

हम को चीका दिया जाये ताकि हम सवास  
पूछ सकें।

Mr. Speaker: I will consider it separately. Shri S. S. Kothari.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : क्या आप उसके  
लिए समय निर्धारित करेंगे ?

Mr. Speaker: You should write to me; I cannot allow anything on the spot, right now.

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त : अध्यक्ष महोदय,  
जो एजेन्डा बाकी बचा हुआ है उस को इस  
एजेन्डे में साना होगा।

Mr. Speaker: You must write to me first; you cannot raise it like this.

12-22 hrs.

# CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED DECISION OF GOVERNMENT TO  
DECONTROL COAL

Shri S. S. Kothari (Mandsaur): I call the attention of the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The reported decision of the Government to decontrol Coal."

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, before the Minister makes a statement, I have a submission to make.

Mr. Speaker: Is it a point of order?

Shri Nambiar (Tiruchirappalli): It is a point of order in the form of a submission.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My point of order is this. We have developed a convention in the House that when-

ever any important decision is taken by the Government, either to increase the price of sugar or to decontrol coal or cement or whatever it is, it is first announced in the House. This is the second time....

Mr. Speaker: I agree with you that important decisions must be announced on the floor of the House. What has that got to do with this? You can raise it separately.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This news appeared in the press yesterday. I am happy that the Members are so alert that they have taken notice of it and they have given a Call Attention notice. When the sugar price was increased, this Parliament was treated with contempt...(Interruption). You should ask them not to do so.

Mr. Speaker: Not now; I cannot direct them off-hand just now.

Shri Nambiar: Unless it is leaked out it cannot go in the press.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): Control on the prices and distribution of coal was introduced for the first time in 1944 and 1945 respectively. The controls on coals have been reviewed by Government from time to time. The first step towards decontrol was taken in 1959, when Government notified the price of Grades III-A and III-B non-coking coals of Bengal-Bihar as "ceiling" prices instead of "fixed" prices "Ceiling" prices were introduced for hard coke in April 1960. In 1962, the prices of Grade II non-coking and Grade HH coking coals were also declared as "ceiling" prices.

Partial relaxation of distribution control was effected in 1964, when consumers were allowed to take Grade II and III of non-coking and ungraded coals of Singareni as well as soft coke subject only to the restrictions of rationalised transport.

In 1966, the prices and distribution of hard coke were also decontrolled.

During the last 10 years, coal prices have been increased on various

counts on 25 occasions. A statement showing the increase in coal prices from time to time and the reasons therefor is placed on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT 944/67]

Recently, opportunity was taken of the meeting of the Coal Development Council to discuss the question of decontrol with the producers. The latter favoured complete decontrol of all grades of coking and non coking coals but urged that such decontrol should be introduced after about six months of the acceptance of the recommendations of the Wage Board on the coal mining industry and the grant of corresponding increase in coal price. They stressed that the acceptance of the recommendations of the Wage Board and the grant of the corresponding increase in coal prices should be simultaneous as otherwise the industry will be unable to implement the recommendations.

As already stated by me earlier, Government have been constantly reviewing the controls on coal and progressively moving in the direction of decontrol. It is considered by Government that present is the most opportune moment to decontrol coal, when there is adequate production of coal and built-in capacity, particularly in non-coking coals of grade I and below variety, to produce more without a long gestation period.

In the past as mentioned earlier, it has been the practice to give price increase to compensate for payment of enhanced D.A. to workers, implementation of any award, incidence of royalty, contribution to the provident fund, bonus etc with the result that hardly any incentive was left with the industry. In order that coal industry becomes economically viable by increasing its efficiency, it is felt that the effect of every such increase, as mentioned earlier, be not passed on to the consumer. It has accordingly been decided to decontrol prices of all coking

and non-coking coals. To the extent considered necessary, however distribution of control only on coking coals required by metallurgical consumers i.e. steel plants etc would be retained. The movement of coal in general would be subject to the provisions of the Railways Act.

श्री मधु सिन्घे (मुनेर) अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है और स्पष्टीकरण भी है—दोनों हैं।

Mr Speaker: How can it be both? Either it should be 'Vyavastha' or it should be 'Spastikaran'.

श्री मधु सिन्घे अध्यक्ष महोदय दानो हैं। आप इसके 7 वे अगुछे का देखिये—

"In the past, as mentioned earlier, it has been the practice to give price increase to compensate for payment of enhanced D.A." etc

जब इनकी जा सूची दी है, उसमें कई बाइट्स ऐसे हैं

"To meet the incidence of the increased royalty. As an incentive for achieving the targets laid down under the Third Plan period."

इस से एक बात यह कहते हैं और उसके बिल्कुल विपरीत उनकी भावना इन्की है, जो तालिका दी है, टेबल दी है उस के विपरीत बात है। यह हो सकता है कि प्रजेची भाषा की वजह से यह गड़बड़ किया है। ये कहते हैं—

"... with the result that hardly any incentive was left with the industry."

उस के बिल्कुल विपरीत बात मानें कहते हैं—

"In order that coal industry becomes economically viable by increasing its efficiency, it is felt that

## [श्री मधु सिन्घे]

the effect of every such increase, as mentioned earlier, be not passed on to the consumer "

अब हम ने इन्फ्लेक्शन कन्ट्रोल का क्या मतलब रखा है। आपको कहना चाहिये कि उन के ऊपर कोई बर्दाश पड़े कि वे अपनी आवश्यकता को बढ़ाये तो इन्फ्लेक्शन का कोई जोखिम नहीं है। साथ ही जब आपकी देखल है, तालिका है इस का बनाया करें तब बाद में सप्लीमेंटरी हो सकते हैं।

Mr. Speaker: He may ask that in his supplementary Mr. Kothari:

Shri S. S. Kothari: The industry owes its troubles to the fixing of targets by the Government. The Government had earlier fixed a target of 97 million tonnes at the end of the Third Plan period, but the actual demand came to not even 68 million tonnes, with the result that the industry had a surplus production, which it could not dispose of. I welcome the decision of the Minister with regard to decontrol of coal. But may I point out that it is his duty to see that certain positive steps are taken to ensure that the industry's demand is maintained and stimulated. With regard to the steps, I submit the Railways are proceeding along the path of increasing dieselisation; that has to be stopped, because that also consumes foreign exchange. The fertiliser industry should implement the scheme of using coal as one of the raw materials for manufacturing fertilisers.

Mr. Speaker: That is a suggestion.

Shri S. S. Kothari: I am giving the background.

Mr. Speaker: That is a suggestion. That may be a valuable suggestion. But he may put the question now.

Shri S. S. Kothari: In the rural areas, coal has to be consumed on an increasing scale so that manure and forest fuel could be saved. Finally, export should be stimulated.

Now, I come to my question. What steps is the hon. Minister going to take to see that the exports, which were quite appreciable before the Indo-Pak. war and which have now gone down, are stimulated again?

Dr. Chenna Reddy: Regarding the general points that the hon. Member has raised, I would submit that the question of either control or decontrol would not materially change the situation. It will be the constant endeavour of the Ministry to see to what extent it will be possible to increase the utilisation of coal. But there are other aspects like dieselisation etc. the economy resulting from the use of naphtha as against coal in fertiliser factories and so on.

Mr. Speaker: They were all suggestions. But what about the exports? That was his question.

Shri S. S. Kothari: I want to know whether my suggestions are acceptable to him.

Dr. Chenna Reddy: As for exports one of the countries to which we were exporting a major quantity was Pakistan. But in view of the general situation prevailing in regard to the relationship with Pakistan, it may not be easy to indicate to what extent and at what stage it will be possible to have exports to Pakistan. But in the other countries we are continuing to maintain our exports.

श्री मधु सिन्घे: मेरा क्वाल है कि हिन्दुस्तान की कोयले की खानों में जो मजदूर हैं वेज बोर्ड का जो एगार्ड है वह भी मिला दिया जाय तो भी पश्चिमी जर्मनी या ब्रिटेन से पांचवां हिस्सा भी नहीं होगा तो क्या बजह है कि हमारे यहां आज कोयले के मासिक आप से माग कर रहे हैं कि इस वक्त आप नियंत्रण न उठाइये, हम को दाम बढ़ा कर बीजिये और 6 महीने के बाद इस पर बिचार कीजिये और दूसरे क्या बंदी भर्तीकरण की इस बात का पता है कि रेलवे बोर्ड और कोयला

खानों के वास्तविक इन छे बीच में कुछ खर्च से वडयन्ल अब रहा है और उन के द्वारा जो खराब किस्म का कोयला बनाया जाता है उसको देखते बोर्ड प्रच्छे किस्म के कोयले का नाम देकर खरीदता है। अब रेलवे बोर्ड को जो सदस्य हैं उनका पाना पैसा तो बर्बाद होता नहीं है पैसा बर्बाद होता है जनता का और हम लोगों का तो क्या इस वडयन्ल को खत्म करने के लिए भी उन्होंने कोई उपाय रखा है ?

डा० चन्ना रेड्डी : यह भी कोयला माइन-ओनर्स से जो कोयले के लिए बड़ी हुई कीमतें मांगी हैं मैंने धरने इस स्टेटमेंट में उस प्राइस इन्फ्रीज की तरफ काफी डिटेन में इसारा किया है लेकिन हम तरीके से कोयला की प्राइस मुसलसल इन्फ्रीज करते रहने का काम जारी रखना मुनासिब नहीं है। कोयला इन्स्टीट्यूट को इस में कुछ जिम्मेदारी और बोझा उठाना चाहिए और धरनी एफिशिएंसी को बढ़ाने की तरफ कुछ करना चाहिए। उस का जितना बजालता प्रोडक्शन है वह काफी है और प्रोडक्शन के लिहाज से इस वकन उस की मांग कम है तो यही बात है कि जब वह एकोनामी की तरफ सवज्जह है और इसलिए डिक्ंट्रोल किया गया है। जहां तक मांगनीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाये गये माइनओनर्स और रेलवे बोर्ड के बीच में वडयन्ल या सबब है रेलवे बोर्ड और मंत्रालय इस बात का नोटिस लेगा और उस बारे में देखेगा। बाकी हमारी तरफ से जो खाल कन्ट्रोलर का काम है उस पर निगरानी होती रहेगी और उस बात को जरूर ध्यान में रखा जायेगा।

श्री आर्च कर्नल (अध्यक्ष-दक्षिण) : अध्यक्ष महोदय इस स्टेटमेंट में कोयला प्रच्छेज की इन्फ्रीज के बाबत जो आंकड़े दिये गये हैं उनको देखने में मालूम होता है कि 13-6-82, 3-3-64 और 22-12-66 तीन बार कोयले की पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए और ऊंचे

ऊंचे का कोयला बनाने के लिए यह अजून के मालिकों को इन्सैन्टिव देने में आया है। तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के बरसों काम नीर पर यह लिखा है :—

"Incentive to produce more coal during the 3rd Five year plan."

अब अध्यक्ष महोदय तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में 9 करोड़ 50 लाख टन का टारगेट या 6 करोड़ 80 लाख टन उन में से पूरा हो गया यानी 3 करोड़ 70 लाख टन नहीं पूरा कर पाये तो उस का मतलब यह साफ है कि इन्सैन्टिव देने के बावजूद भी खान के मालिकों ने जो काम करना चाहिए या बड़ नहीं किया है और यह रंग भी उन लोगों ने प्रजय कर लिया तो अब प्रश्न यह है कि अब मंत्री महोदय ने कल इस पालिका का जेजान किया है कि हम डिक्ंट्रोल कर जा रहे हैं तो खान के मालिकों की ओर से यह मांग आ रही है कि हमें आप और पैसा बढ़ा कर दीजिए, पैसे के बढ़ाने की मांग है बाकी प्रजय प्रलगरिपोर्ट है किसी ने 3 रुपये की मांग की है किसी ने साढ़े 4 रुपये की मांग की है तो किसी ने साढ़े 5 रुपये की मांग की है जो मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हू कि क्या वह उन को ज्यादा पैसा देना उचित समझती है यदि हा तो वह बढ़ा हुआ पैसा कब से उन को देना चाहती है और सरकार कब दिन में यह डिक्ंट्रोल करना चाहती है ?

डा० चन्ना रेड्डी : अब इस वकन सरकार द्वारा कोयले की कीमत बढ़ाने का मसाला पैदा नहीं होता है क्योंकि अगर उस की कीमत बढ़ाने का विचार होता तो हम उस पर कोई कन्ट्रोल प्रच्छा नियन्त्रण रखते। सरकार का खयाल है कि वर्तमान सबब कोयले पर से नियन्त्रण हटाने का अब से प्रजिक उपच्छुत मौका है। यह तो डिमांड और सप्लाई

[श्री चन्ना रेड्डी]

का सवाल है और इस डिमांड एंड सप्लाय की इंटरसिजनशिप और इंटरकनेक्शन की वजह से और डिप्लोम की वजह से उस की प्राप्ति खुद अपने आप से तब होती।

यदि कार्य करनेवाला डिप्लोम किस तरीके से किया जायगा?

Dr. Chenna Reddy: From the date of announcement.

12-36 hrs.

#### RULING REGARDING LAYING OF PAPERS ON TABLE

Mr. Speaker: On the 5th July 1967 Shri Madhu Limaye raised a point that in the case of papers sought to be laid on the Table by private Members, Members should be informed of the decision taken by the Speaker whether or not he has allowed the papers to be laid. The Member suggested that either the Speaker should make an announcement of his decision in the House or an entry should be made in the List of Business, as is done in the case of papers laid by Ministers. Dr. Lohia also pleaded for the latter procedure.

On the 6th July, Shri Madhu Limaye wrote to me that such documents as the Speaker permits to be laid should be mentioned in the List of Business and the Member concerned should be called upon to lay the document in the same manner as papers are laid by Ministers.

The position is that in the case of a paper or document laid by a Minister, entry is made in the List of Business because the Minister is himself responsible for the document and he is authorised to authenticate it on the grounds that—

(i) it has been or deemed to have been prepared under his supervision or care, and

(ii) he is in possession of the document officially.

In the case of private Members, however, papers or documents are sought to be laid on the Table by them during the course of their speeches. As such, no entry about such papers can obviously be made in the List of Business. However, where it is decided to treat such a document as a paper laid on the Table, the document is placed in the Library and a reference to it is given in the printed debates. This applies also to the Ministers, who may in the course of their speeches in the House, lay papers or documents on the Table of the House. There is thus no distinction between the Ministers and private Members in this regard.

As the Members desire that when the Speaker accords the necessary permission for any paper handed over to the Table by a private Member to be treated as paper laid on the Table, Members should be informed of that, I have directed the Secretariat to publish the information in future in Bulletin Part II.

श्री जयू लिमये : (मुंबई) दूसरे दिन करने का क्या कायदा उस दिन माना चाहिए। प्रस बाकों को देने बना चलेगा?

Mr. Speaker: Members will be informed of the decision; it will be published in the Bulletin.

श्री जयू लिमये : सेक्रेटरी एसाय करे।