

MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL**APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO JOINT COMMITTEE**

SHRI A. P. SHARMA (Buxar): I beg to move:

"That this House do appoint Shri G. Venkatswamy to the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Mines Act, 1952, in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri R. K. Khadilkar".

MR. SPEAKER: The question is.

"That this House do appoint Shri G. Venkatswamy to the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Mines Act, 1952 in the vacancy caused by the resignation of Shri R. K. Khadilkar".

The motion was adopted.

12.43 hrs.

RE: REPORTED POLICE FIRING ON TRIBALS IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): On 5th March, very near Jalpaiguri in West Bengal, in a forest, police firing killed two tribal persons who were living within that forest. This firing was done when the eviction of the tribal people who were living in the forest and making a bare livelihood was in process. It seems that oppression and atrocities on Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are increasing every day. This is a very serious matter, and I would request you to ask the hon. Minister to make a statement on this particular incident.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Bihar): The hon. Member's submission relates to the law and order problem of the State Government of West Bengal. So, how could it come up here?

MR. SPEAKER: I took this aspect also into consideration, and because it related to the Scheduled Castes....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Scheduled Tribes.

MR. SPEAKER:...I have allowed it.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I am also very much concerned with this, but in this way His only intention in raising this matter is to malign the West Bengal Government.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: The hon Member is saying that I am here to malign the West Bengal Government. I only want to draw the attention of the House to the fact that two Scheduled Tribes people who were having a bare livelihood in the forest were killed by police firing.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: How many tribal people were killed or murdered by the CPI(M) during the UF Government rule? Will the hon Member give the figure? It is more than 100, killed by your own party (*Interruptions*), by the then Home Minister Jyoti Basu.

14.45 hrs.

RE: REPORTED SHORTAGE OF DIESEL OIL, ETC. FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES IN TAMIL NADU

SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM (Tiruchirapalli): The demand for diesel, kerosene and petrol has suddenly increased in Tamil Nadu due to the power crisis. For small scale industries and agriculture, the power cut is very much; although there is a general power cut to the extent of 75 per cent in these sectors, it is almost 100 per cent in some areas. So agriculturists have purchased oil engines and small scale industrialists have gone for oil engines and generators. This has given rise to the demand for diesel and kerosene. The private oil companies, Esso, Caltex and Bur-