

Andhra Pradesh, as well as the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and off-shore areas of Cambay, Kutch and Madras coast.

Carbonisation of Coal

2304. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Himatsingka:
Shri Rameshwar Tanti:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations have been completed for carbonisation of coal at medium temperature for use in the low shaft furnace for the production of pig iron; and

(b) the grades of coal that would be utilised in low-shaft furnace and whether the experiment would lead to any conservation of superior grade of coking coal?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. C. Chagla): (a) Investigations are in progress.

(b) Low-grade coals from various coal producing areas in the country could be utilised. It is expected that large scale production of coke at medium and low temperatures from low-grade coals would lead to the conservation of limited resources of superior coking coals.

Thefts in Dev Nagar, New Delhi

2305. **Shri Jedhe:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of thefts and burglary in the single storied Government Quarters in Dev Nagar, New Delhi have greatly increased since the 15th January, 1966;

(b) if so, the number of such cases from 15th January to 2nd February, 1966 and whether any culprit has so far been arrested;

(c) whether any representation from the residents has also been received by the Inspector-General of Police on the 8th February, 1966; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) One case of burglary and 6 cases of thefts were reported. No culprit has so far been arrested.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) On receipt of the representation, the Supdt. of Police of the area visited the locality and met the signatories to the representation and other residents of the locality and looked into their grievances. With a view to keep down the incidence of crime police patrolling has been intensified in the area.

12 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

DISCUSSIONS BY THE HOME MINISTER WITH THE CHIEF MINISTER OF BENGAL AND OPPOSITION MEMBERS

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah (Adoni): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"His recent visit to Calcutta and talks held by him with the Chief Minister of West Bengal and opposition members regarding restoring normalcy in West Bengal."

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Nanda) The House is aware that Shri C. Subramaniam and I visited Calcutta on the 12th March, 1966. We were there till the 14th afternoon. The situation in West Bengal had aroused considerable concern in the House and outside. The Prime Minister was keen that the state of normalcy should be restored as soon as possible. She had indicated in her speech in the Lok Sabha on 11th March that we could "look at all these matters afresh.....". The Government of West Bengal and the Chief Minister also held the view

that the state of disorder should be ended immediately and ways found of ensuring peaceful functioning of social and political system. Our main object in visiting Calcutta was, thus, to discuss with the Chief Minister and his colleagues and other friends about the problems that had arisen in West Bengal, and to give whatever assistance the State Government needed in creating conditions which would lead to the restoration of normalcy.

2. We held discussions with the West Bengal Government, Hon'ble Members of Parliament of both Houses, representatives of trade and industry and various professions, Vice-Chancellors of the Universities in West Bengal, editors of newspapers' a large number of persons who were interested in finding a solution to the problems being faced by the people and Government of West Bengal. Two major considerations emerged as a result of these consultations spread over nearly three days. First, that we should put an end to the serious disturbance of public order which had occurred on a large scale, by securing the cooperation of all sections of public opinion. And secondly that ways should be found for enabling the West Bengal Legislature to function with the full participation of opposition so that the problems and issues facing the State could be discussed dispassionately and objectively in the highest democratic forum of the State.

3. The Chief Minister was in broad agreement with the approach indicated above and in pursuance thereof he allowed a procession organised by the United Left Front to be taken out in Calcutta on 13th March. I would like to suggest that his decision in this respect went a long way towards creating a proper atmosphere in which the subsequent steps taken by him could be seen as an earnest and sincere effort to find a way out in terms of the approach which had been stated by the Prime Minister on 11th March in this House.

The decisions are well known by now and I shall state them briefly:—

- (1) The West Bengal Government have announced the release of all MLAs and MLCs who were detained in connection with the recent disturbances along with a number of other persons who had been detained in the same connection. They have also released Shri Jyoti Basu, Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly.
- (2) The second important decision taken by the State Government is to appoint a three Member Inquiry Commission to be constituted under the Commission of Inquiries Act and presided over by a serving or retired High Court Judge. This Commission will go into the circumstances, leading to the recent disturbances, the nature, extent and the causes thereof, loss of life, damage to property and disruption of communications which occurred as also the measures including police firing adopted by Government to control the situation.

4. I am sure the whole House will join me in recording our sincere and warm appreciation of the bold, wise and courageous decisions taken by the Chief Minister and the West Bengal Government, which have already had the effect of restoring peace, and which resolutely point the way to a vigorous functioning of the democratic organs in West Bengal.

5. I am also sure that other steps, as and when they become necessary, will be taken by the West Bengal Government to deal effectively with all the issues which acquired prominence during the past few weeks. The Chief Minister has decided to have a review made of the administrative measures relating to supply

[Shri Nanda.]

of food and kerosene oil. I am glad to inform the House that curfew has already been lifted in Calcutta and other parts of the State except Asansol. There have been sporadic incidents over the last two or three days in different parts of the State, but by the large the situation has come back to normal.

6. The House will realise that the Chief Minister and the West Bengal Government have gone to the farthest limit in their resolve to ensure the return of peaceful conditions. I am confident that all sections of the House will commend the steps taken by them and will extend their whole-hearted support in putting an end to violence in public life. I hope that leaders of Opposition parties and the community in general will make a forthright condemnation of acts of violence and hooliganism which threaten the very foundations of natural life. I hope that the Opposition Parties in West Bengal will make a positive contribution towards this end and will welcome the steps taken by Government in the spirit in which they have been arrived at. It is indeed my fervent hope, as it must be of all sections of the House, that they resume the dialogue with Government in the best democratic traditions which it is the duty of all of us to preserve and enhance.

Shri P. Venkatasubbalah: May I know, Sir, whether during the course of his talks not only with the Chief Minister of West Bengal but also with the various representatives there, he was able to assess that this violent demonstration and also indulging in colossal destruction of government property and essential services and also inciting mob violence resulting in the death of innocent people has been hatched sometime back, last year or so, and that this has been a calculated work of the Leftist parties to bring destruction and also dislocate

and bring in disorder in the law and order situation?

Mr. Speaker: If the judicial inquiry is to be held in this also, then it need not be answered.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): My hon. friend is too much of an enthusiast for the police.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Sir, is it a fact that the Chief Minister of West Bengal proposed to resign and then on the persuasion by the Prime Minister he abstained from pressing that? In that context, may I know whether he made this proposal because of the fact that the conciliatory measures proposed by the hon. Minister are in conflict with the policy of dire obstinacy followed by him so long over which this gentleman is very unhappy?

Shri Nanda: Sir, it is a very uncharitable construction put on what happened there. These decisions were taken by the Chief Minister and they were fully his decisions, and there was no question of his disagreeing with anybody.

Shri Hem Barua: What about the first part of my question. I wanted to know whether he had resigned and he was persuaded by the Prime Minister not to resign?

Shri Nanda: He had just indicated that he was unhappy at the thing that had happened. It was just an expression of feeling and he was persuaded by his colleagues not to pursue the matter.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): The letter was burnt.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta Central): In view of the fact that a number of legislators and some 7,000

others are still in jail through employment of D.I.R. in a manner which the Home Minister has said in the House as unwarranted, and in view of the fact that parties like the P.S.P. and the Forward Bloc, which were not in the United Front of Leftists, make the same demands regarding the release of these people and implementation immediately of a rectified food policy, may I know why the Government of India does not help in the matter of removing this persistence in clumsy and ungenerous policies, which make unwilling concessions in dribbles, and in the solution of the food problem by mobilising popular co-operation at every level?

Shri Nanda: The hon. Member would not be satisfied, because he reflects some other viewpoint. I hope he is satisfied in his own mind. Even if an unreasonable demand is accepted by the Government, then too they will not be prepared to talk. That is their attitude. So far as the arrests or detentions in connection with the disturbances are concerned, they are all being released. Action is taken only against those persons who have committed acts of lawlessness. That is done under the normal law. I hope it is not his intention that action should not be taken even against those people under the normal ordinary law of the land.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: That was not my question. 7,000 arrests were made in connection with the food agitation. If there are cases pending against them, I can understand that it may take some time to dispose of them. But, as far as the mass arrests of thousands of people are concerned, it is stopping restoration of normal conditions and an atmosphere of co-operation. Even those who want to sit round the table, they cannot sit and these things continue

Shri Nanda: There is going to be that judicial inquiry. Then, the opposition leaders have been released so that they can sit down and have con-

sultations regarding these things. So far as those people who have been arrested are concerned it is not as if they are going to be kept there in jail indefinitely. Where there are specific charges they will be pursued. The rest will be released.

Shri Warior (Trichur): What is the existing dispute because of which the West Bengal Assembly is not meeting? What has the West Bengal Government done to settle the dispute so that the proper functioning of the West Bengal Assembly is possible?

Shri Nanda: I have already said that the Government has done all that is possible; the Assembly is there; the rest of them will come. I had a talk with the Chief Minister about this.

Shri Vasudevan Nair (Ambalapuzha): Sir, you will also kindly remember that when the first firing took place in 24 Purganas the opposition parties wanted a judicial inquiry into that firing. Now the hon. Minister is saying so much of some inquiry which they are going to institute. They are going to have an inquiry right from 1947, the partition of the country, how the refugees came, what are their problems and so on, as the hon. Home Minister himself has stated. Can he justify this kind of omnibus terms of reference for an inquiry and thereby try to evade the real issue, that is, the terror or violence committed by the Government over the people? If that is not done, how does the Government expect the opposition parties to respond? You really want to evade the inquiry into the police firing and police atrocities by bringing all these things from 1947 onwards.

Shri Nanda: It is a totally erroneous assumption. I have indicated the terms of reference. They do not bring in all these things; they are specific, about police firing and related matters.

श्री बागड़ी (हिंसार) : गृह मंत्री महोदय बंगाल गये हैं, उन्होंने वहाँ की सारी परिस्थितियों को देखा है। क्या वह बतला सकेंगे कि उन के जाने तक कुल कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार हो चुके थे? कितने व्यक्ति हैं जिन के विरुद्ध हिंसात्मक अपराधों के मुकदमे हैं और इन को छोड़ कर बाकी जो लोग जेलों में हैं उन को बच छोड़ा जा रहा है?

श्री मन्ना : मैंने कह दिया कि जितने डिटेन हुए थे उन में 13 मेम्बरस थे और उन के अलावा 18 दूसरे थे। सब को छोड़ दिया गया है। अब कोई डिटेन्शन वा नहीं है। बाकी आडिनरी ला के नीचे 1300 आदमी हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : श्री मुर्जी वाला जो केस है मास अरेस्ट वा, उन में से कितनों के खिलाफ मुकदमे दायर हुए हैं और कितने दूसरे हैं?

श्री मन्ना : इस को कंसिडर किया जायेगा और उस वा जल्द फैसला हो जायेगा।

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे सवाल वा कोई जवाब नहीं मिला है। मंत्री महोदय गये थे, उन्होंने वहाँ के हालात देखे हैं। क्या उन्होंने यह नहीं देखा कि कितने लोग गिरफ्तार हुए हैं। क्या वह सिर्फ चीफ मिनिस्टर से मिलने गये थे?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने यह कह दिया कि वह क्यों गये थे।

श्री बागड़ी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या मंत्री महोदय मेरी बात वा जवाब नहीं देंगे?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन्होंने दे दिया है।

श्री बागड़ी : कहाँ दिया है कि कितने गिरफ्तार हुए और कितने मुकदमे चल रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उन को उस का पता नहीं है।

श्री बागड़ी : वह बंगाल रह कर आये हैं, उन को क्या इस का पता नहीं है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब वह कहते हैं कि पता नहीं तब मैं क्या कर सकता हूँ?

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): The hon. Minister has stated that certain action has been taken in consultation with the West Bengal Chief Minister, but even after that has his attention been drawn to press news and to the various statements issued by the leaders of the United Left Front that they do not agree to the suggestion of an inquiry commission with these terms of reference, unless the terms of reference are made clear? What they said is that the Government had not yet created a situation where this will serve a useful purpose. 20 legislators, they said, were still in jail; over 400 continued to be detained without trial and 7,000 others were in prison. Then, they said:—

"The Front was of the opinion that the Government was playing a clumsy and dangerous game of attempting to confuse the people by releasing a few detenus and other arrested people and by proposing a worse than useless inquiry in place of a judicial inquiry."

So, if this is not acceptable to the representatives of the West Bengal Opposition, the United Left Front, and they are thinking in terms of starting another agitation on the 18th, I would like to know whether the Chief Minister and the Home Minister will again sit with them, talk to them and see that their demand is met.

Shri Nanda: I will request the hon. Member and others to go and persuade those friends not to start another kind of a hartal again and provoke—this is my request—because the Government has done all that is possible to see what steps can be taken by mutual consultation between the members of the Opposition and the Government.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Chief Minister talk to them?

Mr. Speaker: He has heard all that Shri Banerjee has said. He has said that this can only be done if they sit together and have consultations for a further solution of the problems

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, you give me a patient hearing; he will not answer. Has it been stated by the leaders of the Front, who are the real people who can deliver the goods, that about 400.....

Mr. Speaker: Shri Banerjee has read it and he has heard it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is the specific objection to that?

Mr. Speaker: Are these facts stated in the paper correct to the knowledge of Government?

Shri Nanda: I have also read that this is the attitude of that party and I have given my answer that any further action can only follow a talk between the Opposition leaders and the Government.

श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय (सलेमपुर) :
जैसा माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने बतलाया है, उन्होंने यह निर्णय लिया कि वहाँ पर जो विरोधी दल के लोग गिरफ्तार किये गये थे उन को रिहा कर दिया जायेगा और एक एन्वयरी कमेटी बैठेगी जांच करने के लिए। लेकिन जैसा समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित हुआ है उस से वे लोग सन्तुष्ट नहीं हैं। बल्कि जो साम्प्रदायिक नेता हैं उन का यह कहना है कि वह लोग इससे बड़ा धान्दोलन करेंगे क्योंकि उन

की पूरी मांग मंजूर नहीं की गई है। उस में उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि दासगुप्ता रिहा कर दिये जायेंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय ने बंगाल के मुख्य मंत्री के समक्ष विरोधी नेताओं से परामर्श किया और क्या उन्होंने इस तरह का कोई ऐम्बोरेन्स लिया है कि वे भविष्य में इस प्रकार के विध्वंसक कार्य नहीं करेंगे।

श्री नन्दा : अगर वह सन्तुष्ट नहीं हैं तो यह उनकी बात है मैं समझता हूँ कि जो कुछ हुआ है उस से उन्हें सन्तुष्ट होना चाहिए। आश्वासन देने की कोई बात नहीं है।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी (बगहा) :
सवाल यह है कि उन से कोई ऐम्बोरेन्स लिया है या नहीं।

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. P. H. Chakraverti.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): In view of the fact that the concessions made for preliminary talks have been rejected by those leaders who have recently been let out of jail—they have also refused to attend the legislature—I would like to know what steps the Government intend to take considering that the large majority of the representatives of the people in that State are behind the Chief Minister and the Government.

Shri Nanda: The Legislature is functioning.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: They have refused to attend and I want to know what further steps are going to be taken.

Shri Nanda: Further steps are not now to be taken by the Chief Minister but by others.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: It appears from the Statement of the Home Minister that the decision was not of the Chief Minister. As he stated, after discussing the matter with different elements, two things

[Shri Surendranath Dwivedy.]

emerged ultimately and that was accepted by the Chief Minister. But now it seems that the United Front of Leftists who have started the movement are unwilling to accept this. I want to know whether, before they discussed the matter with the Chief Minister, the leaders of the United Front of Leftists who were jailed—the persons whom they met did not represent that particular organisation—were contacted and whether they ascertained their wishes as to whether they were willing to accept those terms before they came to this final decision.

Shri Nanda: Others whom we met were in contact with their other friends.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: It is not sufficient.

Shri Nanda: All these announcements were made and everything that was needed to be done had been done. It was not our function to carry on the business of the Government there. (Interruption).

श्री मधु लिये (मुंगेर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल गृह मंत्री जी ने कहा था कि सरकार की तरफ से संकटकालीन स्थिति हटाने के रास्ते में, एमर्जेंसी हटाने के रास्ते में कोई रुकावट नहीं है। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी अपील की थी कि मुल्क में एक नयी फिजा पैदा की जाय। इसलिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या प्रधान मंत्री जी और गृह मंत्री जी बंगाल सरकार को यह सलाह देने के लिए तैयार हैं कि इस वक्त भारत सुरक्षा कानून के अन्दर जितने नजरबन्द बन्द हैं उनको उस कानून के अन्दर नहीं बल्कि जो नजरबन्दी कानून है, प्रिवेंटिव डिटेन्शन ऐक्ट का, उसके मातहत रखा जाय ताकि सभी लोगों को ऐडवाइजरी बोर्ड के सामने अपनी बात रखने का मौका मिलेगा और जो देश

विरोधी काम कर रहे हैं वही लोग जेल में रह जायेंगे और बाकी जो निर्रोध लोग हैं वह बाहर आ जायेंगे और बंगाल में विरोधी दलों का सहयोग सरकार को प्राप्त हो सकेगा ?

श्री नन्दा : मैंने जो स्टेटमेंट दिया था उसमें कुछ हद्द तक रिलीजेशन की बात थी और बाकी मामलों के बारे में फिर से नये सिरे से सोचने का सबाल था। उससे ज्यादा मैं इस वक्त कुछ नहीं कह सकता।

Mr. Speaker: Shri P. R. Chakraverti. I called him but he did not stand up.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti (Dhanbad): Not a single Member heard it here.

Mr. Speaker: Not a single Member heard it?

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: I asked my friends here. Nobody heard it.

Mr. Speaker: Why should he have asked others?

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: I do not understand, when my name is there, why I am not called. You are following the Deputy Speaker's example in banning me out. Then, I go out.... (Interruption).

Mr. Speaker: I allowed him an opportunity.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Nobody heard it.

Mr. Speaker: Does he want to put a question or not? I am allowing him the opportunity.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Thank you for your generosity.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): The Leader of the House is silent.....(Interruption) What is the example that he referred to?

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: He does not understand anything.... (Interruption).

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He referred to the Deputy-Speaker's example. I want to know what is the example of the Deputy-Speaker which you have followed. What is that? It is rather obscure.... (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That was not in a good taste that he made the observation against that Deputy-Speaker as well as against me.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: I am waiting for your reply.

Mr. Speaker: For my reply? What reply does he want me to give? I called him but he did not stand up. He said that he did not hear.... (Interruption) He must hear me. When he said that he had not heard me, I was allowing him an opportunity to put a question. Where was the cause for complaint then?

Shri P. R. Chakraverti: May I know whether the Government has taken into account the fact that these troubles were started because of scarcity of food and other essential goods in West Bengal and if so, whether, in the context of the demands of the released prisoners that Government should make it a point to solve the food problem, Government is taking the responsibility of supplying food and other essential goods?

Shri Nanda: In my statement I have pointed out that the Government of West Bengal is going to review the administration in respect of supply of food and kerosene. As to how far that was responsible for the disturbances, etc., is a matter for the inquiry.

Shri Nath Pal (Rajapur): There is a little confusion. I am afraid, Mr. Speaker, there is a growing incidence of cases of confused identity which may be inadvertent examples of impersonation. Of course, they are ending in a happy consummation because

of your generosity. There was the confused identity of Mr. Raja Ram. I also find that there was a mistake about my friend. The name of Mr. Hem Raj is here, but Mr. Hem Barua stood up.

Mr. Speaker: That has been corrected in my list.

Shri Hem Barua: I have been promoted from a backward State to an advanced State; that too, to a beautiful valley like Kangra. Again I have been promoted from a rice-eating area to a wheat-eating area.

12.27 hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

DEFENCE OF INDIA (AMENDMENT)
RULES, 1966

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): On behalf of Shri Hathi, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Defence of India (Amendment) Rules, 1966, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 264 in Gazette of India, dated the 16th February, 1966, under section 41 of the Defence of India Act, 1962. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-6786/66].

12.27½ hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

- (1) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 1966 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th March, 1966, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no