mine in favour of Gauripur Industries. Perhaps Shri Saugata Roy thinks that it is a very big mine dealing with big metals. It is not true. Although it has got 2000 odd acres prospecting licence or lease licence, the total availability of a very low grade wolfram occurs in only 545 acres and Shri Saugata Roy wants me to nationalise it. It is a very small matter and Government does not propose to take it over and Government proposes to renew the lease of this gentleman or whosoever he is, so that he can raise two tonnes or five tonnes of this material and that may go to the Durgapur plant etc.

Then, there is the question of small mine owners. I find, thousands of applications have been lying in this Ministry for years. What was the policy of the previous Government? I do not know. When we take up the public sector, we talk of large things, we talk of large investments, we talk of large control and we talk of commanding heights. You do not think of little things. You pass a resolution that this ore must be in public sector without thinking whether this ore is available in an area of two acres, two hundred acres or 20 square miles. Therefore, this commitment to 'ism' is something which you

must move out of and the only 'ism' should be, what is good for the country and pragmatism should be the only 'ism' that we should adopt. I do not subscribe to the view of some of my friends that 'ism' pervades everything. I have therefore, decided as a matter of policy and I have instructed my Ministry to clear this cobweb of little fellows with ten acres, twenty acres and thirty acres. There is something called peoples sector or national sector, where they do not make a great deal of money. They are not capitalists; they are not monopolists and what is more important is that these thousands of little fellows can provide employment to ten twenty or thirty thousand people which is very important for the country today. I am telling to the House very clearly that as far as public sector is concerned large areas like manganese, chrome or whatever it is, and iron ore shall be reserved for the public sector, but little things must be released fully. There is such a thing called peoples' effort which must not be smothered in a policy which is not workable.

Some hon. Members referred to the ilmenite deposits near Ratnagiri. It is not a part of this Ministry, that belongs to the Department of Atomic Energy, because it is a rare earth. It is in Kerala. It is also very large and a very viable quantity in a place called Gopalpur on the shore between Andhra and Gopalpur belt. It is of excellent quality and very good deposits. All that needs to be taken care of.

I will now deal with certain other subjects like the incident at Dalli-Rajhara Iron ore mine near Bhilai. It is most unfortunate that firing should have been resorted to by the police. Ten persons were killed on the spot and one died in the hospital. Besides, some persons were wounded also. It is my view that this could have been avoided. I am rather surprised that even after the change of the Government, the police at places continues to be trigger-happy. This Government

does not appreciate continuance of this attitude of our police force in India. The Prime Minister has said time and again that the police must use the minimum force in situations like this. Even if a couple of policemen are locked up for a few hours, it does not make tremendous odds. That does not mean that you should shoot people. I have ordered my General Manager who had given Rs. one thousand to the families of each deceased to raise it to Rs. five thousands and also ensure that one dependent from each family is directly employed in the Bhilai Steel Plant. I have also instructed them to prepare a project by which the maximum number of workers now employed by the contractor can be taken over by the Steel Plant in its different mines. So, whatever is possible is going to be done and I have already taken steps in that direction.

Similarly, another unfortunate thing and, of course, of great misfortune is the Chasmala accident. It is nobody's case that a few engineers and a few men tried to drown themselves and their colleagues. It is nobody's case. In the report of the inquiry commission that has been placed before the House by my colleague, the Labour Minister, certain strictures have been made and one stricture is that there was some callousness on the part of the officers. But it is also a fact—one paragraph is there—that they had no knowledge that a cut had existed. I have gone into this case in great detail. I have also seen that particular cut was made in 1935 and that drawing got lost in the transfer of the erstwhile company and in this process those drawings were lost. It was neither with the company nor with the Inspectorate of Safety of Mines. These gentlemen who were digging down to find a ventilation went up and hit at the same place when water poured down like an avalanche. So, their

friends got killed, their colleagues got killed and right way down in the mines.

Therefore, I would like to say and in fact I would like to have my colleague, the Labour Minister agree in that, that we may consult a few senior Members of Parliament that, having had this accident which is born out of lack of knowledge—you may call it callousness—we do not take such action that would dampen the spirit of officers who work way down 4000 to 5000 ft. under the ground at great personal risks and we would like to be advised by senior Members of Parliament. Very soon I will request my colleague, the Labour Minister, to make a formal request to the Leader of the Opposition who, with his colleagues, can go into these things and advise us. We do not want our officers to get demoralised.

Now, having dealt with this, somebody raised the question of some Hocket, some American company which with the Tatas is trying to take the slag and convert it into cement. There was a proposal by the previous government that the Steel Authority of India should become a partner or a shareholder or some sort of take it over. The total project cost is a couple of crores of rupees. I countermanded that order and said that the Steel Authority of India is not interested in petty things. It must plan bigger things for the benefit of the nation

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You have the Cement Corporation which can do that.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: We do not have any isms. We do not see ghosts everywhere. We are not interested in petty things.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: We have got isms.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Now coming down to Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, he talked about Bechtels which at

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

one time did some laying down of pipeline and robbed the country working in the Kudremukh project I would only say that if the country allows itself to be robbed by a foreigner then it is we who are to blame rather than the foreigners. If the fools give succour why blame them? They come here to make money.

But they have the expertise and we are laying important pipeline of about 70 kilometres going through a tunnel of 18 kilometres. I would like to advise my hon friend Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu that the tenders for laying the pipeline have not yet been floated much less taken by them. I shall be very glad if he gives the details. I shall verify and write him back officially.

I was studying this morning how fast it was going because if we do not conclude the first supply by September 1980 there will be heavy penalty. I am personally supervising it. Tenders for a number of components have been floated but orders have not been placed.

Having dealt with this I would like to come to non-ferrous metal.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, what is past is for you to dig up. I am interested only in the present and the future.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: One can ride them.

It is a very distressing situation that the production of aluminium has fallen because of shortage of power. I wonder what made the previous Government not to allow large aluminium projects to have their own captive power plants.

Power must be in the public sector, and like that iron must be in public sector was their view.

I do not understand what prevented them to allow these power intensive factories to have their own plants?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: They were wanting subsidised power.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: They could have power plants and no subsidy.

I have allowed them. I have asked them to work it out quickly. They will give output in full. The situation has been corrected as Mr. Patnaik mentioned. There was a weakness in the previous Government. But Janata Government is quite strong and pragmatic.

I would now come to vanadium, nickel, lead and copper which has been languishing and we have been importing material worth tens of crore. Although we have ore yet we have not developed that. This Government wants to take it up and in the first two years of the Plan ensure that the entire requirement of the country is fully met.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have read that.

In the Budget debate I mentioned about chrome.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Arkonam): Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu and the Minister are having a conversation session. Please stop this running commentary.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I wanted information Mr. Alagesan.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am addressing the speaker.

In the Budget debate I also mentioned about chrome. For the last three years

chrome was being exported. A great deal of money was being made by a handful of chrome mine owners. But this year we have decided to mop up that. In terms of export duty we have mopped up Rs. 3 crores out of a total export of about Rs. 25 crores. The House would be glad to know that out of chrome fine that is being exported now, we have decided to put up 50,000 tonnes ferro chrome plant for beneficiating this fine, converting them into billets and then making ferro chrome which will be of great use to this country. Similarly with nickel, with lead and with vanadium. We are dealing with all these things for which foundation-stones were laid by the previous government. I am merely trying to formulate those foundation-stones into actual production. Having done this on a smaller sphere, but a very critical area, of non-ferrous metals, I shall go into the heavier side of the steel plants. Foundation-stones were laid with great fanfare but no planning commission approval, no budgetary provision and so on were obtained. Apart from the State Ministers, many foundation-stones were laid by the ex-Prime Minister. There was one Rs. 240 crores fertilizer plant at Paradip. Lakhs of rupees were spent for the foundation-stone laying ceremony. The sea in its anguish has washed away the foundation-stones. If I may say so, I am sorry about the wanton behaviour of the people in power. They raised hopes in the minds of the people. I may say, great hopes, because a steel plant means great development in the area. If you have a steel plant of 2 million or 3 million capacity that means a great city is born out of it. Tens of thousands of people are involved directly and many more are indirectly involved. To play with the hopes and aspirations of the people in this cavalier fashion. I submit, is not a decent thing to do by any Government in power. But having raised these hopes, it has fallen to my lot to see and to ensure how this could be brought into action.

When we talk of shore-based plants, I would like this House to know two or three constraints which are critical constraints. When we talk of steel plants expansion, I would like to repeat one thing here because I have said this in the House earlier also. If we produce 20 to 25 million tonnes of crude steel ingots every year we have proved coking coal deposits which would last us not more than 30 to 40 years. This is our position. We have unlimited quantity of what is known as good coal but not coking coal.

So, experiments have been going on round the world by various firms like Lurgi of Germany, Allis Chalmers of USA and some others to find a method by which the non-coking coal can be used in making what is called sponge iron and then go over to steel. But it has not yet been a success story and there are many deficiencies in the working of the process. We are trying to put up one in Andhra Pradesh as an experimental measure with the help of UNDP and one little plant is going on in Jamshedpur with many varieties of coal. But the whole process is not yet fully satisfactory, but we are trying to find out the best way of doing it, because, that is the ultimate answer for India if we want to use our own resources.

18 hrs.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai):
What is the capacity of it?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK. I will tell you. This is very small with a capacity of 100 tonnes a day.

If you look at it, not politically, but only by economic considerations, which this House must, to produce the cheapest steel, as everybody wants or both sides of the House want that the nation must have the cheap steel, the steel companies in both the private and public sectors must have adequate profits for their own expansion, for their own replacements and so on. And then,

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

we must also locate any future expansion at localities or at areas where the steel production would be the cheapest

The second consideration is that the gestation period should not, like the Bokaro, take us to ten years. It must be concluded within three years or at the maximum within three and a half years from the time the first rupee is invested till it starts its production. Unless you are able to do that this long interest charge goes on being capitalised and capitalised in the case of Bokaro from Rs 600 crores to Rs 700 crores and it goes upto Rs 1500 crores and then the cost of production will go up from Rs 2 000 to 20 000 and so on. Then that cannot meet the demand of the nation.

Therefore, if expansion has to take place the minimum capital cost expansion has got to be at the existing plant level. Obviously, it is so. The land is there, the infra-structure is there, some housing is there, power set-up is there, water is there. Mines are there and they are working already. So Bhilai can go up from 4 to 6 or 7 million tonnes. Bokaro can do the same, Durgapur can do that, Rourkela can do that. Tata can do that although they can not do it alone, the Private sector cannot do that. Obviously that involves big money investment. Neither Tata nor anybody can do that. This should be taken into calculation. This should take us to 20 million tonnes from the present figure of 10 million tonnes, by using our own coke. If, simultaneously or a little before or after establishment of the shorebased plant or land based plant, the Rourkela Plant can be expanded which is closeby, you have to tick off the shore based plant. In Paradeep 100 thousand tonnes ship can come in. Similarly, in Vizag outer harbour, 100 thousand tonnes ship can come in. In Mangalore, with the Kudremukh thing where we are blasting the rock

under the sea at the port, it can take 80,000 tonnes which may later go upto one lakh tonnes with the iron-ore closeby and so on. If you have to do that, then you have to think of better coal from outside India both because of the quantity and because of the very low ash content which gives us the lowest coke consumption. Australian coal has got 11 per cent ash-content. Sir, you had been the Steel Minister and you know well that our coal has got an ash-content of 24 per cent or 25 per cent or 27 per cent. We have to put up coal washeries, another expensive industry, to reduce the ash-content by 20 per cent whereas the Australian coal or some European coal or American coal does not need to be washed because the ash-content is low. So, the coal consumption in 3,000 tonnes blast furnace would be of the order of 450 to 500 k grammes which is less than half a kilo or less than half a ton for one ton of molten metal. Whereas we are consuming between 652 to 749 kg in our big furnaces at Bokaro we are consuming 1140 to 1180 kg in the small furnaces in IISCO. You see the difference there. The higher the production the comparative loss is higher. This is the position as compared to the bigger blast furnaces.

Therefore, if the steel industry of this country has to be streamlined, various corrective actions have to be taken. You must be surprised, that knowledgeable people like Shri Chavan, Shri Pal and Shri Subramam and all these gentlemen on the other side who were my erstwhile colleagues working with me for many years under the difficult situation, could not streamline the steel industry. This is one of the major sectors of public investment.

You have got one SAIL and four or five limited companies. How do you function? There is no management, no throw-back of information and no control with the result that if there is a good man at the plant

he does well and if there is an indifferent man the plant suffers. It is a very sorry plight. I propose to bring very soon a Bill before this House so as to correct this situation. We are working on that. I am sure the House will have a debate on it and get satisfied that something correct is being done which will help the steel industry and the public sector to grow on its own rights and not be dependant on government. There should be no budgetary support from the government. Whenever there are losses, they come for budgetary support. This leads to a certain amount of inefficiency. They must become efficient. They must produce steel at the same cost as the world produces. They need not be subsidised by the tax-payers for all times both in terms of budgetary support and high prices to the consumers. All this I shall bring in the form of a Bill—perhaps not in this Session—in the next Session.

Sir, the main thing before us is Where do we go from here. There is no sale. I have to export. You say we are exporting at the cost of the nation. That is not correct. Parliament has not sanctioned any cash subsidy for export of steel.

However, Sir, the major question before us is that these major industries like steel, aluminium and power are at the cross-roads. Whether we should take a jump or should we wait till the Indian market picks up consumption. This is the cross-road on which you have to take a decision.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt that while we have been developing the engineering industries, the technology and everything, we have neglected the growing number of people below poverty line. The number of such persons stand at 40 crores today whereas it was 25 crores in 1967. Therefore, Sir, there is no alternative but to pump more and more money in that sector to give them neces-

sary minimum facilities like drinking water, cottage industries, etc. They have to be nursed. They have been neglected. You may call it lopsided planning or whatever else you may like to call it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Janata Party has decided that maximum amount of funds must be made available to the agriculture sector, small scale sector and the cottage sector. Therefore, you know, what happens to these consuming units—steel, aluminium and power. They are at the cross-roads. My personal thinking would be that as long as we can protect the interests of our country, as long as we can find international market—till such time my own consuming market goes up—I have to find ways and means of utilising my enormous dormant natural resources and enormous dormant number of trained personnel and put them together. This is my problem. I do not wish to be reduced to the position of an exporter of the raw material. I do not want our people to be their hewers of wood and drawers of water. I reject the idea. I must have an added value whether you call it billets, pig iron or sections or whatever you may call, semi-finished or something else. I must have added value at different stages. If I have to put extra plant, I must have added value, it may be steel in the first stage, it may be section or ingots at the second stage and my third plant may be at the stage of billets. Whatever it is, depending on the world market, I should get the added value. But the world market of steel is a most depressing market for the last 40 years. Today Japan has 35 million tonnes of idle capacity. But the very fact that there is a depression in steel market shows that it is time for this nation to plan. Now, I can get credit. I can get the machinery cheaper. Now I can get services cheaper because there is unemployment in those countries as against boom. If we have courage and if we plan now, probably we will lay

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

the foundation for all the things that many of the Members have wanted the Government to do, whether in Kerala an aluminium plant or a steel plant is to be put up, whether in Matnagiri an aluminium plant is to be put, whether in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh a large aluminium plant is to be put, whether shore-based steel plant is to be put up or whether an extension of the existing plants is necessary I can lay the foundation of all those if the House supports me in his adventure I can do it with the support of this House

Sir, this is a departure from my friends here I would not like Mr Jyotirmoy Bosu to talk on this side but talk straight Has he another answer? Have my CPI friends another answer? I would have liked their answers and paraded them before this House, so that they can know whether their answer is practical or Government's answer is practical We can have a dialogue on this, we can have a debate on this. I shall come to this House for a debate I think an alternative must be found or our idea must be accepted both in the interest of the nation as well as the people As I said dormant mountains on one side and dormant manpower on the other side are there and these two have to be married. I would like to give a better answer than what I can I should have the answer very quickly from Mr Jyotirmoy Bosu and other friends because I have started negotiations with Russia, also with Tokyo, also with Washington and also with Europe I am pushing tenders, may be roping in one or two in the interest of the country (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU You may think of Chinese growth in steel

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK If this country follows the Chinese system, then I am not prepared for that I know how to deal with it

SHRI T A PAI If he wants, he can have the Chinese method in West Bengal

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK. I would like them to try it in West Bengal Let us see their performance in West Bengal I give one challenge to Mr Bosu I transfer the sick Durgapur steel plant to West Bengal You develop it you double its production and you get 105 per cent, run it efficiently and reduce the cost

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA (Serampore) You are making this statement because you know that the very planning of the Durgapur Steel Plant wrong Now, you can give this challenge (Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK He does not accept that on one excuse or the other It is the policy of the government to accept it and change the product mix at Durgapur A product mix which was in demand twenty years ago has no demand today But it is difficult to change a major plant As everybody knows we have to find ways and means to improve the productivity of that plant

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Has it got in built weaknesses?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK. I say the product mix there is not what the country needs today Similarly in the Durgapur Alloy steel plant the major defect is the machinery, it would need crores, I have given Rs 8 or 9 crores to correct some of the machinery, it will need several crores before it could be set right to replace the import of stainless steel.

Similarly with alumina—that is one of the major things of the world Just like there is heavy depression in steel, there is a steep uprise in the world market need for aluminium. Various things happen when the world economy changes The price of oil went up and the American government contemplated bringing in legislation that the automobile

manufacturers—they product in millions and people use them in millions—should manufacture cars which would run at least 285 miles a gallon. That meant lighter cars, that also meant that in cars steel would have to be replaced by aluminium. This legislation alone will increase the demand for aluminium by 15 million tonnes. Even engines will have to be changed. Russia is today putting up a 600,000 tonne alumina plant at Baikal using French knowledge, they are building steel plants using the same American-German process which in the time of Kumarmangalam we acquired, by which we are proposing to build our own rolling mill. The world is moving in a different direction. It is pushing on, shall we stand still? Or shall we try to forge ahead? That is why I said that we are at the cross roads.

I am gratified and I am glad to know that the House has almost directed me to go ahead with two constraints not drawing from the meagre resources available to the poor, not causing inflation. My friend Charan Singh will not lose one penny which he can use in the village, to which I fully agree. I will not draw from that. At the same time I will not ask my friend the Finance Minister to print more currency to give me rupees. These are the two heavy constraints. Yet I have to build both steel and alumina. Today the world wants aluminium. The Arab countries, Iran and other countries where they have got cheap gas, can produce cheap power. For Alumina power is the largest raw material and one who could get raw material cheap, can also produce aluminium at a cheaper cost.

Sir, we are negotiating, as Mr Pai had said—where he has left behind, I pick it up—with Russia, with Rumania and with other countries. Mind you, there are several competitors. It is not that we only have alumina. The South African countries are also negotiating to get the installations

there. So, we are negotiating. I must say it is nearly 100 days since we have come in. I think I am 100 days late but not too late. I hope that I shall be able to give some information to this House within next three months, some hopeful news that a major aluminium installation would take place in this country apart from what we have got and here I would urge my colleagues in this House, belonging to Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh to please persuade the new Chief Ministers not to shut down power in the aluminium plants. In Uttar Pradesh they have just cut back the power. Probably there is shortage of power. There is no doubt that there is shortage of power. But now that the rains have come and the cultivator is not in need of water perhaps, the power can be restored.

SHRI T A PAI I understand that they had cut down power under the Defence of India Rules. Perhaps after the external Emergency had gone they could not use this Act for this purpose.

SHRI Biju PATNAIK Whatever it is I do not know. But we are checking on that. But I know that there is shortage of power. Everybody knows that there is shortage of power. I know there is shortage of power in Delhi also. The power shortage is there in Madhya Pradesh also where although the power was committed, though the BALCO plant, the aluminium plant is there, only 25000 tonnes production is going on now. Two more 25000 tonnes pot lines are ready but for one reason or other the power has been delayed. The House should think why I am telling this here. The House should perhaps think whether the time has come now for a national power grid so that the whole thing can be planned properly and not left to the whims and fancies of individual state power boards. We have not got the national power grid yet, a national power grid which can be

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

controlled by Parliament. That is why I have brought this matter.

I have taken too much of your time and the House's time I am grateful to the hon. Members for all the support they have given and the directions they have given. I would request that the cut motions may be withdrawn and my demands be passed.

MR. SPEAKER: Shall I put all the cut motions together?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Yes, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I shall now put all the cut motions together to the vote of the House.

All the Cut Motions were put and negatived.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1978 in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 84 to 86 relating to the Ministry of Steel and Mines."

The motion was adopted.

18.25 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Wednesday, June 29, 1977/Asadha 8, 1899 (Saka).