

कही है कि भारत सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को लिखा, उन को शुद्ध कोर्स चलाने का आग्रह किया था परन्तु यह पूर्णतया सफल नहीं हुआ। उनका कहना सही है। डा० सुशीला नायर ने जो बात कही वह बिल्कुल ठीक कही। राज्य सरकारों ने नहीं माना। मैं खुद ही जानता हूँ। हमारे यहां श्री सम्पूर्णानन्द जी मुख्य मंत्री थे। वहां पर इंटीग्रेटेड कोर्स को लेकर झगड़ा हुआ, हड़तालें हुईं, उन हड़तालों में हम लोगों ने विद्यार्थियों की तरफ से प्लीड किया मगर सम्पूर्णानन्द जी की भी वही राय थी जो कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी की राय है और इन लोगों के चरणों में बैठ कर जो हम ने शिक्षा ली, हमारी भी अपनी वही राय है। अब जो यह लागू होगा वह अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत होगा और इसलिए राज्यों को उसे मानना ही होगा और इसलिए संसद् को एक अधिनियम इस के लिए पास करना होगा।

Conference on Mines' Safety

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*469. SHRI SHANKERSINHJI VAG
HELA:
SHRI ANANT DAVE:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be
pleased to state:

(a) whether a tripartite conference on mines' safety was held in New Delhi in the month of May, 1977;

(b) the persons who participated in the conference;

(c) the salient features of the recommendations or suggestions made in the conference; and

(d) whether Government have examined those recommendations or suggestions and if so, the decision taken by Government for implementing them?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR
(SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a)
A tripartite meeting was held on the

18th May, 1977 to consider various aspects of safety in mines.

(b) A list is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 696/77].

(c) and (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 696/77].

श्री शंकरसिंह जी बघेला : अध्यक्ष महोदय, तीन बड़ी खान दुर्घटनाएं इस देश में हुई हैं—चासनाला, सुदामडीह और केसरगढ़ और वह प्रबन्धक इस के लिए जिम्मेदार हैं जिन्होंने लापरवाही दिखाई, इतने पर भी सरकार ने कोई ऐसा कदम नहीं उठाया जिस से यह सुनिश्चित हो सके कि भविष्य में ऐसी दुर्घटना नहीं होगी। अभी भी पता नहीं सरकार ने ऐसे अधिकारियों के खिलाफ जो स्टेप्स लेने चाहिए वह लिए या नहीं जो उस के लिए जिम्मेदार थे। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि खान दुर्घटनाओं में जो मारे जाने वाले श्रमिक थे, उन श्रमिकों को उपयुक्त मुआवजा देने का कोई कानून है जैसे रेलवे और हवाई जहाज में है ? यदि है तो मरने वालों को क्षतिपूर्ति कैसे की जाएगी ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the question was about the Conference on Mines Safety. The hon. Member has raised the question of the accidents that take place—the gruesome tragedy that took place in Chasnala and other mines. Unfortunately, perhaps, the hon. Member was not present during the debates under the Demands of the Labour Ministry when, in fact, to question, it was stated in this House that the reports had been laid on the Table of the House. The Labour Ministry, the administrative ministry concerned as well as the ministries of the States concerned will look into and study the report and take appropriate action under different heads.

श्री शंकरसिंह जी बघेला : क्या मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि जब हर साल देश में तीन सौ लोग

मारे जाते हैं और इन दुर्घटनाओं में साढ़े चार-सौ लोग मारे गए तो जो कांफ्रेंस ने सिफारिशें कीं, खान सुरक्षा के बारे में, उन सिफारिशों पर किस तिथि तक अन्तिम निर्णय ले लिया जाएगा ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the Conference was convened, particularly, because the Government was anxious to see that all rules regarding safety were enforced. A review was undertaken at this Conference at which, for the first time, the representatives of the Central Trade Union Organisations were present, other professional organisations were present and representatives of the management and the representatives of the ministries were also present. It was because the Government was anxious to see that all these rules were adhered to that the Conference was convened.

At that conference, it was decided that the review committee should be revived and that review committee should monitor the progress of the implementation of the measures concerned with safety.

SHRI ANANT DAVE: Sir, I want to know from him whether Government has decided to introduce compulsory insurance scheme for the mine workers.

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, this question does not arise out of the main question. But, this is a suggestion and that will be considered.

श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, संविधान में लिखा हुआ है कि भारत के सभी नागरिकों को एक समान माना जायेगा और सभी के समान अधिकार होंगे तब हवाई जहाज और रेल दुर्घटनाओं में जो मरते हैं उनको एक लाख और 50 हजार मुआविजा क्यों दिया जाता है और खान में काम करने वाले मजदूर मरते हैं तो उनको दो, चार या छः हजार की छोटी रकम क्यों दी जाती है ? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ जब संविधान में सभी को समान अधिकार है तो मरने के बाद, चाहे वह

हवाई जहाज में मर या खान में, चाहे वह भिखारी हो या महाराजा हो, उनकी जिन्दगी की कीमत एक क्यों न आकार दी जाय ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, I appreciate the hon. Member's concern for equality of the citizens. Government certainly believe in the concept of equality of citizens. The question of compensation is related to many factors. But, the sentiment behind the hon. Member's question or his suggestion will be borne in mind.

श्री हरिकेश बहादुर : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब चास्नाला खान दुर्घटना हुई थी उस समय तत्कालीन खान मंत्री की एक अपील ब्राडकास्ट हुई थी कि जो भी वैज्ञानिक उसमें मदद कर सकते हैं वे आकर मदद करें। इस अपील पर इंस्टीट्यूट आफ टेक्नालाजी, इनारस हिन्दू यूनिवर्सिटी के डायरेक्टर डा० एस० एस० सलूजा ने वहां पर जा कर पम्प फेब्रीकेट किया और उसका इस्तेमाल भी करके दिखा दिया जिससे दो तीन दिन के अन्दर पहली मतह का पानी निकालकर बाहर किया जा सकता था लेकिन वहां के अधिकारियों ने उसको इस्तेमाल नहीं किया और बाद में भी उस पम्प को ठीक से डेवलप करने का प्रयास नहीं किया गया। क्या श्रम मंत्री जी बतायेंगे कि आने वाले समय में जबकि खान दुर्घटनायें हो सकने की सम्भावना हो सकती है, क्या इस पम्प को जोकि इंडीजिनस पम्प है डेवलप करने की व्यवस्था की जाएगी ताकि खान दुर्घटनाओं में लोगों को मरने से बचाया जा सके ?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Such devices contribute to the creation and maintenance of safety. That will be given high priority as far as this Government is concerned. They will be thought of not when accidents materialise but before they materialise.

SHRI K. MALLANNA: A tripartite meeting was held on 18-5-77. May I know from the hon. Minister how many from the public sector and how

many from the private sector and from the trade unions took part and what was the criterion adopted by Government in selecting the representatives for such participation?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, the statement referred to in reply to the question which has been laid on the Table of the House contains a list of invitees as well as the organisations or departments that are represented. The hon. Member can calculate that from the number.

श्री मनोराम बागड़ी : चासनाला खान दुर्घटना इस संसार की सबसे बड़ी खान दुर्घटना और मजदूरों की हत्या कही जा सकती है। जब हम लोग ५.नों में थे तब सोचा करते थे कि मजदूरों के साथ कितना अन्याय और जुल्म हो रहा है और यहां पर आकर हम इसके लिए कुछ करेंगे।

मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूँ—हम पुरानी हुकूमत की आलोचना किया करते थे, क्या हम उसी बुनियाद पर चल रहे हैं या हमने उस से बाहर निकल कर चासनाला खान के मजलूमों के साथ कुछ विशेषता दिखाई है और मुजरिमों के खिलाफ मुकदमा चलाया है? क्या पुरानी बुनियाद बदस्तूर कायम है या उसमें कुछ अन्तर आया है?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, when this tragedy occurred I was also under imprisonment and I felt the same way as the hon'ble Member felt at that time or feels today. Sir, the reports of the courts of enquiry have been received and also placed on the Table of the House. These reports have to be examined by various authorities. One such appropriate authority is the State Government; another is the Ministry of Labour and the third is the administrative ministry, namely, Ministry of Steel and Mines. At all these points in the reports are being considered and studied. The Chasnala report has come to the conclusion that four officers

are guilty. In view of the fact that persons responsible, through negligence, for tragedy have been identified the government will consider as to what steps should be taken at the level of the Labour Ministry, administrative Ministry and the Government of Bihar.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या कई वर्षों की लिखा-पढ़ी के बाद भी डायरेक्टर जैनरल, माइन्ज सैफ्टी का एक्वाइन्टमेंट नहीं हुआ था और चासनाला के जो मैप थे वे सही नहीं थे? इस काण्ड को छिपाने के लिए—मुझे क्षमा करेंगे—भूतपूर्व श्रम मंत्री ने भी कुछ कार्यवाही की थी, क्योंकि श्रम मंत्रालय की ओर से सैफ्टी के डायरेक्टर जैनरल की एक्वाइन्टमेंट नहीं हुआ था। मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ—कितने समय से डायरेक्टर जैनरल, माइन्ज सैफ्टी की जगह खाली पड़ी है, इसके लिए कौन दोषी है? क्या रिपोर्ट में ऐसे लोग जो सैफ्टी के लिए काम करते हैं उन को भी दोषी पाया गया या नहीं तथा जो मैप गलत था, उस के लिए क्या व्यवस्था हुई?

SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Sir, as it is a very specific question on a particular aspect of the report of the court of enquiry it needs a long answer. But to be brief I can say that the report points out to the fact that certain plans which should have been made available when the mine was nationalised were not to be found. In spite of the efforts that the court of enquiry made they could not get these plans. They, therefore, came to the conclusion that somewhere something happened as a result of which plans which were necessary and essential were not traceable.

It is a fact, Sir, that the post of the Director General of Mines Safety has not been filled for the last three years. The reasons for not filling this post are many and this government is not answerable for that period.

However, I can assure the hon'ble Member that the necessary formulation of the recruitment rules has been expedited and we hope that in the near future this post as well as other posts which have been lying vacant for quite some time will be filled up.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Grant of dearness allowance to Central Government employees

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S.N.Q. 18. SHRI VASANT SATHE:

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:
DR. HENRY AUSTIN:**

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 12-monthly average consumers price index has crossed 305 mark in May, 1977;

(b) if so, whether the Government have taken a decision for a grant of additional D.A. to the Central Government employees and if not, how soon the decision is likely to be taken in the matter, and

(c) indicate the rise in the consumer price index for industrial workers for the months February, 1977 to the latest month available/computed?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government employees are at present getting dearness allowance with reference to the 12-monthly index average of 304. The question of payment of further instalment of dearness allowance can be considered only when there is an increase in the index average by 8 points beyond 304, that is, when the index average reaches 312.

(c) The index figures were 310, 312, 313 and 318 respectively during February, March, April and May, 1977.

The corresponding 12-monthly average of the index figures for these months are 298.83, 301, 303 and 305.33 respectively.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It seems that there is some confusion in the information which the hon. Finance Minister has just now given. Last year, in October, when the workers and the Central Government employees had already become entitled to a certain D.A., when the 12 monthly index average having gone beyond 8-points and because the moving monthly index average came below 304, their D.A. was reduced. The point is that they would have been entitled to a higher D.A. which they were getting in October last itself when the index average had exceeded 304. You do not have to wait for a further rise of 8 points in another 10 months. The question is that the moving index average having gone up now beyond 304, will you restore them the D.A. that they were getting in last October?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: As I said, the point is that the dearness allowance is given in accordance with the 12-monthly index average and when 8-points are either up or down, there is a variation of D.A. It is in accordance with this principle, earlier 9 instalments were given. First one was given on 1st May, 1973, the second on 1st August 1973, the third on 1st October 1973, the fourth on 1st January 1974, the fifth on 1st February 1974, the sixth on 1st April 1974, the seventh on 1st June 1974, the eighth on 1st July 1974 and the ninth was given on the 1st September 1974 to cover the price rise upto the index average level of 272. At that point according to the recommendations of the Third Pay Commission, discussions were held with the staff and what was agreed then was that additional instalments of D.A. were to be given. These were given on 1st October 1974, on 1st November 1974, on 1st December 1974 on the 1st February 1975 and on the 1st March 1975.