

be arbitrary. We have evolved certain rules about calling-attention-
notices, because the names are so
many, there is some kind of ballot,
and we have now limited the num-
ber to five. Now, the stage has come
perhaps when we have to resort to a
similar measure with a thing like this
also. Therefore, I would give a chance
to all those hon. Members to say
something, but only on this condition
that I shall enforce another rule that
whenever a Member repeats the
arguments of another, I shall cut that
out. I shall give a chance to every-
body provided he makes a new point
and is brief. Let hon. Members not
abuse that. Now, Shri G. Y. Krishnan,

(ii) PROPOSED CLOSURE OF KOLAR GOLD
MINES.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN (Kolar): I
raise a matter of vital importance
affecting thousands of labourers in the
Kolar Gold Mines. The Kolar Gold
Mines which was started in 1884 by
Messrs John Taylor Co. and national-
ised during 1967 is facing a gloomy
future on account of the ineffective
and inefficient functioning of the
managing director of the company.
It is reliably learnt that he has often
recommended to the Government to
close the mines and the Government
is seriously considering the same.
As per the report of the Ministry
of Steel and Mines, 1973-74, the
estimated ore reserves in the KGF as
on 31st March, 1973 are 44,66,536
tonnes. This is quite sufficient for
the operations of the Kolar Gold
Mines for another 15 to 20 years even
if new ores are not located. It is a
common feeling that the Kolar Gold
Mines is uneconomically working.
But the report of the Ministry of
Steel and Mines itself states that the
company is required to make over
the entire gold production to Govern-
ment at the IMF rate, which is very
much lower than the market price.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is
all right. You have made the point.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: It is said
like that in the report. The quan-
tum of subsidy being given to the
company is also low. Hence, any
proposal to close down the mines is
not tenable. This gold mine which
is the economic backbone of the
country is producing one-third of the
world's gold. The gold requirements
for the industrial and economic pur-
poses will have to come from these
mines only. The total production of
ore and gold produced has fallen to
less than half of that in the preced-
ing years....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are
only to raise a point; not to make
a long speech.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: This is
actually what is going on there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You are
to make a point only; not to make a
long speech. Obviously, you have
come prepared for a very big debate.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: The total
production of the ore mine and the
gold produced has fallen to less than
half of what was therein the preced-
ing years. According to the report
of the Ministry....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You
have raised the point. Let the others
also have their say and the Govern-
ment may come forward with their
reply.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: I have
not completed my say. This comes
under my constituency.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That
may be so, but you are only raising
a point under rule 377 and you are
not to make a big speech on that.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: I have
not concluded. (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order,
please. It is going to be 3 O'clock,
and you cannot go on like that.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: I will
make only three or four points. That

[Shri G. Y. Krishnan] is all. The gold required for the industry—

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: The Finance Bill is coming, and this may be pointed out in that debate.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is also a point. When the Finance Bill is taken up, this may be raised at that time.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: The gold required for the industrial and economic purposes will have to come from the KGF and the Hatli Mines. This being so, the present Managing Director is trying to close down the mines by withdrawing the worker

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, I call upon Shri Mallanna.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Sir, what I say is quite relevant.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The Minister will reply to you. Do not make a long speech. Now, Mr. Mallanna.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: The Managing Director is trying to close down the mine by withdrawing....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. He is trying to take too much advantage. Shri Mallanna.

SHRI K. MALLANNA (Madhugiri): Sir, there are three or four points to be considered in connection with this matter. One is, the report of the Ministry of Steel and Mines does not contemplate the closure of the mines. That is one thing. Then, the report of the Ministry of Steel and Mines does not say anything about the closure of the mines, and if the mine is closed there will be also the unemployment problem. The employees belonging to the weaker sections of the population will suffer the most. The third point is this. Many instruments and other articles are sold as scrap indiscriminately. The last point is, we are losing a sub-

stantial quantity of gold by closing the mines.

So, I request the hon. Minister to have an inquiry into the matter and appoint an expert committee. I request him to consider whether it is feasible or not.

SHRI K. LAKAPPA: It is not a question of discussion or drawing the attention of the Government. It is because of the urgency of the situation. The situation is serious. The entire economy of the country is based on the gold available in the gold mines. The technical issue involved has not been made out by many hon. Members and it needs to be discussed. Many issues are involved. The alarming situation is that the management is being pushed to see that the entire gold mine is closed. The reasons that they are giving, untanable and they are manipulated in such a way that the entire gold mine should be closed down. It is not only detrimental to the interests of large sections of employees who are working there but also detrimental to the interest of the nation. The availability of new reserves has not been explored; technical operations have not been begun. How can you close down a gold mine which can be operated in a remunerative ways?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have posed the question; let the Minister reply now.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The management is making all efforts to close down the mines. We are having a competent Minister today we want to pay glorious tributes to him. A high level committee should be appointed to see that the whole thing is examined. Otherwise I would like to seek your permission to raise another full discussion on this issue.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: That is suggestion for action. Now please resume your seat.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I seek your protection. A high level committee