

Thursday, May 04, 1972
Vaisakha 14, 1894 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifth Series)

Vol. XIV

(April 25 to May 9, 1972/Vaisakha 5 to 19, 1894 (Saka))



Fourth Session, 1972/1893-94 (Saka)

(Vol. XIV contains Nos. 31—40)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

Thursday, May 4, 1972/Vaisakha 14,
1894 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Criticism of India's Action by Consul- General of South Vietnam

*681 SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consul General of South Vietnam in New Delhi has accused India's policy on Vietnam as partial;

(b) if so, the nature thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have seen the reports of a press conference reportedly given by the South Vietnamese Consul General in New Delhi on April, 8, 1972, where such statements have been attributed to him.

(c) Government of India categorically reject such baseless accusations. Government of India have recently reiterated their well known stand of opposing massive U.S. bombing of Vietnam and supporting the national aspiration of the Vietnamese people to decide their fate without foreign interference. This is our principle and consistent position and does not make Government of India partial to any one party in any way.

2

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Considering the fact that the Government of South Vietnam is continuously taking a more and more unfriendly attitude towards India, as it happened recently on the question of the chairmanship of the ICC—that government wanted India to be removed and they also threatened our delegates to the ICC to be expelled—considering all these things, may I know whether the Government would take a more firm stand on the question of recognition of the PRG ? I raise this because now the capital city of Saigon is threatened and they do not have any control over the territory they used to control.

MR. SPEAKER : Your question is whether the Consul General has made a statement...(Interruption)

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : The question of recognition of the PRG is a different matter...(Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : That was already discussed.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : There is no such proposal to recognise the PRG at the moment.

MR. SPEAKER : This matter was referred to a number of times in this House in this very session.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : Considering the fact that the Government of Saigon is taking an unfriendly attitude and taking a negative approach to India's representation on the ICC, may I know whether the Government propose to shift the headquarters of the ICC from Saigon to Hanoi ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : Sir, as the House already knows, the visas of the Indian personnel on the ICC have been revalidating for a further period of six months. So, the question of shifting the headquarters

of the ICC at the present moment does not arise.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA : This happened the day before yesterday. They said that India should be expelled from the chairmanship of the ICC.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question

Reduction in Coal Production

*682. **SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether coal production has been reduced by over three million tonnes during the past two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government contemplate to take to improve its production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reason for drop in production had been inadequate rail transport.

(c) All possible steps are being taken to increase wagon supply and some improvement is already noticed. With the improvement in the transport position, the existing idle capacity will be utilised. Moreover, with the commissioning of the Bokaro Steel Plant and a large number of coal based thermal power stations and fertiliser plants, the demand for coal will increase significantly in the near future. The Government have taken over the management of 24 coking coal mines, pending their nationalisation, with a view to maximising the production and ensuring planned exploitation of scarce coking coal reserves to meet the requirements of the steel and other metallurgical industries. The National Coal Development Corporation and Singareni Collieries Company are also taking steps to increase production from their mines to meet the increased demand in the near future.

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, 1969-70 में कोयले का उत्पादन 75.74 मिलियन टन था, 1970-71 में वह घट कर 72.68 मिलियन टन हुआ, पिछले साल यानी 1971-72 में वह घट कर 69 मिलियन टन हुआ। क्या कोयले के उत्पादन की ह्रासोन्मुखी स्थिति बहुत भयावह नहीं है ? इस को दूर करने के लिये सरकार तत्काल क्या कार्रवाही करना चाहती है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जैसा कि अपने जवाब में मैंने अर्ज किया है कि यह समस्या प्रोडक्शन की नहीं है प्रोडक्शन को अगर हम चाहे तो आज भी बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ा सकते हैं। समस्या है कि जो माल कोलियरी से निकलता है उस को मन्त्रालय-मकसूद तक पहुँचाने की, कम्मे उसको पहुँचाया जाय, यह ट्रांसपोर्ट की बात है।

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : कारण यह है जो कहा जाय, लेकिन स्थिति का वर्णन मैंने अपने प्रश्न में किया है। मंत्री महोदय ने रेलवे ट्रांसपोर्ट को लेकर जो दिक्कत ध्यान की है, कुछ अंश तक वह बात भी सही हो सकती है...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रश्न पूछिये, भाषण नहीं होना चाहिये।

श्री जगन्नाथ मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं बिहार की स्थिति का वर्णन कर रहा हूँ, बिहार में कोयले की कमी को लेकर जो हाहाकार मचा हुआ है, उस की ओर मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आबोधित करना चाहता हूँ। बिहार में कोयले का जो अकाल है, उस को दूर करने के लिये इनके पास क्या कोई प्लानिंग है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जैसा कि मैंने अर्ज किया है, रेलवे की तरफ से बैगनज की कुछ कमी थी, लेकिन अब मुझे यह बताते हुए खुशी है कि रेलवे अब पूरी कोशिश कर रही है और बैगनज की पोजीशन काफी बेहतर हो रही है। अप्रैल, 1971 में जहाँ हम को 7645 बैगनज

मिनी थी, अब इस महीने में 8343 बैगन्ज हम को मिल रही है इस तरह में लगभग 1 हजार ज्यादा बैगन्ज हम को देखने दे रही है, इस में पोषीशन इम्प्रूव हो रही है और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि रेलवे की कोशिशों की वजह से कोयले की समस्या जल्दी हल हो जायगी।

अध्यक्ष महोदय प्रश्न भी भाषण नहीं होना चाहिये और उत्तर भी भाषण नहीं होना चाहिये। बहुत मुस्तसिर होना चाहिये।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA I understood the hon. Member to say that coal production problem is not one of production, but of transport. In the case of the National Coal Development Corporation, I believe the actual production has fallen short of the target by over two million tonnes. Am I to take it that this was deliberate curtailment, in anticipation of the shortage of wagons of production which they could have done? Or is it that the shortfall is due to some other reasons and if so, what?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN Production in the NCDC in the year 1969-70 for coking coal was 3.66 million tonnes and in 1970-71 it was 3.62 million tonnes; it has not fallen substantially.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA That is not my question. The annual report of the NCDC says clearly that instead of 15 and odd million tonnes of targeted production, they produced only 13 and odd million tonnes. Is it deliberate curtailment due to shortage of wagons or is it due to some other reason?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN The NCDC has been feeling the shortage of rail transport just as any other sector, it is not a question of deliberate curtailment.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA What is the shortfall due to?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN In the production of coal, we know that coal has to be stacked at pitheads and if the pitheads get too high there is the danger of fire. There is thus the question of space for

keeping coal there. The shortage of wagons has affected coal production.

SHRI VASANT SATHE Do I understand that three years before when the coal production was more we had more wagons and, therefore, we had more production and now the wagon production has fallen down? Do I understand this?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN The hon. Member knows that as a result of the very serious law and order situation in the eastern sector of the country there were lots of thefts of overhead wires with the result that a very large number of railway wagons which should have been serviced could not run; they became sick. That was responsible for creating all these difficulties. Also one of the complementary factors was that the off-take of coal by the steel plants came down because the same quantity of coal was not required by them for the operation of the steel plants under repairs.

SHRI VASANT SATHE Electricity people have been wanting more coal.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU They have made a mess of the whole thing.

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि यदि वह चाहें तो कोयले के प्रोडक्शन को बढ़ा सकते हैं पटना नदी बौन राकता है प्रोडक्शन बढ़ाने से। कारण जो भी हो, कोयले की महंगाई है तथा उस को देखते हुए क्या सरकार इस दिशा में कदम उठा रही है ताकि उचित कीमत पर लोगों को कोयले मिल सके?

श्री शाहनवाज खान जैसा मैंने कहा, कोयले की कोई कमी नहीं है। अगर कमी है तो कोयले को इस्तेमाल करने वाले जो लोग हैं उन तक पहुंचाने की है। इसके लिए जैसा मैंने अर्ज किया रेल ट्रांसपोर्ट की दिक्कत है लेकिन रेलवेज पूरी कोशिश कर रही है कि जल्दी से जल्दी बैगन्ज को और बढ़ाये।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA It appears to us that the reason given by the Minister for

the present output of coal, namely, disturbances in the eastern region is a lame excuse. May I know whether in the major coal producing area of Raniganj-Asansol-Jharia there is a huge accumulation of coal and because of this the employers in the coalmines have introduced some go-slow system of production of coal? If so, may I know whether this has resulted in serious labour unrest, particularly in the Asansol area? Lastly, may I know whether the Ministry of Mines and the railways will form an inter-departmental committee to expedite the transport of coal and have a time-bound programme for the transport of coal?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : The statement of the hon. Member that there is huge accumulation of coal at the pitheads proves that there is no shortage of coal. That confirms the statement that I have made. The Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Steel & Mines are in very close touch and they are trying to find out ways and means of solving this problem of carrying this coal.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Sir, I have posed certain questions which have not been answered. If he asks for notice, that is a different thing. Sir, I seek your protection.

MR. SPEAKER : I cannot give my protection to him every day.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : I have asked specific questions according to the privilege given to members to ask questions during the question hour. If the Minister says that he requires notice I can understand that. Otherwise, he has to answer it.

MR. SPEAKER : What he said was that the very fact that there is large accumulation of coal at these sources proves that there is no shortage of coal. Everything is covered by that.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : What about transport?

MR. SPEAKER : He has already answered it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Then I asked about the inter-departmental committee consisting of the representatives of railways

and the Steel & Mines Ministry.

MR. SPEAKER : He has replied to that.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : The Ministry of Steel & Mines and the Ministry of Railways are in very close touch with each other. We have held several meetings to find out how this problem can be solved. I have already said that as compared to March last year, in this March we have been given 1,000 more wagons.

MR. SPEAKER : He raises the question of INA on every conceivable occasion but he does not spare the General of the INA from questions!

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : मैं आपकें माध्यम से जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी मन्त्री जी ने मूल प्रश्न के भाग (क) के उत्तर में कहा है "जी हाँ" अर्थात् कोल की कमी हुई है, उसके उत्पादन में कमी आई है लेकिन दूसरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में अभी बताया है कि कोल की कमी नहीं है, कोल इकट्ठा हो गया है तो यह उनके परस्पर विरोधी वक्तव्य है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ क्या सरकार को समाचार मिला है कि मध्य प्रदेश के अन्दर अभी अभी एक हफ्ते में काफी खानें बन्द हुई हैं जिसके कारण 25 हजार मजदूर बेकार हैं तो उन खानों के बन्द होने का क्या कारण है?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : इसका कारण यह है कि खानों से जो कोल निकाला गया वह बहुत जमा हो गया इसलिए और निकालना बन्द कर दिया। वह कोल जो जमा है वह हिल नहीं सका इसलिए और निकालने की आवश्यकता नहीं रही।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : I hope you would not want me to carry coal to New Castle.

MR. SPEAKER : Confine it to the Lok Sabha only.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : May I know whether the Minister is aware that incredi-

ble blackmarket is rampant in coal business and unscrupulous mine-owners have been selling coal at fabulous prices without any difficulty of wagon shortage? Firstly, may I know how they have been able to get wagons? Secondly, the Minister has stated that the wagon position has improved and the decline in supply of coal has been attributed to the transport position. Now that the transport position is satisfactory, may I know whether you are satisfied with the present coal wagon movement, which is otherwise criticised as irrational? Secondly, have you estimated what is likely to be the production with the sustained supply of the quantity of wagons which you are getting now?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : According to the present estimates, we feel that if the railways could maintain a steady supply of 8,600 wagons per day then there should be no shortage of coal in the country. In the beginning of this year the railways were supplying approximately 7,262 wagons per day. In March 1972 they have supplied 8,342 wagons. So, the situation has improved very considerably. There is still a shortfall of about 400 to 500 wagons. As to the question as to how the private traders are able to get wagons and sell coal at fantastically high prices, I cannot answer it because I do not allot wagons.

Neutralisation of South-East Asia

*684 **SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India and Thailand have favoured neutralisation of South-East Asia by making it free from big power politics ;

(b) whether the representatives of the two countries had met recently and had discussions for free Indian ocean ; and

(c) whether any agreements were reached in this regard and if so, the nature thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) (a) : The Government of India hold the view that the South-East Asian region should be free from Great Power influences. The

Government of Thailand has been a party to the November 1971 Declaration by the ASEAN countries that they are determined to exert initially necessary efforts to secure the recognition of and respect for South-East Asia as a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality free from any form or manner of interference by outside powers.

(b) and (c) : During discussions between the representatives of the two Governments held towards the end of March, views were exchanged on this and other subjects of mutual interest. No formal agreement was attempted or desired by either side

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी : क्या चीन ने मार्गशम को बहुत अधिक मात्रा में ऋण दिया है और आपस में रातर्नैतिक सम्बन्ध भी कायम कर रहे हैं ? क्या इस में आप को कोई असर पड़ेगा, अगर पड़ेगा तो क्या पड़ेगा ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I am not sure whether it arises out of the present question Chinese supply of equipment to other countries.

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी : मेरे प्रश्न का जवाब ही नहीं मिला ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो इस में आता ही नहीं लेकिन अगर किसी तरह इस में लाइये तो फिर जवाब मिल जायेगा ।

श्री श्रीकिशन मोदी : हिन्द महासागर के सभी टापुओं को विगपावर्स से खतरा न हो इस के बारे में क्या आप कोई मीट्री बालचीत करके कोई नतीजा निकालना चाहते हैं ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : This matter was discussed in the Lusaka conference of nonaligned countries and there was agreement that every effort should be made to prevent the establishment of basis by big naval powers in the Indian Ocean area, and the countries of the region, the littoral States, are in consultation with each other to ensure this.

SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN : In view of the importance of this subject, may

I know whether the Government of India have taken up this matter with other important countries like Australia and New Zealand and if they have not done so, will Government consult them now?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I agree that this is a matter of importance for all countries in the region and Australia and New Zealand fall in that category. The Foreign Minister of Australia is likely to visit us towards the end of this month and I am sure this matter may come up for discussion then.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Will it be correct to infer that no other country except Thailand has evinced interest in this Asian security system, and will the Government of India have a dialogue with China for ensuring Asian security?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : This question does not relate to Asian security as such, but I have said that ASEAN countries have jointly made a declaration. In that group, Thailand is one country and there are other countries also. Therefore, it is not correct to say that Thailand alone has subscribed to this statement.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : In view of the fact that Thailand has favoured neutralisation of the Indian Ocean, may I know whether the South-East Asian Treaty Organisation, which includes Thailand also still holds good or any indication has been made to review the whole position to achieve this objective for which Thailand and our country had discussions?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : It is a fact that Thailand is a member of SEATO, but it is difficult for us to comment as to whether SEATO is still valid, when all these other ideas are being projected, because we have always been totally opposed to SEATO and CENTO. Our attitude in this respect is categorical. At the same time, it is for the member countries of SEATO and CENTO to decide as to whether these old treaties have any validity today or not.

I would be disinclined to raise that matter with the member countries of SEATO.

Celebration of Indian Independence Silver Jubilee in Indian Embassies

*685. **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been sent to our Embassies abroad to observe Indian Independence Silver Jubilee; and

(b) if so, whether it has also been stressed on them to highlight the image of great Bapujee of Indian and his life in poster, article etc.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : May I know from the hon. Minister whether in view of the Silver Jubilee occasion, a delegation consisting of prominent freedom fighters, excluding Members of Parliament, will be sent abroad and also may I know from the hon. Minister whether this specific function will be observed in Singapore to remember Netaji Subash Chandra Bose?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : These are two very valuable suggestions made by the hon. Member. We will give due consideration to them.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : May I know whether the Government of India have issued any kind of guide-lines or directives to our Embassies abroad as to what sort of programmes would be appropriate for them to observe in connection with the 25th Independence Anniversary and, if so, what is the general nature of the guide-lines given to them. We do not want them to hold different types of programmes.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : The general guide-lines have been laid down. If I may inform the hon. Member, a high-powered Committee has been set up by the Government of India to go into the whole question as to what kind of programmes should be drawn up for celebrating the 25th Independence Anniversary in an appropriate manner. They have drawn up a programme

which has been communicated to our Embassies I may just indicate a few of the items

One is to bring out a special publication on India in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Arabic for distribution by our Embassies abroad

It is also intended to produce and supply to our Embassies abroad a film on India since Independence for screening over foreign T V stations and cinema houses

Like that, there are a number of things for instance inviting of foreign journalists and cinema radio and T V experts to our country where they can make their own films and show them in their own countries

It is also intended to assist Indian Missions abroad in organising India Days and India weeks in the host countries and also supply material to our Missions abroad for organising exhibitions film shows etc to commemorate the silver jubilee

All these ideas are there

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA He is suggesting things which will be supplied from here, films or books or other material. I would like to know whether our Embassies there will be content with just holding cock tail parties or what

MR. SPEAKER When it is to remember Bapujee, how can you have cock tail parties?

SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH The instructions have been sent and will be sent in future also as to the lines on which they should carry on the celebrations. It is not as if they will be left to themselves. After receiving the instructions and guide-lines from us, they will draw up their plans and they will inform us about those plans

SHRI K. G. DESHMUKH I have visited some of our Missions abroad, and I find there is no photograph of Bapujee even exhibited in the offices of our Missions abroad. If that is so, may I know whether the hon. Minister will give instructions to them to exhibit the photograph of Bapujee,

the Father of our nation, in their Embassy office?

SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH I am sorry to hear that there are some Indian Missions abroad where there are no photographs of Bapujee. We will see that the photographs are provided to our Missions abroad

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU May I know whether any special funds have been allotted for the occasion and if so, how much is it and how much of it is in foreign exchange?

SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH The whole scheme is at the formative stage. At the moment our Missions abroad are making their plans. I am sure they will work out their financial implications. After hearing from them, we will naturally make adequate provision of funds etc to carry out the silver jubilee celebrations

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU No ceiling? You have no idea how much they will spend

SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH A ceiling will be prescribed. Adequate funds will be made available to our Missions. Of course, a ceiling will be there

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU I was trying to say why spend any money?

श्री रामचन्द्र विकल विदेश मंत्री
महादय न कहा कि भारतीय दूतावासों का
निर्देशन भेजी जायेगी। मैं उन से पृच्छना
चाहता हूँ कि वह रुपये क्या कर तक भेज दी
जायेगी?

श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह जल्दी म जल्दी।

SHRI PHOON MODY My bad experience with high powered committees is that they have normally no decision making power at all. I hope, he can spell out what this is, I hope he can tell us what this high powered committee consists of. May I make another suggestion, Sir, that supplements should be brought out in all major daily papers of the

countries where we want to celebrate the Silver Jubilee ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : This is a suggestion which is taken note of.

SHRI PILOO MODY : I asked who were on the high-powered committee.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA : May I know from the hon. Minister whether there are any plans to raise an INA memorial at Singapore which was earlier removed by the British ?

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : That is a different question altogether.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I am happy that instructions have been issued to our foreign embassies. I would like to know whether any documentary has been produced to high light our national fight against the imperialist power.....

SHRI PILOO MODY : Ending with the Indo-Soviet Treaty.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The Indo-Soviet Treaty and also celebration of the emergence of Bangla Desh.

I would like to know whether any film has been produced, any documentary has been produced, to show to the world how the Indians fought against the British power and how they are still fighting against American imperialism.

SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : I have already replied to this question. There is a proposal to produce a film which will be covering the entire Indian scene right from the Independence movement to this day.

SHRI R. S. PANDAY : This is a historic occasion to us—celebrating the Silver Jubilee of our Independence in the various countries of the world. May I know whether Government is contemplating to send cultural teams to important countries, including Members of Parliament like Shri Piloo Mody ?

MR. SPEAKER : Next Question.

Setting-up of more Mini Steel Plants in Private Sector.

*686. **SHRI NARENDRA SINGH :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to approve the setting up of more mini-steel plants in private sector ; and

(b) if so, the number of parties who have been granted letters of intent for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR MANGALAM) : (a) The question of approving further capacity for manufacture of steel ingots or billets from steel scrap in electric furnaces by conventional or continuous casting process, whether in the private or public sector, is being examined by Government in the background of the likely availability of such scrap.

(b) 19 letters of Intent/C.O.B. Licence/Industrial Licences have been issued for such units since the pre-ent industrial licensing policy was announced in February 1970.

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : May I know whether these plants will be able to meet the shortage of steel in the country ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The contribution which is likely to be made by these plants when they come into existence is only of a minor character. The major contribution must come from the integrated steel plants.

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI : May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal from the Government of Kerala to establish a steel Plant at Calicut and if so, what is the attitude of the Government of India in sanctioning such a proposal ?

MR. SPEAKER : How does that question arise ?

SHRI R. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI : The question is about mini steel plants.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The hon. Member must be aware that one of the licences granted for an Electric furnace continuous casting plant is to the Steel Complex Ltd. in which the Kerala State has a share.

But, so far as the establishment of an integrated steel plant is concerned, there is no proposal at present before the Government of India from the Government of Kerala.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA : Is it a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Government has also applied for a licence for setting up a mini steel plant at Kothagudem ?

MR. SPEAKER : Once you replied about Kerala, you must reply about Andhra also.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Not to my knowledge. I am not aware of it, but, if the hon. Member wants to know, I can get the information.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : Sir, the question is about my constituency. Recently, the Mini Steel Plant Team visited Kothagudem to report on the feasibility of establishing a mini steel plant at Kothagudem and they have suggested the establishment of a mini steel plant in the public sector at Kothagudem. I would like to know as to when this will materialise.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The hon. Member is not correct in stating that the U. N. D. P. team's visit to Kothagudem has anything to do with the setting up of a plant there.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : With regard to the licences given for mini steel plants, we understand that most of them are given to the private sector compared to the public sector undertakings of the State Governments. I want to know from the Government why they prefer the private sector for giving these licences ?

SHRI PILOO MODY : Always.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : And also I want to know whether it is not a departure

from the Industrial Policy Resolution of the Government and also does the Government believe that socialism can be ushered in quicker by granting licences to private sector ?

SHRI PILOO MODY : Because it produces.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The hon. Member is entirely incorrect in insinuating.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : That is not insinuation.....

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I state again—the hon. Member is entirely incorrect in insinuating that the private sector has been preferred to the public sector. On the contrary, six Letters of Intent have been given to State Government undertakings and no State Government undertaking has been refused a licence at all. Two licences have been given in the joint sector and only the rest have been given to the private sector.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : How many were given to the private sector ?.....
(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Piloo Mody, you are doing it too much.

SHRI PILOO MODY : The Minister first said that it is an insinuation. You heard the word 'insinuation'. The hon. Member on this side said that it is a fact. Then again he said that it is an insinuation. Is there to be no 'kulasa' on all these things ?

SARIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : You are allowing Mr. Piloo Mody to make virtually a running commentary.

MR. SPEAKER : Don't get involved with them.

Kumari Kamla Kumari.

Survey for Gold in Bihar and Maharashtra

*687. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey has been conducted for gold in Bihar and Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the extent of success achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Preliminary investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India for gold at Kunderkocha Seng river, Sausai in Singhbhum district of Bihar have been discouraging. Detailed Prospecting by drilling of Lawa area (Bihar) has been completed in 1971 and final report is being prepared. Exploration by drilling of Mysera block in Singhbhum district, Bihar is in progress.

Preliminary investigations for gold in Bhiwapur Pauni areas have revealed presence of gold bearing quartz veins at Kolari, Mokhabardi and Pular areas. Maharashtra Detailed investigations showed quartz veins at Mokhabardi and Pular of no economic significance. Results of drilling and analytical results of samples obtained so far have shown presence of 6.9 grams of gold per tonne in one meter thick, 125 metre long quartz vein in Kolari. Further drilling is in progress.

कुमारी कमला कुमारी : क्या मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि बिहार में रांची की स्वर्णरेखा नदी में जो छोटे मोटे सोने के कण पाये जाते हैं उसके कारण क्या वह उमका संरक्षण करने की जरूरत नहीं समझते हैं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : हमने संरक्षण किया है लावा के इलाके में और सिंहभूम के इलाके में। इस जगह पर जियोलॉजिकल सर्वे ने खोज की थी। बदकिस्मती से वहाँ ज्यादा अच्छे आसार नमूदा नही हुए हैं।

कुमारी कमला कुमारी : रांची में किया गया है या नहीं किया गया है। स्वर्णरेखा में

कुछ कण पाए गए हैं, इसलिए हमें उम्मीद है कि वहाँ सोना मिलेगा।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : कुंदरकोचा मुकाम के ऊपर सोना दरिया में भी यह खोज की गई और वहाँ से जो कुछ मिला वह बहुत कम मिला है।

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : नाम ही सोना है तो वहा सोना चूर होगा।

SHRI VASANT SATHE : In Vidarbha near Nagpur some university professors doing research had discovered.....

MR. SPEAKER : Don't give information. Ask a question. Maharashtra does not entitle you to ask irrelevant question. Ask a straight question.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : They had discovered gold-findings near Nagpur. I want to know the information from the hon. Minister about that.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : It is nothing worthwhile.

Negotiation Machinery on Major Ports

*689. SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision on the constitution of the negotiating machinery on major ports; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?
THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) : (a) No, Sir. The matter is still under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA : Is there any likelihood in the near future of the Government coming to a decision in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K.

KHADILKAR : So far as negotiations in respect of docks and port machinery is concerned, upto a stage the proposal had advanced but later on some hitch developed and now the two Secretaries of Shipping and Transport Ministry and Labour Ministry are at it whether that could be worked out or not, whether it would be feasible or not, and they are now examining it.

Permission Sought by M/S Hindalco For Commissioning Third Properzi Machine

*691. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether M/s. Hindalco had applied for permission to commission a third Properzi machine in addition to their existing two machines if so, whether permission has been given;

(b) whether Government are aware that the concern has been unauthorisedly operating a third machine for the last two years and returns of its production have not been shown ; and

(c) whether Government propose to investigate how much Excise Duty has been lost due to black-marketing of the excess Properzi rods produced illegally by Hindalco ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) : M/s. Hindustan Aluminium Corporation Limited have applied for grant of an industrial licence for expansion of their present installed capacity for manufacture of Properzi Redraw Rods by 6,000 tonnes per annum and the same is under consideration.

(b) and (c) : Government are not aware of the unauthorised operation of a third machine. However, Government will look into the matter.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Is it not a fact that in 1970-71 this company was given ad hoc licence for raw materials in order to raise the production of EC Grade or Properzi Redraw Rods by 15,000 tonnes?

May I know whether it was found that actuals had not gone up to the extent warranted by this extra supply of raw materials ? What is happening to extra production which they might be producing on the basis of extra raw materials given to them as ad hoc licence in 1970-71.

The excess production is not being shown. Is that not a fact ?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : It has been shown. They were authorised for a production of 22,000 tonnes. Their actual production was 20 800 tonnes in 1969, 23 030 tonnes in 1970 and 24,000 tonnes in 1971.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The figures are quite misleading. The original capacity of this plant was 21,000 tonnes. That is what the hon. Minister himself has stated. I want to know whether subsequently they have been granted an *ad hoc* allotment of extra raw materials to raise their production to 40,000 tonnes, and as the figures themselves show, they have not in fact shown any higher production. Therefore, my question is whether the hon. Minister knows that in fact they have been unauthorisedly operating a third Properzi machine and the entire production from that is being sold to unauthorised customers in blackmarket ? Has the hon. Minister any information or will he look into it ?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : We have no information regarding the installation of a third machine. But as I have said, it is a matter which Government will look into in order to find out whether there is any truth in this statement.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Is it a fact that this company and also its sister concerns are producing far in excess of the licensed capacity, and if so, what are the details ?

MR. SPEAKER : The main question relates to only one concern.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am referring to Hindalco and its sister concerns. My second question is...

MR. SPEAKER : He can put only one question.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : It is part (b) of the same question. I have been absent from the House for seven days, and so I may be permitted.

May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that there is extensive blackmarketing of aluminium and aluminium products in the bazar and if so, what steps Government are taking to prevent it?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : I would like to inform the hon. Member that the firm was originally licensed to produce 60,000 tonnes of ingot aluminium. The present capacity which has now been sanctioned by Government is 80,000 tonnes, and the ultimate capacity sanctioned to them is 1,20,000 tonnes of aluminium ingots.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : What about the extensive blackmarketing in aluminium?

MR. SPEAKER : He has already said that he will look into it.

कुमारी कमला कुमारी : तीसरी मशीन जो लगी है उसके बारे में मंत्री जी ने स्पष्ट रूप से नहीं बताया है कि वह कब से लगी है और उसके जरिये उत्पाद जो हो रहा है...

एक माननीय सदस्य : वह कहते हैं कि मालूम नहीं है।

श्री शाहनावाज खान : मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि लेडी मैनबर मेरे साथ कुछ बेइसाफी कर रही हैं। मैंने यह कहा था कि हमें इस बात का प्रश्न नहीं है कि तीसरी मशीन लगी है या नहीं लगी है।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Notice of this question was given three weeks ago, and the reply is that he does not know whether a third machine is working or not. If three weeks' time is not sufficient for them to send their people and find out the position, what is the use of putting these questions?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : The responsibility for finding out whether addi-

tional machines have been installed or not is that of the Director-General of Technical Development. We referred the matter to the Director-General and the reply that we have got is that he is not aware whether any third machine has been installed. He will look into it.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : He can neither affirm it nor deny it. He says that he is not aware.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR MANGALAM) : The hon. Member will see that the answer to the question is that we are not aware. It is a fact. Because we know that the House would like to have correct information on this, we have stated in the answer that we shall look into the matter, and as soon as we get proper information, we shall put it before the House.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : They will hide the machine.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : They cannot ask them because they have taken a lot of contribution from the Birlas during the last elections. That is the pity.

Bharati Process of Steel Manufacture in West Germany

*692, **SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Bharati" Process of steel manufacture, which had been held uneconomical and not feasible in this country, is being acquired and adopted by reputed steel manufacturers in West Germany; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to re-evaluate this process?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR MANGALAM) : (a) No report has been received so far about any foreign manufacturer having acquired and adopted the "Bharati Process" for steelmaking.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY : What efforts have been made by Government to test this Bharati process in our country, has such a test been held, and if so, with what results ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGLAM : The hon member is aware that this question was recently answered by me in the House that the question of the feasibility of this process was referred to a Committee of experts in June 1971 consisting of Dr. Altekar, Director of the National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur as Chairman and four members: Dr. Brahmaprakash, Director of the Metallurgical Group of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay, Dr. Tahmankar, Director, Defence Metallurgical Laboratory, Hyderabad, Prof. T. R. Anantaraman, Head of the Metallurgical Dept., Hyderabad University and Shri K. C. Mohan, Deputy Chief Engineer, CEDB, HSL. The Committee reported after going through the entire matter that it would not be feasible to pursue this process further because of certain difficulties in connection with its operation itself. After receiving the report, we sent it to a number of eminent metallurgists in the country and it is only after receiving their opinion that we have finally decided that it would not be useful to proceed with further investigation of the process.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY : Did the Committee go into the feasibility report prepared by Koppers and Demag of West Germany ? Do Government intend to rest content with the report of our experts or do they consider it desirable to have a laboratory scale test or a small plant test of the process in view of its revolutionary nature and the immense benefits likely to accrue from it ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGLAM : The matter referred to the Committee for opinion was whether Government should or should not go in for laboratory scale or any other scale type of testing of this process. It is on the advice of the Committee consisting of metallurgical experts and of the metallurgical experts in the country that Government have come to the conclusion that it would not be worthwhile pursuing it.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : Dr. Bharati's revolutionary process of Steel-making has been attracting the attention of USA and W. Germany. In view of the fact that Koppers, a leading firm of W. Germany, have said that the proposition is feasible, why cannot Government make another study and have a pilot plant to test it ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGLAM : Government consider it would be proper in a technical matter like this to depend on the advice of technical experts in our country, who are admittedly the best experts in the country. We have no reason to believe that in giving their advice these experts have been guided by any but the highest ethical considerations and exercise of their technical knowledge. We do not think it proper for us to go by any other advice except that of the highest technical experts in India.

SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA : Since this matter has roused interest not only in India but abroad, why not constitute a committee of international experts to probe into it ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGLAM : Government have every confidence in the reputation and capacity of the Indian experts in metallurgical science.

सूत्र्य वृद्धि होने पर श्रमिकों के बेतनों में स्वतः वृद्धि

*693 श्री मूल चन्द डागा : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार ऐसा कोई फार्मूला बनाने का है जिससे सूत्र्यों में वृद्धि होने पर उद्योगों में श्रमिकों के बेतनों में स्वतः ही वृद्धि हो सकेगी और यदि हा, तो इसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ; और

(ख) क्या सूत्र्यों में वृद्धि के कारण श्रमिकों की आर्थिक दशा दयनीय हो गई है ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHA-
BILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND

VERMA) : (a) and (b) : In several industries a system of variable dearness allowance linked to the cost of living has already been introduced, either through the recommendations of Wage Boards or bilateral settlements, to protect the workers from any hardship arising from increases in the cost of living. The parties concerned can negotiate for the introduction of the system in other industries/establishments and evolve mutually acceptable formulae for the purpose.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : अध्यक्ष महोदय, (ख) का तो जवाब ही नहीं है। मजदूरों की हालत गिरी है या नहीं इस का तो जवाब ही नहीं दिया। मूल्यों की काफी ऊपर वृद्धि हो गई है। तो मजदूरों को क्या आप भाग्य के भरोसे छोड़ना चाहते हैं? यदि मजदूरों के वेतन में महंगाई के साथ वृद्धि नहीं होती और वह हड़ताल पर जाते हैं अपनी महंगाई प्रबन्धकों और मालिकों से वसूल करने के लिए तो क्या उस हड़ताल को आप लीगल मानेंगे?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : So far as the linking of the rise in prices and trying to neutralise it by dearness allowance is concerned, this method is followed. In 19 industries, wage board recommendations are being adopted, and on that basis, between 90 per cent an 100 per cent neutralisation is taking place. In three cases—iron and steel industry, banking industry, and the Life Insurance Corporation—because of bilateral negotiations, this has been set. In other industries, as the reply itself made it very clear, it is for the proprietors or the managements and the workers to resolve this issue, and wherever these issues are raised—it is not a question of legality of strikes—they could be settled even by conciliation or other machinery.

श्री मूलचन्द डागा : यदि प्रबन्धक और मालिक मजदूरों से बाहमी समझौता करने के लिए तैयार न हों, क्योंकि यह जरूरी नहीं है कि प्रबन्धक या मालिक मजदूरों से आपसी समझौता करने के लिए तैयार हो जाय, अगर वह तैयार न हों तो उस हालत में मजदूर हड़ताल कर सकते हैं या नहीं?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : This is a hypothetical question. As I have said, 19 Major industries are covered by the wage board awards. Then, some major industries are covered by bilateral negotiation. If there is any specific case, then I would be able to reply, but in a general hypothetical way, I am not in a position to reply.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : It has become a general feeling among the workers that it is only after an agitation or a strike that the Government will consider their demands. Has the Government noticed it, and what is the remedy for it?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : It is not correct to presume that because of agitation only these issues are resolved. Sometimes, certain managements or proprietors do not heed at the appropriate time to take steps. Such instances are there. But to make a general statement like this, that unless there is some work stoppage or a strike no heed is given to their legitimate demands, is not correct.

SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : That is in respect of private undertakings. What about the public undertakings? Why not Government takes steps?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : So far as the public undertakings are concerned, the Government is taking appropriate steps.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : The Minister must agree that the method of compilation of the cost of living index is faulty in most of the places. In Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and at the Central level also, this point has been raised again and again; the actual rise in the price index that is there does not actually reflect the prices that are prevailing in the market. So, in this respect, what do the Government propose to do, so that there is actual neutralisation of the cost of living?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : This suggestion, that the present price index machinery—as the hon. member is suggesting—is inadequate.....

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : It is faulty.

SHRI R K KHADILKAR That it does not reflect the price trend—this is a suggestion for improving that machinery

SHRI S M BANERJEE Is he aware that there is serious discontent among the twenty lakhs of Central Government employees over the abnormal delay in the publication of the Pay Commission report and if so is he likely to take up this matter with the other Ministries and see that the report is implemented without a major labour unrest?

SHRI R K KHADILKAR I think he should address this question to the Ministry of Finance

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय जब मूल्य-वृद्धि होती है, तो उसके अनुसार मजदूरों को महंगाई भत्ता देने में काफी समय लग जाता है। मूल्य वृद्धि होने पर मजदूरों को तत्काल ज्यादा पैसा देना पड़ जाता है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या मंत्री महोदय कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं कि जब भी मूल्य-वृद्धि हो, तो मजदूरों को तत्काल महंगाई-भत्ता दे दिया जाये।

SHRI R K KHADILKAR It is always not possible that as soon as there is a price rise registered somewhere note is taken to give effect to that immediately. Such a machinery is not there

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

मध्य प्रदेश में खनिज निक्षेप

*683 **श्री गंगावरण बीक्षित :** क्या इस्पात और खान् मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में हाल ही में बड़े पैमाने पर खनिज निक्षेप मिले हैं,

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या इन खनिज निक्षेप का कोई सर्वेक्षण किया गया है, और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो उसके क्या परिणाम

निकले हैं तथा उनका वाणिज्यिक स्तर पर खनन करने के बारे में क्या सम्भावनाएँ हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री एस० मोहन कुमारमगलम) (क) से (ग) भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण द्वारा हाल ही के वर्षों में किए गए भू-वैज्ञानिक अन्वेषणों के परिणामस्वरूप बालाघाट जिले के मालजखड में 116% तपास वाले ताम्र अयस्क के अब तक 210 लाख टन उप-दशित हुए हैं। जबलपुर, रेवा, मतना और त्रिगमपुर जिलों में एस० गम० एस० ग्रे की लगभग 2000 लाख टन की प्रचुर उपलब्ध राशियाँ और फनकम ग्रेड चूनापत्थर की 1500 लाख टन उपलब्ध राशियाँ और अमरकंटक बाइसाइट निक्षेप में 45% से अधिक ऐल्यूमिनास 200 लाख टन प्रचुर यथावत् उपलब्ध राशियाँ प्रमाणित हुई हैं।

मालजखड स्थित ताम्र अयस्क निक्षेपों के समुयोजनायें मभाव्यता अध्ययन किया जायेगा जो समन्वयी खनन एवं परिकरण प्रयोग पर निर्भर रहेगा। तदुतान ताम्र लिमिटड के परामर्श से किया जा रहा समन्वयी खनन कार्य प्रगति पर है। जहाँ तक मध्य प्रदेश में के चूनापत्थर निक्षेपों का सम्बन्ध है। प्राइवेट सेक्टर में के केनौर, सत्ता, जामुल आदि स्थित अनेक सयत्तों के अतिरिक्त, भारतीय सिनेट निगम ने 1970 में मन्थौर मिनेट सयत्त प्रारम्भ किया है और रायपुर जिले में एक खान भी बिकास की है। जहाँ तक अमरकंटक बाइसाइट निक्षेप का सम्बन्ध है वहाँ भारतीय ऐल्यूमिनियम कम्पनी द्वारा खनन संधियाएँ पहले ही प्रारम्भ की गई हैं।

Man Days Lost by Strikes and Lock Outs in Industrial Sector in 1972

*688 **SHRI G Y KRISHNAN** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) the total number of man days lost by strikes and lock-outs in industrial sector during January and February 1972 and

(b) the main reasons for the strikes and the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) : According to the available provisional information, the total number of mandays lost during January and February 1972 due to strikes and lockouts was about 0.96 million. The main reasons for the work-stoppages are reported to be disputes about wages and allowances, bonus alleged indiscipline and violence and personnel matters. It is the constant endeavour of the Industrial Relations Machinery to minimise work-stoppages through preliminary discussion, conciliation and adjudication or arbitration as necessary under the existing statutory machinery and voluntary arrangements.

Transfer of Ownership of Property

*690. **SHRI VEKARIA :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to transfer the ownership of property in Delhi, which is now being held by D.M.C./D. D. A. and was previously held by the Custodian of Evacuees Property; and

(b) if so, the condition and mode of recovery of cost of property ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) : Certain acquired evacuee properties have been transferred to the Delhi Improvement Trust (now the Delhi Development Authority) and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi for the purpose of Slum Clearance Schemes. The Local Body is required to pay for these properties the price equal to three years' rental.

Report on Collapse of Steel Melting Shop at Rourkela Steel Plant

694. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons punished by Government who were found responsible in

the Loomba Committee's report on the collapse of the Steel Melting Shop in the Steel Plant at Rourkela ; and

(b) the precautions Government have taken for any future mishap in the steel plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGLAM) : (a) : Action in this regard was taken by Hindustan Steel Ltd. against 10 employees excluding those who voluntarily retired or resigned.

(b) Rourkela Steel Plant has taken the following precautions to prevent future mishaps :—

- (i) the columns of the Steel Melting Shop have been strengthened.
- (ii) the gas cleaning plant has been recommissioned.
- (iii) the cleaning of the roof is now being carried out by the civil maintenance department and not by a contractor.
- (iv) the procedure for inspection now laid down ensures periodical inspection of the roof by officers of the steel plant at all levels.
- (v) an Inspection Group for carrying out repairs of buildings and structures is being organised to inspect the condition of buildings, structures etc. on a regular basis.

Indian Officers in U.N.O.

*695. **PROF NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any limit on maximum period for the stay of Indian officers in the service of U.N.O. ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) : Under the current procedures, Indian offi-

cials employed in the UN or any of the organisations of the UN system may remain on deputation upto a maximum period of five years. Extensions of tenure beyond five years are not granted, save in very exceptional circumstances.

(b) Does not arise.

Coal Mines Workers' Wages and Dues

*696. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH
RAO :
SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that coal mine owners did not pay wages to their workers and deprived them of their legitimate dues as reported in the *Statesman* dated the 19th September, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the names of such coal mine owners in the State of Bihar where legal dues are not being paid to the coal mine workers ; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken by Government ; if so, the nature of the steps taken by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) : Government's attention has been drawn to a report which appeared in the *Statesman* of September 19, 1971 ; this report, *inter-alia*, states that if coal mine owners did not pay wages to their worker and deprived them of their legitimate dues, Government would take serious action.

(b) Latest information is being ascertained.

(c) A Senior Officer of the Central Industrial Relations Machinery was deputed to look into this aspect of non-payment of workers dues. On his report the Government have taken the following decisions :

(i) One special officer is to be appointed to deal with recoveries of worker's dues under Revenue

Recovery. Act in each of the States of West Bengal and Bihar. This is being processed in consultation with the State Government.

(ii) The Central Government Industrial Tribunals at Dhanbad and Calcutta are being notified as Authorities under the Payment of Wages Act to enable speedy disposal of claim applications ;

(iii) Powers have been delegated to the Regional Labour Commissioners for prosecution of employers for non-maintenance of registers, without seeking approval from Headquarters ;

(iv) Central Industrial Relations Machinery have been instructed to inspect collieries with bad records once a month and to pursue energetically all recovery and prosecution cases.

नई दिल्ली स्थित सरकारी कंस्टीन में कर्म- चारियों द्वारा हड़ताल

*697 श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या नई दिल्ली स्थित सरकारी कंस्टीनों में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों ने सरकार से मांग की है कि उन्हें भी सरकारी कर्मचारी माना जाय और उनकी सेवा-शर्तों में सुधार किया जाये ;

(ख) क्या उन्होंने अपनी मांगों के समर्थन में एक दिन की सांकेतिक हड़ताल भी की थी ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उनके हितों की रक्षा करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) और (ख). जी, हां ।

(ग) कर्मचारियों को और अधिक सहायता देने के सम्बन्ध में सरकार पहले से ही विचार कर रही है ।

Fraud in Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation

*698. SHRI RAJDEO SINCH :
SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a fraud to the tune of Rs. 7 crores has been detected in the accounts of Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation located in Dhanbad which covers lakhs of Coal Miners spread over West Bengal, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, salient points of the fraud uncovered by this time and the fate of those responsible for this fraud; and

(c) whether Government will devise some ways and means to recover the worker hard earned money so lost?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Coal Mines Provident Fund authorities have reported as under :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Deposits of Minerals in Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Bihar

*699. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any recent geological survey in the Districts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Bihar to locate sources of deposits like Copper, Zinc and other metals and minerals as believed to be available in those areas ;

(b) if so, the results of such geological survey; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c). As a result of

recent geological survey conducted by the Geological Survey of India, some occurrences of lead-zinc-copper mineralisation in quartzite have been located in Garubathan area in Darjeeling district. These occurrences are being investigated by large scale mapping, sampling and drilling. The first phase (1969-7-) of ten years Plan (1969-79) of Geological Survey of India, in progress, includes systematic geological mapping and Preliminary mineral exploration in 1200 sq km area in Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri districts and detailed investigation for dolomite and graphite in Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling districts.

Transfer of Officers to Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur

*700. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news-item published in *Hindustan Standard*, Calcutta Edition dated 15th April, 1972 under the caption "2 top officials wrecking D.S.P. unit from within" ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ;

(c) the particulars of the two officers who have been transferred to the Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur ; and

(d) whether any enquiry by Central Bureau of Investigation is pending against them ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). Government are aware of the news item to this effect. Government have no reason to believe that any officer of the plant is acting against the interests of the Plant.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Survey of Underground Minerals in Rajasthan

4978. SHRI BISWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether survey of the underground minerals in Rajasthan was conducted a couple years back;

(b) if so, whether based on the findings of the survey any plan has been drawn up in this connection to exploit the resources; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof mineral-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Mineral investigations for copper-lead-zinc ores, Phosphorite, Pyrite, Gypsum, Lignite, Fluorspar, Barytes, Limestone and Talc etc., were carried out by Geological Survey of India in Rajasthan during the years 1968-70.

(b) and (c), Khetri and Kolihan copper deposits are to be exploited by Hindustan Copper Limited. Fluorspar at Mandokipal and Phosphorite at Jhamarkotra are being mined. The Project Report for exploitation-cum-mining and beneficiation of Saladipura Pyrite has been sanctioned. Project Reports for developing lead-zinc mine at Ba'eria (Zawar belt) and for exploitation and beneficiation of Phosphorite deposits in Udaipur district are under preparation.

Utilisation of Mineral Products in Rajasthan

4979. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the mineral products of Rajasthan which are utilised for fertilizers are at present being sent out of the State for being used in other States in public sector projects;

(b) if so, the total quantum of such minerals as also others which are being produced in Rajasthan but are being sent out of the State every year for being processed; and

(c) whether Government have formulated any scheme for setting up of public sector projects in the State of Rajasthan for proper utilisation of these minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Among the principal minerals which are used for production of fertilizers, gypsum and phosphorite are produced in Rajasthan and despatched to other States. Gypsum is despatched to the public sector plant viz., Fertilizer Plant in Sindri, Bihar whereas phosphorite is despatched to different fertilizer manufacturing units in the public sector outside Rajasthan, besides being consumed by one of the units in the public sector within Rajasthan.

(b) A statement showing the production of phosphorite and gypsum and despatches to public sector units within and outside the State during 1970 is laid on the table of the House. [*Placed in Library*, see No. LT—1931/72]. As regards other minerals which are being produced in Rajasthan and despatched out of the State, most of the major minerals produced in Rajasthan, excepting a few, such as Zinc Concentrates, Copper Ore, Ochre etc., are despatched for consumption to other states or for exports besides some of them being consumed within the State. A statement showing the minerals produced in Rajasthan during 1970 and 1971, is also laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library*, see No. LT—1931/72]

(c) Rock phosphate from Jamar Khotra mining in Rajasthan is being utilised for the manufacture of single super phosphate by utilising the Sulphuric acid produced as a bye-product at the Zinc Smelter of the Hindustan Zinc Ltd., a Central Government Company. In the proposed expansion of the Smelter from 18,000 to 36,000 tonnes, it is proposed to manufacture triple super phosphate instead of single superphosphate.

Sulphuric Acid is also planned to be recovered from the proposed Khetri Copper Smelter to be utilised for triple super phosphate production with a capacity of about 200,003 tonnes and the plant is scheduled for commissioning by February, 1974.

A comprehensive scheme is being envisaged to utilise primarily Jamar Khotra Rock Phosphate and Saladipura Pyrites. Feasibility Reports are being prepared for

the mining and beneficiation of these ores for which consultancy arrangements have been made.

Opening of Economic Wing in Ministry of External Affairs

4980. KUMARI KAMALA KUMARI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to open an Economic Wing in the Ministry of External Affairs; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the project ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) An Economic Division has existed in the Ministry of External Affairs since 1961.

(b) The Economic Division has been accorded the following functions :

- (i) The administration of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme.
- (ii) Rendering advice from the political angle on substantive economic issue in all matters relating to India's economic relations with foreign countries.
- (iii) Consideration and the rendering of advice on economic issues discussed in International forums such as the UNCTAD, GATT, ECAFF, ADB, IBRD, IMF, UNIDO, Specialised Agencies of the U. N. etc.
- (iv) Issue of political clearance for individuals and delegations going abroad for purposes relating to economic matters and the issue of similar clearance from the political angle for foreigners visiting India.

Supply of Pig Iron to Bokaro Steel Plant and other Steel Plants in Public Sector

4981. KUMARI KAMALA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pig iron supplies of about half a million tonnes in 1971-72 are likely to increase further when blast furnace at Bokaro Steel Plant and other steel plants in Public Sector are commissioned this year ; and

(b) if so, how the problem of glut would be overcome ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Production of saleable Pig Iron in 1971-72 was about 1.2 million tonnes.

In 1972-73, Bokaro is estimated to produce about 0.3 million tonnes of pig iron but, according to our present estimates, the net availability of pig iron for sale during 1972-73 will not be much more than it was during 1971-72.

(b) Although world demand for pig iron has somewhat slackened in recent months, efforts are being made to export the maximum possible amount of pig iron. Various measures for increasing domestic off-take are also being pursued, including the increased use of pig iron along with Steel Scrap in electric furnaces for making Steel.

Withdrawal of Declaration of E.P.F.O. as an Industry

4982. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the E. P. F. Organisation was declared an Industry ;

(b) whether such declaration has been withdrawn ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) No such declaration has been made.

(b) and (c). Do not arise. It may, however, be stated that in 1968, the Law Ministry advised on the basis of the pronouncements of the Supreme Court in

certain cases, and in revision of its earlier view, that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation would not be covered by the definition of "Industry" in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

तिब्बती शरणाधिकारियों के पुनर्वास के लिये निर्धारित की गई भूमि

4983. श्री कृष्ण बाकुला : क्या अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताते की क्वा करेगे कि :

(क) क्या लेह में शेहा नामक स्थान पर तिब्बती शरणाधिकारियों के पुनर्वास के लिये आरम्भ में जो 1300 एकड़ भूमि निर्धारित की गई थी उसमें अब 200 एकड़ भूमि कम कर दी गई है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और क्या सरकार शरणाधिकारियों के पुनर्वास के लिये और अधिक भूमि उपलब्ध कराने के बारे में बचाव कर रही है ?

अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री अर० के० खडिलकर) (क) और (ख). जम्मू और काश्मीर राज्य सरकार अविचेतनमोर्थांग नहर के सिंचन-क्षेत्र के अधीन आने वाली सम्पूर्ण 1200 एकड़ भूमि को लेह के निकट शिवर में रह रहे 305 तिब्बती शरणाधिकारियों के पुनर्वास के लिए देने को सहमत हो गई है।

बताया गया है कि नहर के सिंचन क्षेत्र की विस्तृत पैमाइश का काम शुरू कर दिया गया है। तिब्बती शरणाधिकारियों के पुनर्वास के लिए उपलब्ध होने वाली भूमि 11 पता उस समय लगेगा जब पैमाइश का काम पूरा हो जायेगा।

Setting up of Copper Plant in Orissa

4984. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether copper ores have been found in Kesarpur near Baripada and Kansa in Cuttak, Orissa ; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a copper plant there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Copper ore occurrences have been located at Kesarpur and exploratory drilling by Geological Survey of India in this area is in progress. In Kansa area, deposits of nickel and not of copper have been found.

(b) Question of setting up of a Copper Plant in Kesarpur does not arise at present since exploration by Geological Survey of India is still at preliminary stage.

Taking over of Tinplate Co. of India Limited, Jamshedpur

4986. SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to take over the Tinplate Co of India Limited, Jamshedpur ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) There is no such proposal with the Government.

(b) There is no special reason for taking this step at present.

Import of Steel from U.S.S.R.

4987. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the total quantity of steel expected to be imported from the Soviet Union in the year 1972-73 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : It is not possible to estimate the quantum of likely imports of steel from the Soviet Union during 1972-73. Import Licences are given to actual users canalising agencies valid for the Rupee Payment Area as a whole. Individual import licence holders may, therefore, place their orders according to their choice and availability of material,

and there is no means of estimating how much of these orders will be placed on any one country in the area.

Donimalai Iron Ore for Pellets

4988. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Lurgis of West Germany and Tiajprox-export of U.S.S.R. will conduct tests to determine whether Donimalai iron ore is suitable for producing pre-reduced pellets and super fluxed pellets; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A contract has been concluded with V/o Tiajprox-export, USSR, on 14th February, 1972 for testing of Donimalai iron ore for its suitability for production of super-fluxed sinter as well as fluxed pellets. Test results would start flowing in, within six month of the receipt of samples in USSR and the complete test report is expected to be available in twelve months. The samples of raw materials will shortly be despatched to the U.S.S.R.

Lurgis of West Germany have been engaged to conduct tests on Donimalai iron ore to assess its suitability for production of pre-reduced pellets. The test results would be available within three months from the date of receipt of samples of raw materials in West Germany. The samples will shortly be despatched to West Germany.

Loss in Vijayanagar and Visakhapatnam Steel Plants

4989. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Consultants have found that there will be loss in Vijayanagar and Visakhapatnam steel projects;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. According to the Consultants, due to the high cost of plant and equipment, raw materials, transportation charges etc., the cost of production of steel would be comparatively high and there is likelihood of losses in both these plants.

(c) Possibilities of reduction in costs are being examined in detail.

Techno-Economic Feasibility Reports on Visakhapatnam Steel Project

4990. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have examined the Techno-economic feasibility reports on the Visakhapatnam Steel project; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Techno-Economic Feasibility Report on the Visakhapatnam Steel Project is under examination.

(b) The capacity of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant would be about two million equivalent ingot tonnes of mild steel. It is proposed to design this plant for manufacture of shaped products. The iron ore requirements would be met from Bailadila reserves and coking coal from Bengal-Bihar. The requirements of water will be met from the Godavari and power will be supplied by the Andhra Pradesh Electricity Board. The estimated capital outlay is estimated to be about Rs. 741 crores.

Preparation of Feasibility Study Report for Visakhapatnam Steel Project by Engineers India Ltd.

4991. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA** : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Engineers India Limited will prepare a feasibility Study Report on developing port facilities near Balacharum for Visakhapatnam Steel Project, and

(b) if so, the time by which it will take to complete the study?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) Yes Sir M/s Engineers India Limited have been entrusted with the preparation of a techno economic feasibility study on port facilities for the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. They are examining various alternatives including the feasibility of developing a port near Balacheruvu.

(b) Their report is expected in June, 1972

Allotment of Iron and Steel for Small Scale Industries in Bihar

4992 SHRI SWARAN SINGH SOKHI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the total tonnage of Iron and Steel quota of each category sanctioned to Bihar State by the Centre for 1972-73, for small Scale Industries and

(b) whether it has been increased as compared to last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b) Under the present distribution system there are no state-wise allocations of quotas.

Steel supplies to Small Scale Industries are now mostly routed through the respective State Small Scale Industries Corporations. The Corporations make their own assessment of the requirements of the units in their State and place their consolidated demand on the Joint Plant Committee. The material received is distributed by the Corporations through their depots.

Memorial of Mahatma Gandhi in Bangla Desh

4994 SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZAL-

PURKAR Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether some freedom fighters have planned for the memorial of Mahatma Gandhi at Noakhali, in Bangladesh, where Bapuji had conducted a oneman peace mission during the pre-partition time, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) and (b) Government have no information but have taken steps to ascertain the facts.

Restoration of Property to Indians Declared as Enemy Property in 1965 During Indo Pak Conflict

4995 DR SANKATA PRASAD Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1350 on the 21st November, 1971 and state

(a) whether as a result of Indo Pak conflict of 1965 Pakistan Government declared the property of Indians in East Pakistan as enemy property, and

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to approach the Bangla Desh Government to restore the property of such Indians and if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The matter is being examined

Limits of Territorial Waters from Continental Shelf

4998 SHRI D D DESAI Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the territorial waters limit from the continental shelf as accepted by the United

Nations and the territorial waters limits from continental shelf as are legalised by USA, UK, U.S.S.R. and India ;

(b) whether coastal States exercise jurisdictional control over adjacent territorial waters and if so, the extent thereof in the case of U.S.A. U.K., U.S.S.R. *vis-a-vis* India ; and

(c) whether territorial waters of coastal States stand on par with such State's land territories in respect of rights and responsibilities of Central or Federal Governments and State Governments ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The outer limit of territorial waters of a State is measured from the appropriate baseline along its coast and not from the continental shelf. The United Nations has not yet accepted any specific limit for the territorial waters of a coastal State. This is one of the issues which will be considered by the plenipotentiary conference on the Law of the Sea which is likely to be convened in 1973. The limits of territorial waters adopted by U.S.A., U.K., U.S.S.R. and India are 3,3,12 and 12 nautical miles respectively.

(b) Yes, Sir. The limits of territorial waters of the States referred to have been given above.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Subject to the right of innocent passage available to foreign merchant vessels through the territorial waters, the rights and responsibilities of Central or Federal Governments and State Governments of Coastal States in relation to their territorial waters appear to be same as in respect of their land territories. The rights and responsibilities between the Union and the States in a Federation is determined by the Constitution of that country.

Proposal to Ban Rickshaw Pulling

4999. SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered to ban the profession of rickshaw

pulling and provide them with alternate profession; and

(b) If so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Labour Ministers' Conference in 1955 having recommended gradual abolition of rickshaw pulling, the Government of India had advised the State Governments accordingly and had suggested model regulations also. The matter was under correspondence with State Governments. Subsequently, the Government of India was advised that restrictions contemplated may raise legal issues about constitutionality. It was then left to the State Governments to decide the question of constitutionality of undertaking necessary legislation in the matter in consultation with their legal Departments.

The Central Council of Local Self Government at its 13th meeting held on 3rd and 4th November, 1970 considered the questions of elimination of this practice as early as possible. The following steps were suggested for immediate action :

- (1) The local bodies may be asked not to issue new licences as far as possible.
- (2) The practice of absentee ownership should be discouraged and the rickshaw pullers assisted to become the owners of the vehicles themselves or through the Cooperatives.
- (3) Where it is possible, hand pulled and cycle rickshaw should be replaced by auto rickshaw.
- (4) A detailed scheme should be prepared to eliminate the rickshaw pulling in the towns in States.

State Governments Administrations have taken various steps to implement the above suggestions.

Further the Department of Cooperation allots 10 three wheeler chassis per quarter to cooperative societies of rickshaw pullers/ auto-rickshaw drivers to help progressive

substitution of the practice of rickshaw pulling by auto-rickshaw driving, which is expected to bring about, gradually, better conditions of work as well as better income for these weaker sections of the community.

Distribution of Steel to Industries

5000. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Tatas, Sahu-Jain, Birlas and Mnfatral Group of Industries are shown favour in regard to the supply of steel and the small scale industries face much scarcity ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the quantity of steel allotted to all the units of these Houses in 1971 and the quantity of steel allotted to small scale industries of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh in 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Under the present distribution system, allocations of Steel are regulated by the Steel Priority Committee taking into account the end use for which steel is required, the availability of steel and the competing demands. The Steel Priority Committee give due weightage to the requirements of both large and small scale industries and no favouritism is shown to any particular concerns like Tatas, Sahu-Jain, Birlas and Mafatral Group of Industries.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Purchase of Stores

5001. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued directions to prevent the purchase of stores available in India from outside the country; and

(b) if so, the direction issued in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Instructions already exist that no stores can be imported from abroad unless a clearance has been obtained from the Directorate General of Technical Development or other concerned authorities from the indigenous angle. In pursuance of these instructions, it has been the endeavour of the Directorate General of Supplies & Disposals, as a central purchase organisation, to achieve maximum indigenisation of supplies and to promote import substitution by assisting in the establishment and development of indigenous capacity in respect of stores which have hitherto been imported.

Issue Regarding Hijacking of Indian Plane to Pakistan in U. N. O.

5002 SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the issue regarding the Indian Plane which was hijacked to Pakistan was raised in the U. N. O. with the help of friendly countries; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) India did not raise the issue regarding the hijacking of the Indian Plane to Pakistan in the United Nations. However, India sent appropriate rejoinders to letters sent by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan at the United Nations to the President of the Security Council, complaining against the Government of India's decision to ban over-flights of Pakistani air-craft over Indian territory. The issue was also raised by Pakistan in the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), a Specialized Agency of the United Nations. The Government of India have maintained that the ICAO has no jurisdiction in the matter. The case has now gone to the International Court of Justice at the Hague, for the opinion of that Court in regard to the jurisdiction of the ICAO in the matter.

(b) The Government of India feel that bilateral issues between India and Pakistan should be resolved through direct negotiations between the parties.

**Cruising of Naval Ship of Ceylon
Near Kachchativu Island**

5003. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Naval Ship of the Ceylon Navy had been cruising very near the disputed Kachchativu Island and had interfered with Indians who had gone to the Island to take part in the annual festival there; and

(b) if so, whether this question has been taken up with the Ceylon Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Ships, both of India and Ceylon, cruise near the Island to oversee the flow of their pilgrims during the annual festival held in the island every March. Government of India have not received any reports of interference with Indian pilgrims by the Ceylon Naval Ship.

(b) Does not arise.

**Activities of Naga/Mizo Rebels on
Border Areas**

5004. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of casualties caused to the Indian Nationals by the Mizo and the Naga Rebels on the Bangla Desh-Indian Borders after the liberation of Bangla Desh, up-to-date;

(b) whether these rebels have crossed into Chinese territories or they are still at large on the Indian Borders; and

(c) whether any part of the Army has been deployed to contain the activities of these elements ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No casualties have been caused to Indian nationals during this period.

(b) Government have no confirmation of any Indian Naga or Mizo groups having gone to China during this period. Some hostile elements continue to be present in the India-Bangladesh-Burma Borders areas.

(c) Adequate security forces are currently deployed for the purpose

**Strike by Dock Workers at
Visakhapatnam Port**

5006. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether some 11,000 dock workers at Visakhapatnam port are on strike in protest against the alleged beating up of some workers by men of the Central Industrial Security Force;

(b) whether any enquiry has been held; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The strike took place from 1.4.72 to 7.4.72.

(b) An enquiry was conducted by the Assistant Inspector General, Central Industrial Security Force. Local Harbour Police have also registered cases under I. P. C. and investigation is continuing.

(c) As a result of the enquiry, one Security Guard has been placed under suspension. Further action will be taken on completion of Police investigation.

Production of Steel

5008. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantities of steel that India has not yet succeeded in producing and, the reasons therefor;

(b) the time by which it will be possible for the country to be self-sufficient in the production of these types of steel which are being imported; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for setting up plants for the production of the quality of steel that is being continuously imported and not produced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The categories of steel which are not produced in the country include special wire rods such as those made of stainless steel, cold rolled grain oriented sheets required by the electrical transformer industry, soft magnetic iron sheets required for electrical and tele-communication industries and open top sanitary can quality tinplates andterne plates. Production of these categories has not so far been established since investment has been made on a selective basis taking into consideration the need to utilise available resources in an optimal manner and because of the constraints relating to raw material availability, availability of know-how or uneconomic nature of demand.

(b) and (c) : Setting up production facilities for CRGO sheets at Rourkela in collaboration with a leading producer of such sheets abroad is under consideration.

Production of open top sanitary can tinplates is being tried on an experimental basis and production of special wire rods is being developed:

The demand for the remaining items is considered insufficient for setting up viable production facilities in the country for the present.

Target for production and estimated consumption of steel

5009. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased state :

(a) the target for production and estimated consumption of steel for the coming three years; and

(b) whether the gap if any, will be

filled up from the import of steel and if so, from which country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The targeted production in 1972-73 of Saleable Steel from the main steel plants is about 5.5 million tonnes. Targets for the subsequent years will be fixed before the commencement of each year, after reviewing the production in the previous year.

The National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) have, in a recent study, estimated the demand for finished mild steel in 1976 as about 7.6 million tonnes. Based on this, the demand in the coming three years has been estimated to be :—

(In million tonnes)			
1972-73			6.19
1973-74		6.69
1974-75		7.22

(b) The difference between demand and domestic availability will be met by imports from foreign countries depending upon the availability of foreign exchange etc.

Review of Performance of Indian Envoys in Foreign Countries

5010. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the average period for which a Head of the Embassy, Mission or Charged Affairs is kept at one station;

(b) whether performance of such Heads is reviewed yearly or half-yearly;

(c) whether these officers are also entrusted with the task of ensuring contacts with the Indian nationals and look after their interests there; and

(d) whether complaints have been received against these officers about inatten-

tion to the Indian Nationals during the last year and if so, the names of the Missions concerned ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) The normal period of duty for a Head of Mission or Post at most stations is three years, at a few difficult stations, it is two years, extendable to three years. There are only the general norms, the actual stay of any Head of Mission/Post at any particular station may be more, or less, depending on the administrative requirements.

(b) Yearly

(c) Yes, Sir

(d) No such complaints appear to have been received during the last one year.

Demand and Production of Steel

5011 SHRI S. N. MISRA
SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the total annual demand and production of steel for the last three years,

(b) whether there is a scarcity of steel in the country and it is available at black market prices in abundance, and

(c) the steps taken by Government to meet the shortage of steel in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN). (a) The Steering Group assessed the demand of finished mild steel in 1969-70 and 1970-71 at about 5.0 and 5.5 million tonnes respectively. In a more recent study, the National Council for Applied Economic Research estimated the demand in 1975 as 7.6 million tonnes. Based on this, the demand in 1971-72 has been calculated to be about 5.73 million tonnes.

The production of finished steel in these years is given below :—

Year	(In million tonnes) Production
1969-70	4 786
1970-71	4 477
1971-72	*4 600 *Provisional

(b) It is true that there is a scarcity of steel in the country at present. But the actual transactions in the open market are comparatively small and it is not a fact that it is available in abundance at open market prices.

(c) Steps taken to meet the shortage of steel include attempts to step up domestic production by both short term and long term measures, increase in imports, streamlining of distribution and regulation of exports.

मध्य प्रदेश में खनिजों तथा गैर- खनिजों का उत्पादन

5012 श्री गंगा धरण दीक्षित : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में इस समय कितने और कितने मूल्य के खनिजों तथा गैर-खनिजों का उत्पादन होता है, और

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश के छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में पाये जाने वाले धातु खनिजों में किस तत्व अथवा योगिक की प्रचुरता है ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) (क) 1970-71 के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश से उत्पादित खनिजों और अधात्विक खनिजों का उत्पादन और मूल्य दर्शित करने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है, [प्रणालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT—1932/72]

(ख) छत्तीसगढ़ क्षेत्र में (जिसमें दुर्ग, रायपुर, रायगढ़, बिलासपुर जिले और बस्तर

का उत्तरी भाग समाविष्ट है) खनिजों की प्राप्ति और उनकी संरचना को दर्शाने वाले विवरण भी मन्त्रालय पर रखा जाता है। [मन्त्रालय में रखा गया। देखिये सत्रिका LT—1932/72]

Labour Relations in Coal Mining Industry

5013 SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether he has taken certain steps in removing the distressing aspect of the labour relations in the Coal Mining Industry,

(b) if so, whether he had discussion with the Minister of Steel in this regard and whether he had called a conference of Trade Unions and Coal mine Owners Representatives to find a solution to the problem of the bad labour relations, and

(c) if so, the outcome of the discussion?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) to (c) Questions relating to labour relations in the Coal Mining Industry are considered by Government as a continuous process and departmental discussions in that connection are held whenever considered necessary. No conference of trade unions and Coal Mine Owners for this purpose has been convened recently.

Review of Situation on East Pakistan Displaced Persons in India

5014 SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether any review of the situation of East Pakistan Displaced Persons in India has been done; and

(b) if not, when and how it is proposed to be done?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND

REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) Yes Sir. The progress of rehabilitation is reviewed from time to time and suitable action is taken.

(b) Does not arise.

Taking over of closed Coal Mines in West Bengal

5015 SHRI NARFENDRA SINGH Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to take over closed coal mines in West Bengal which have huge deposits of coal underground and

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Uniform Price of Steel

5016 SHRI G. V. KRISHNAN Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have accepted the uniform price of steel throughout the country, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b). The Joint Plant Committee price of steel includes a freight element of Re 12/- per tonne and all up lies of steel through Joint Plant Committee are made at a uniform F. O. R. destination Rail Head price.

Support to Asian Collective Security System

5017 SHRI JYOTIRMAY BOSU Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether recently he gave an interview to a Soviet paper recording his support

to the Soviet Plan of Collective Security in Asia; and

(b) if so, the text of the said interview?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The question and answer as appearing in the press report is as follows :

*Question : There has been a lively reaction throughout the world, and particularly in Asia, to the idea of establishing an Asian system of collective security. Some time ago CPSU General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev and Premier Alexei Kosygin voiced their views concerning the principles on which such a system could be based. What is your attitude to the idea ?

Answer : The idea of collective security for Asia put forward by the Soviet leaders is good. The security and stability of the region are essentially a matter for the countries concerned, to ensure.

We believe that a greater degree of economic cooperation among the countries of the region mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and integrity, and the understanding by the big powers of the need to ensure the neutrality of these countries would be positive factors contributing to the security and stability of the Asian continent. These are good principles and with time, and by collective effort, some concrete shape may be given the idea to help make it a practical reality."

दण्डकारण्य में रह रहे शरणार्थियों का बंगला देश वापस जाना

5018. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय : क्या अम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि इस प्रकार के कितने और

शरणार्थी बंगला देश को वापस जाने के इच्छुक हैं, जो बंगला देश में स्वाधीनता संघर्ष प्रारम्भ होने से पहले भारत आये थे और दण्डकारण्य में बसाये गये थे ?

अम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : दण्डकारण्य परियोजना प्रशासन से प्राप्त सूचना के आधार पर 16-12-1971 से 13-4-1972 तक की अवधि में 3,173 परिवार पुनर्वासि-स्थलों तथा गांवों को छोड़ कर चले गये थे। इनके अतिरिक्त इस अवधि में 3,119 परिवार दण्डकारण्य के शिविरों को छोड़कर चले गये थे। इन परिवारों ने परियोजना को अपनी इच्छा से छोड़ा है और अनुमानतः वे बंगला देश की ओर गए होंगे।

यह नहीं कहा जा सकता है कि अभी कितने और परिवार बंगला देश वापस जाने को उत्सुक हैं।

आंध्र प्रदेश में तांबे के निक्षेप

5019. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आंध्र प्रदेश के किन-किन भागों में तांबे के निक्षेप पाये गये हैं;

(ख) वहां कितनी मात्रा में भण्डार पाये जाने की सम्भावना है; और

(ग) उनको निकालने के लिये सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) और (ख) : भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण द्वारा किए गए अन्वेषणों के परिणाम स्वरूप बंडालामोटदू, नल्लाकोण्डा और अग्निगुण्डाला पट्टी के धुकोण्डा खान्डों में ताप घनत्व निक्षेपों की लवभग 63.85 लाख टन और आंध्र प्रदेश के खम्माम जिले में मेलाराम में 8 लाख टन

की संकेतित उपलब्ध राशियाँ प्राक्कलित की गई हैं।

(ग) हिन्दुस्तान ताप्र लिमिटेड पहले ही अग्निगुण्डाला निक्षेपों के विकास में व्यस्त है। सरकार ने मल्लाकोण्डा से प्रतिदिन 500 टन ताप्र अयस्क के खनन के लिए परियोजना बनाने हेतु हिन्दुस्तान ताप्र लिमिटेड को 35 लाख रुपये की राशि मजूर की है। बुकोण्डा खाण्ड को विकसित भी किया जा रहा है और इसके लिए परियोजना भी तैयार की जा रही है। औगले जिले में मेलागाम, खाम्माम में बेकटाबूराम, रामसुन्दरम् और आंध्र प्रदेश के अन्य क्षेत्रों में मानचित्रण और परीक्षण व्ययन द्वारा समन्वय भी किया जा रहा है।

मौसमी कारखानों (सीजनल फैक्ट्रीज) के श्रमिकों का बीमा

5020 डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय का श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री तह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मौसमी कारखाने में चाहे उनमें काम करने वालों की संख्या 20 से अधिक हो क्यों न हो, कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा योजना लागू नहीं होती है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खडिलकर) (क) कर्मचारी राज्य बीमा अधिनियम, 1948 मौसमी कारखानों पर लागू नहीं होता।

(ख) मौसमी कारखानों के कर्मचारी उन अंशदायी शर्तों को पूरा न कर सकें जिनसे बीमारी तथा प्रसूति लाभ प्राप्त करने का अधिकार मिलता है।

Drinking Water for Coal Field Workers in Sarguja and Sidhi Districts of Madhya Pradesh

5021, SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state, the number of schemes which were completed by the Coal Mines Welfare Organisation for providing clean drinking water for the coal field workers in Sarguja and Sidhi Districts of Madhya Pradesh during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR). The Schemes for the supply of drinking water to the coal miners are implemented by the colliery owners or statutory organisations like the Water Board or State Governments. The Coal Mines Labour Welfare Organisation only supplements their efforts by providing financial assistance. Financial assistance from the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund has been given for two water supply schemes completed in Sarguja and Sidhi Districts during the last three years.

Adivasi Unemployment Insurance Schemes in Madhya Pradesh

5022 SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government in regard to Unemployment Insurance Scheme for Adivasi in Madhya Pradesh, and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR). (a) No

(b) Does not arise

Exploitation of Deposits of Copper in Madhya Pradesh

5023 SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH: DR LAXMINARAIN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of STEEL & MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government have urged Central Government to take immediate and effective measures to

create necessary infrastructure for the early exploitation of vast deposits of copper recently explored during survey undertaken by Geological Survey of India ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Union Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Registration of Another Union in Patna in the Name of N. E. Railway Majdoor Union Gorakhpur

5024. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North Eastern Railway Majdoor Union, Central Office Rail Majdoor Bhawan, Alinagar, Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, affiliated to the All India Trade Union Congress and All India Railwaymen's Federation is duly registered under the Trade Union Act in Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) whether another Union of the same name has been or is being registered in Patna (Bihar), by misleading the registration office ;

(c) whether the second registration of the same name is illegal ; and

(d) if replies to the above be in the affirmative, whether the second registration is being annulled ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) to (d) : Information is being collected.

Setting up of Production Council in Each Industry

5025. SHRI P. GANGADEB : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are considering a proposal to set up a Production Council in each industry where the

representatives of the workers and the Management would sit together, sort out the differences and create a new climate of development and self-reliance ; and

(b) if so, when the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) : There is already a Scheme of Joint Management Council which has been in operation on a voluntary basis since 1958. These Councils consist of equal number of representatives of management and labour with the object of establishing cordial relations between them, building up understanding, increasing productivity, securing better welfare facilities for the workers and training the workers to understand and share the responsibilities of the management. The subject is also figuring in the current discussions with the workers and employers representatives.

Requirements of Non-Ferrous Metals

5026. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN-THAM : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated total annual requirements of non-ferrous metals at present ;

(b) how much of these requirements is now being met by indigenous production ; and

(c) the value of imports of non-ferrous metals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF THE STEEL MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b) : The current demand and indigenous production of various non-ferrous metals is estimated as under :—

Metal	Demand estimates	Production estimates
Aluminium	254,000 Tonnes	210,000 Tonnes
Copper	113,000 "	15,000 "
Zinc	129,000 "	30,000 "
Lead	88,600 "	2,000 "
Tin	7,500 "	—
Nickel	5,000 "	—

(c) The value of imports of non-ferrous metals during the last three years is given below :

Year	Value in Rs. crores
1969-70	74.51
1970-71	119.4
1971-72	32.45 (upto June, 1971)

Review of Working of Minimum Wages Act for Agricultural Labourers in States

5027. SHRI S. A. MURUGANATHAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have reviewed the working of the Minimum Wages Acts for agricultural labourers in various States ;

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at , and

(c) whether the Centre proposes to enact my legislation to ensure a reasonable minimum wage for agricultural labourers in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b). The National Commission on Labour which had considered the question of Minimum Wages for agricultural labourers made the following main recommendations :

"There should be periodic revision of minimum wages in agriculture through tripartite consultative bodies consisting of the representatives of agricultural labour, employers and State Governments at the State and district levels. The minimum Wages Act should be extended gradually beginning with low wage pocket areas to others. A way should be found to involve the village panchayats in the task of implementation of the Act."

(c) No further legislation is contemplated by the Central Government.

Chairman of E. P. F. Organisation

5028. SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is having a Chairman who is the Secretary to the Labour Department ;

(b) whether no Organisation like Employees' Provident Fund Organisation is having any Chairman who is a Secretary to the Government Department, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, the number of such Organisations who are having Secretaries to the Government as Chairman ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Chairmanship of the several statutory bodies under the Department of Labour and Employment is assigned to the Ministers or Officials having regard to the consideration governing each case. The Union Labour Minister is the Chairman of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, the Deputy Labour Minister is the Chairman of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation and of the Standing Committee of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation, the Secretary to the Department of Labour and Employment is the Chairman of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation and of the Dock Workers' Advisory Committee and Joint Secretary is the Chairman of the Central Advisory Board of Mica and Iron Ore Labour Welfare Funds and Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund Advisory Committee.

Closure of Rajnagar Mill No. 1 Ahmedabad

5029. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL : SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether workers of the Rajnagar Mill No. 1 have staged a dharna in front of the Mill premises in Ahmedabad in protest against its continued closure,

(b) whether the Ahmedabad Mill Major Union met the Labour Minister in Gandhinagar on the 5th April 1972 and urged him to re-open the unit and

(c) if so, whether his intervention in the matter has brought any fruits and the steps being taken to reopen the unit?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) The matter falls in the State sphere

(b) No, the Union Labour Minister did not visit Gandhinagar on April 5

(c) Does not arise

अधिकारी की श्रृंखला

5030 श्री मूल चन्द डागा : क्या अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अम विभाग न ऐसी कोई योजना बनाई है, जिसके अन्तर्गत किसी उद्योग में काम करने वाले मजदूर जहरित पड़ने पर उद्योगपति से श्रृंखला ले सकें और यदि हाँ, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं, और

(ख) क्या मजदूर प्रायः कर्मों में डूबे रहते हैं और श्रृंखलादाता उनसे ऊँची दरों पर व्याज लेते हैं, और यदि हाँ, तो इस अभिशाप से मजदूरों को कैसे बचाया जा सकता है ?

अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री धार० वे० खाडिलकर) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) 50 औद्योगिक केन्द्रों के लिए 1958-59 में की गई परिवार जाच की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार अमिक आमतौर से बर्जदार थे : लेकिन महाजनों का पार्टी कर्ज देने के रूप में महत्व का नहीं था, क्योंकि उनके द्वारा लिए

जाने वाले याज की दर सामान्यतः बहुत ऊँची थी और बचत तथा माख समितियाँ अनेक ओद्योगिक संस्थानों में कार्य कर रही थीं।

Unions in Beas Sutlej Link Project, Sundernagar

5031 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) the exact number and name of the recognised labour/trade unions in the Beas-Sutlej Link Project Sundernagar and

(b) the criteria for recognition of these unions ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha

खतडी ताबा परियोजना के लिए मशीनों के क्रय-वैश

5032 श्री शिवनाथ सिंह : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या खतडी ताबा परियोजना के सयत्त के लिए सभी आवश्यक मशीनों के क्रय-वैश दे दिये गये हैं और सयत्त की स्थापना के लिए ठेका दे दिया गया है,

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या इन मशीनों के लागत मूल्य और ठेके के मूल्य में वृद्धि होने की सम्भावना है और प्रस्तावित मूल्य संशोधन में इस वृद्धि का अलग-अलग प्रतिशत अनुपात क्या है और इसके क्या कारण हैं, और

(ग) वर्तमान पूँजी लागत में इस प्रकार की वृद्धि और अन्य आकस्मिक सम्भावनाओं के लिए कितनी राशि की व्यवस्था की गई है।

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री साहूनाथ झा) : (क) खतडी ताबा परियोजना में सयत्त के संनिर्माण हेतु उपकरण के

के लिए आदेश और संविदा विधेयक स्थिति इस प्रकार है :

(1) संकेन्द्रक संयंत्र : संयंत्र के लिए अपेक्षित समस्त उपकरण के लिए आदेश दिए गए हैं। संयंत्र परिनिर्माण और विद्युतीकरण के लिए भी संविदाएं दी गई हैं।

(2) स्लैग व्यवहार्यता संयंत्र यथोक्त

(3) प्रवाहक : 88% उपकरण के लिए आदेश दिए गए हैं। संयंत्र के परिनिर्माण के लिए संविदा दी गई है, संयंत्र के विद्युतीकरण के लिए अभी संविदा दी जानी है।

(4) परिकरणाशाला : परिकरणाशाला के कैथोड गलन और तार छड़ ढलाई अनुभाग के लिए संयंत्र के परिनिर्माण और उपकरण की आपूर्ति हेतु संविदा दी गई है। इलैक्ट्रोलाइटिक सेल अनुभाग हेतु 84% उपकरण के लिए आदेश दिए गए हैं। इसके विद्युतीकरण के लिए अभी संविदा दी जानी है।

(ख) उपकरण की आपूर्ति और संयंत्र के परिनिर्माण आदि के लिए समस्त संविदाएं निश्चित मूल्य आधार पर की गई हैं। तथापि कर्ट मामलों में मूल्य समय-समय पर अधिरोपित कानूनी शुल्कों में भिन्नता के अधीन है। इस कारण से संभावित वृद्धि के लिए प्रायोजन के पूंजीगत लागत प्राक्कलनों में "आकस्मिकता" के अधीन उपबद्ध किया गया है। तथापि, इस समय इस कारण से मूल्यों में संभावित वृद्धि की प्रतिशतता का अनुमान लगाना संभव नहीं है।

(ग) पुनरीक्षित पूंजीगत लागत प्राक्कलनों में आकस्मिकताओं के लिए 271.48 लाख रुपये का उपबंध है।

खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के विदेशी सलाहकारों पर किया गया व्यय

5033. श्री शिवनाथ सिंह : क्या

इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के कुल प्रस्तावित परिव्यय में से जनवरी, 1972 तक प्रत्येक विदेशी सलाहकार पर कितनी राशि खर्च की गई,

(ख) कुल प्रस्तावित परिव्यय में से पर्यवेक्षण के लिए कितनी राशि नियत की गई और वर्ष 1969 में यह राशि किस अनुपात में बड़ी, और

(ग) प्रस्तावित लागत व्यय में वृद्धि की तुलना में प्रत्येक शीष क अन्तर्गत वर्तमान पूंजी लागत का व्यौरा क्या है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खान) : (क) खेतड़ी तांबा संकुल के लिए 115.98 करोड़ रुपये की कुल प्रस्तावित लागत में से जनवरी, 1972 तक प्रत्येक विदेशी परामर्शदाताओं पर उपगत व्यय की राशि निम्न प्रकार से है :

(1) मैसर्स वेनोट—

पिक एण्ड इन्मा 71.36 लाख रुपये

(2) मैसर्स बैस्टन

कोष इंजीनियरिंग

कम्पनी, अमेरिका 123.53 लाख रुपये

कुल 194.89 लाख रुपये

(ख) पूंजी लागत अनुमानों में पर्यवेक्षण लागत के रूप में 97.5 लाख रुपये की राशि निर्धारित की गई है। पर्यवेक्षण के लिए उपबंधों में क्रम विरत, कार्मिक, प्रशासन, मुख्य कार्यालय व्यय और संकेन्द्रक, परिकरणाशाला जैसे विभिन्न प्रक्रिया सयत्तों में कार्य कर रहे कार्मिकों के लिए इन सयत्तों के चालू होने तक वेतन और भत्ते जैसे विभिन्न प्रशासनिक विभागों पर उपगत व्यय के अतिरिक्त; नगर क्षत्तों पाठशालाओं और समस्त कर्मचारियों के लिए चिकित्सा सुविधाओं का व्यय भी सम्मिलित है :

1969-70 में पर्यवेक्षण पर उपगत औसतन मासिक व्यय की राशि 7.42 लाख रुपए थी। 1971-72 वर्ष के लिए तत्स्थानी आकड़े 10.54 रुपए प्रति मास हैं।

(ग) प्रायोजना की पूंजी लागत अनु-

मद	लागत प्राकृतन	(करोड़ रुपयों में)
		लागत प्राकृतन
	1968	1972
1—बेतडी ताम्र खान और ताम्र सयत	67.90	86.20
2—कोलिहान ताम्र खान	7.07	12.43
3—ग्रमल-सह-उर्वरक सयत	17.35	17.35
	9.32	115.98

(115 करोड़ रुपए का यह पुनरीक्षित प्राक्कलन सरकार के परीक्षणधीन है।)

Survey for Gold

5034. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a survey for gold in the country, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b). The Geological Survey of India have been conducting systematic investigations for gold from First Five Year Plan in the country. Exploration by drilling for gold in Mysara in Singhbhum district of Bihar and Bhiwapur in Nagpur district of Maharashtra is currently in progress. As a result of the exploratory mining done by the Geological Survey of India, a reserve of about 2527 tonnes of ore with 6.9 grammes per tonne of gold per vertical metre has been estimated in the Yeppamana block of Ramgiri Gold Field in Arantpur district of Andhra Pradesh. Detailed investigations

have indicated that this deposit has the possibility of being developed into a mine.

Employees Provident Fund Organisation

5035. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the Employees Provident Fund Organisation is not a Government Department,

(b) whether the employees of this Organisation are tagged with the Central Government Employees, and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) The Employees Provident Fund Organisation is not a Government Department.

(b) In the matter of pay and allowances and other conditions of service, as

far as possible, employees of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation are treated at par with corresponding categories of Central Government employees.

(c) In the past, the employees in the various Regional Offices were on State Government scales of pay. With a view to prescribing a uniform pattern for all regions and also to bring about some improvement in service conditions of the employees in the regions, the employees were brought on Central scales of pay and other service conditions were also regulated accordingly on the recommendations of the Central Board of Trustees which administers the Employees Provident Fund.

Meetings of Central Board of Trustees of Employees Provident Fund

5036. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the meetings of the Central Board of Trustees of Employees' Provident Fund are held even at such places where the Regional Office of the Organisation is not there;

(b) whether the holding of the meeting at Delhi will bring the expenditure down and will be more convenient to the persons attending, Delhi being a Central Place; and

(c) if so, the reasons why the meeting of the Central Board of Trustees should not be held at Delhi only ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :—

(a) The meetings are usually held at Delhi or at one of the Regional headquarters, but sometimes they are also held at other places.

(b) There would be some economy in expenditure if the meetings are held in Delhi. The venue of a meeting is decided by the Chairman in consultation with the

Trustees present at the immediately previous meeting and is fixed having regard to the convenience to the Trustees and the invitations received from various State Government representatives for holding the meeting in their respective States.

(c) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

पुनर्वास विभाग के विरुद्ध कर्मचारियों द्वारा दायर किए गए मुकदमों

5037. श्री भरविन्द नेताम : क्या श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में पुनर्वास विभाग के कितने कर्मचारियों ने विभाग के विरुद्ध मुकदमों दायर किये; और

(ख) कितने मुकदमों में फैसला दिया गया तथा कितने फैसले विभाग के पक्ष में रहे ?

श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) : (क) और (ख). जानकारी एकत्रित की जा रही है और सभा भी मेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

बैलाडिला लोह अयस्क परियोजना के कर्मचारियों के लिए मकान

5038. श्री भरविन्द नेताम : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बैलाडिला लोह अयस्क परियोजना में तीसरी तथा चौथी श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों की संख्या कितनी है; और

(ख) उनमें से कुल कितने कर्मचारियों को मकान दिये गये हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) (क) और (ख). जानकारी एकत्रित की जा रही है और शीघ्र ही सभा पटल पर रखी जायेगी।

मिलाई इस्पात कारखाने से (भकडम्प) स्क्रैप की चोरी

5039. श्री शरबिन्द नेताम : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) मिलाई इस्पात कारखाने से 1965 से मार्च 1972 तक कितने टन भकडम्प की चोरी हुई, और

(ख) इससे कितनी हानि हुई ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) (क) और (ख). मिलाई इस्पात कारखाने के रिकार्डों के अनुसार इस अवधि में कारखाने से चोरी हुए स्क्रैप (फैरस तथा नान-फैरस) की कुल मात्रा लगभग 650 टन थी जिसमें 597 टन को पुनराप्त कर लिया गया है।

53 टन स्क्रैप का मूल्य जिसे पुनराप्त नहीं किया जा सका है, लगभग 32,000 रुपये है।

मध्य प्रदेश में सूती कपड़ा मिलों द्वारा बिया गया बोनस

5040. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में मध्य प्रदेश में प्रत्येक सूती कपड़ा मिल द्वारा अपने कर्मचारियों को कितने प्रतिशत बोनस दिया गया;

(ख) क्या कुछ कार्मिक संघों तथा कर्मचारियों ने केन्द्र सरकार से यह शिकायत की है कि भ्रमियों को बोनस समय पर नहीं दिया जाता है ; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री (श्री आर० के० आबिलकर) (क) से (ग). सूचना उपलब्ध

नहीं है। कपड़ा मिलों द्वारा बोनस भुगतान के सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकार उचित सरकार है और इस सम्बन्ध में जो भी शिकायत हो, वे उचित कार्यवाही के लिए उन्हें सम्बोधित की जाए।

मध्य प्रदेश में इस्पात कारखानों की स्थापना

5041. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश के भिड़ और मोरेना जिलों के पिछड़ेपन को ध्यान में रखते हुये सरकार का विचार वहाँ एक उस्पात कारखाना स्थापित करने का है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खाँ) : इस समय ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

मध्य प्रदेश के शरणार्थी शिविरो में बगला देश के शरणार्थियों की मृत्यु

5042. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या भ्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के विभिन्न भागों में स्थित शरणार्थी शिविरो में रखे गये बगला देश के कुछ शरणार्थियों की बिमारी तथा अन्य कारणों से मृत्यु हो गई ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो मध्य प्रदेश के विभिन्न शरणार्थी शिविरो में कितने शरणार्थियों की मृत्यु हुई ?

भ्रम और पुनर्वासि मंत्री (श्री आर० के० आबिलकर) (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) लगभग 11,000।

भारतीय राजनयिकों द्वारा विदेशी महिलाओं से शादी करना

5043. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या

विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के अन्दर ऐसे कितने मामले सरकार की जानकारी में लाये गये;

(ख) क्या इस प्रकार के मामले में उन्हें सरकार से पूर्व अनुमति लेनी होती है ; और

(ग) विदेशों में स्थित भारतीय दूतावासों में ऐसे भारतीय राजनयिकों की संख्या कितनी है जिनकी पत्नियाँ विदेशी हैं ?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुरेश्वर पाल सिंह) (क). एक ।

(ख) जी हाँ ।

(ग) पाँच ।

Sale of Products of Durgapur Steel Project

5044. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure of selling products of Durgapur Steel Project in short;

(b) whether there are long standing arrears of sale on credit and the amount of the same, year-wise, for last three years;

(c) whether an Auditor has recently been appointed by the said Steel Project for explaining ways and means to show that many of such credit amounts have been lapsed or have become irrecoverable, and if so, the particulars thereof; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken against the officers responsible for such loss ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Recruitment of Engineer Graduates in Durgapur Steel Plant

5045. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Engineer Graduates recruited by the Durgapur Steel Plant last year and this year;

(b) the respective number of West Bengal Engineering Graduates recruited and the recruits from other states;

(c) whether the Government of West Bengal made special request to the Durgapur Steel Plant authority for giving priority to unemployed engineers from West Bengal; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Plant authority thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Engineering graduates are recruited by Hindustan Steel Limited centrally on an All-India basis and are posted to Hindustan Steel Limited, Steel Plants and other Units according to their requirements. At present, Hindustan Steel's recruitment also covers the requirements of Bokaro Steel Ltd. 102 engineering graduates thus recruited were posted to Durgapur Steel Plant in 1971 and 84 in 1972 upto April.

(b) Out of a total of 462 engineering graduates recruited in 1971 and 455 in 1972 (upto April, 1972), 93 and 58 respectively were graduates from engineering colleges situated in West Bengal.

(c) It is understood from Hindustan Steel Ltd. that early this year a letter was received by them and by the Durgapur Steel Plant from the State Government urging large intake of graduate engineers from West Bengal.

(d) Hindustan Steel Ltd. are understood to have explained to the State Government that central recruitment of graduate engineers is done on merit on an All-India basis providing an equal opportunity to all eligible persons from all parts of the country.

**Appointment of Personnel Manager
of Durgapur Steel Plant**

5046. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the post of personnel Manager of Durgapur Steel Plant so long held by the State Government nominee,

(b) whether last year this convention has been discontinued;

(c) whether Personnel Managers in Rourkela and Bhilai Steel Plants are held by the nominees of the respective State; and

(d) If so, the reasons for making discrimination in appointing Personnel Manager in case Durgapur Steel plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b) : Till September, 1971, the Personnel Department in Durgapur Steel Plant was headed by an Officer of the I.A.S. of the West Bengal Cadre. From 1st October, 1971, the post is held by an Officer of the Company. There is, however, a proposal to post an Officer of the State Government as Deputy General Manager (Administration) in the Plant.

(c) : The Personnel Department in the Bhilai Steel Plant is now headed by an Officer of the Industrial Management Pool whereas the post in the Rourkela Steel Plant is held by an I.A.S. Officer of the Orissa Cadre.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (c) above.

**Help to Bangladesh for Building Another
Shantiniketan in Bangla Desh**

5047. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report published

in Calcutta Edition of *Hindustan Standard* on the 11th April, 1972 to the effect that the Director-General of Bangla Academy and the Bengali Development Board has made an appeal for building a second Shantiniketan at Shilaidaha in Kustia District of Bangladesh having many associations of the memory of Rabindra Nath Tagore;

(b) if so, whether Government have offered all assistance and co-operation to the Academy to help building such an institution in memory of Rabindra Nath Tagore; and

(c) if so, the nature thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No formal proposal has been made to the Government in regard to the provision of assistance for the project.

(c) Does not arise.

**पश्चिम बंगाल, मध्य प्रदेश और
बिहार में हड़तालें**

5048. श्री हुसैन खन्नु कच्छबाय : क्या अन्न और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पश्चिम बंगाल, मध्य प्रदेश और बिहार में गत तीन वर्षों में, राज्यवार हुई हड़तालों की संख्या क्या है; और

(ख) हड़तालों और काम के घंटों की क्षति रोकने के लिए सरकार क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रही है ?

अन्न और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० जाधिलकर) : (क) इन राज्यों में 1969, 1970 और 1971 के दौरान हुई हड़तालों की संख्या इस प्रकार थी :

राज्य	हड़ताओं की संख्या		
	1969	1970	1 71 (अनतिम)
पश्चिम बंगाल	297	272	196
मध्य प्रदेश	164	168	88
बिहार	152	191	101

(ख) : वर्तमान सांविधिक और स्वीच्छिक व्यवस्थाओं के अधीन यथा-आवश्यक प्रारम्भिक विचार-विमर्श, समझौते और न्यायनिर्णय या मध्यस्थता के माध्यम से काम के करने के लिए औद्योगिक संपक तत्त्व प्रयास जारी रखे हुए है। सरकार सम्बन्धित पक्षों से भी, जिन में कर्मचारी के और नियोजकों के संगठन शामिल हैं, विचार विमर्श करती रही है ताकि औद्योगिक मन्त्र प्रणाली में सुधार लाने हेतु सम्मत उपाय तैयार किए जा सकें।

खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के कर्मचारियों से
ज्ञापन

5049 श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के कर्मचारियों से इस आशय का कोई ज्ञापन प्राप्त हुआ है कि उन परियोजना के अधिकारी अनुसूचित जाति के अभ्याथियों को भर्ती करने और उनकी पदोन्नति करने में हिचकिचाते हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री साहूनाबाज खाँ) : (क) और (ख). सरकार को हाल ही में महासचिव, अखिल भारतीय परिगणित आनीय परिषद, नई दिल्ली से एक अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है। खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना के कुछ कर्मचारियों की व्याथाओं के कतिपय मामलों का उसमें उल्लेख किया गया

है। मामले की जाँच की जा रही है और यह देखा गया है कि उपयुक्त अभ्याथियों की उपलब्धता के अध्याधीन, कम्पनी यह सुनिश्चन करने के लिए कि अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के लिए आरक्षित पद वास्तव में अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जनजाति के अभ्याथियों से ही भरे जाते हैं, ममस्त आनश्यक कदम उठा रही है।

खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना में हरिजनों के लिए
रक्षित पदों का भरा जाना

5050. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या वर्ष 1967-68, 1968-69 और 1969-70 में हिन्दुस्तान कोपर लिमिटेड, खेतड़ी तांबा परियोजना (राजस्थान) राजा कापर प्रोजेक्ट (बिहार) तथा अग्निगुण्डाला लेट कापर डिजिटल प्रोजेक्ट्स आंध्र प्रदेश में भारत सरकार ने हरिजनों तथा पिछड़ी जातियों के लिए श्रेणी एक, दो, तीन और चार के पदों में कितने पद आरक्षित किये ;

(ख) उन पदों में से कितने पदों पर हरिजनों तथा पिछड़ी जातियों के लोगों को नियुक्त किया गया , और

(ग) यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिये कि हरिजनों के लिए आरक्षित पदों पर हरिजनों को ही नियुक्त किया जाये, सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री साहूनाबाज खाँ) : (क) और (ख). हिन्दुस्तान तांबा लिमिटेड का गठन नवम्बर,

1967 में किया गया था। 1968, 1969, 1970 के दौरान अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जन जाति के अभ्यर्थियों के लिए आरक्षित श्रेणी I, II, III, और IV के पदों की संख्या तथा इन वर्षों के दौरान अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जन जाति के अभ्यर्थियों द्वारा वास्तव में भरे गए पदों की संख्या को दर्शाित करने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है [ग्रन्थालय में रखा गया देखिये संख्या LT-1932/72]

(ग) प्रत्येक विज्ञापन में केवल अनुसूचित जन जाति के अभ्यर्थियों के लिए पदों का आरक्षण के लिए विशेष उल्लेख किया जा रहा है। निम्नलिखित विभिन्न संगठनों जैसे कि—

1. रोजगार कार्यालय।
2. लोक उद्यम का ब्यूरो।
3. राष्ट्रीय नियोजन सेवा के निदेशक।
4. वरिष्ठ उप-निदेशक, नियोजन और शिक्षा, जयपुर।
5. आयुक्त अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति, नई दिल्ली।
6. निदेशक, अनुसूचित जाति कल्याण विभाग, जयपुर।

के साथ समय-समय पर विभिन्न पदों के लिए पाल, उपयुक्त अभ्यर्थियों की सूची भेजने के लिए सम्पर्क स्थापित किया जाता है। अनुसूचित जाति और अनुसूचित जन जाति के अभ्यर्थियों को अनुभव तथा आयु में छूट दी जाती है।

Automation in Public Sector Undertakings

5052. SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 7160 on the 5th August, 1971 regarding the Automation in Public Sector Undertakings and state :

- (a) whether Indian Oil Corporation is

using the Computer of the Fertiliser Corporation of India ;

(b) if so, whether it amounts to computerisation of jobs ;

(c) whether such jobs include those of routine clerical nature , and

(d) whether there is any agreement with the unions in Indian Oil Corporation for such job-computerisation ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) (a) to (d) The Indian Oil Corporation is using the Computer of the Fertilizer Corporation of India for the following types of jobs :

- (i) Non DGS&D-Sales According ,
- (ii) Customer Ledger ;
- (iii) Age-wise analysis of Customers' Outstandings ;
- (iv) General Ledger ;
- (v) Costing statements ;
- (vi) Capital Assets ;
- (vii) Pay Roll.

The Indian Oil Corporation has assured the recognised unions that automation would not result in retrenchment of staff nor their wages, allowances and other service conditions would be adversely affected.

Nationalisation of Mining and Internal Trade of Mica

5053. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to nationalise mining and internal trade of mica ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b).

Though there is no proposal at present to nationalise the mining and internal trade in mica, the intention of Government is to assist small mine-owners, exporters and processors of mica by asking the MMTC to enter the mica market and to directly export the mica so purchased.

Mission of an Ex-Minister of Britain to Visit India Bangla Desh and Pakistan

5055. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a mission led by a former Minister in the last Government of Britain is expected to visit India, Pakistan and Bangla Desh shortly ;

(b) if so the purpose of the visit of the mission ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objectives of the mission are reported to be the following :

- (i) to assure the short term security and long-term future of the non-Bengali population of Bangla Desh ;
- (ii) to secure the repatriation of the Bangalis from Pakistan ;
- (iii) to emphasise the need for a peaceful settlement between India and Pakistan to enable return of POWs and Pakistan's recognition of Bangladesh.

(c) The Government's policy in respect of these objectives is clear. The question of the non-Bangali population in Bangladesh and the Bengali population in Pakistan is one for settlement

by the two Governments concerned. The Government of India have repeatedly emphasised that it is necessary to have a stable and durable peace in the sub-continent and took the initiative in offering discussions without pre-conditions with Pakistan to achieve this. These discussions are now underway. The Government continue to believe that a durable and stable peace in the sub-continent can only be achieved by discussions between the parties concerned without outside interference. As for the question of prisoners of war who surrendered to the joint command of India and Bangladesh, both these Governments are necessary parties to any settlement of this issue.

Visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India

5056. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prime Minister of Nepal visited India recently ; and

(b) if so, the nature of talks held ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Prime Minister of Nepal held confidential talks with the Prime Minister and other Ministers of the Government of India on matters of mutual interest so as to further strengthen Indo-Nepal friendship. The talks were held in a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation.

दिल्ली की शरणार्थी बस्तियों में प्लाटों की नीलामी

5057. श्री अम्बेश : क्या अब और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनके मंत्रालय द्वारा हाल में दिल्ली की शरणार्थी बस्तियों में कुछ प्लाटों की नीलामी की गई थी ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उक्त व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या हैं तथा निम्नांश किये गये प्वांटो का क्षेत्र कितना है तथा उनसे सरकार को कितनी-कितनी घन-राशि प्राप्त हुई है ?

अन और पुनवसि मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाडिलकर) (क) और (ख) जी हा। एक विवरण जिसमें कालकाजी कालापी, दिल्ली में २२वरी, 1972 में नीलाम किए गए प्लाट उनका क्षेत्रफल और उच्चतम बोमिया दिखाई गई है, सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है। (घनालय में रखा गया दक्षिण संख्या LT 1934/172] बोलिया अभी तक स्वीकृत नहीं की गई है।

Communication From Benga Desh For Talks with India

5058 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Ba. gla Desh Government has asked Indian for high level talks before India goes for the first phase of negotiations with Pakistan,

(b) if so, the main features of the communication received from the Bangla Desh Government; and

(c) the action, if any, taken or being taken on the said communication ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) to (c) The Government of India and Bangladesh have been and continue to be in very close touch at different levels in regard to all matters of common interest including talks between India and Pakistan. As stated by both Government there is complete identity of view and approach between them on all aspects of these talks, which concern their respective countries

Expansion of Durgapur Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur

5059 SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the decision to expand the capacity of Durgapur Alloy Steels Plant, has been deferred and

(b) if so on what ground ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (HRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Payment of Wages to Workers of Singrauli Coal Mines

5060 SHRI RANABHADUR SINGH Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether workers of Singrauli coal mines are being paid daily wage at the rate of Rs 2 40 instead of Rs 6 80,

(b) whether the workers demanding fair wages are removed from their jobs and they are harassed in various ways, and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to save workers from exploitation and to ensure payment of fair wages to them ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) to (c) The information is being collected

Payment of Ground Rent by Allottees in West Pakistan Displaced Persons Colonies in Delhi

5061 SHRI B K DASCHOWDHURY Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) the total number of allottees of plots in the West Pakistan Displaced persons colonies in Delhi in 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71 who were required to pay ground rent at the rate of 3 per cent annually,

(b) how many of these allottees in 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71 actually paid ground rent 3 per cent. year-wise, and

(c) the reasons for the allottees who have not paid any ground rent?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) and (b). So far as this Depart-

ment is concerned the information is as follows :—

Year	No of allottees of plots who were required to pay ground rent at the rate of 3% Per Annum.	No of allottees who actually paid ground rent @ 3% Per Annum.
1968-69	1323	197
1969-70	1126	178
1970-71	948	119

(c) This is mostly due to the fact that the revised ground rent has not yet been finally determined in some cases and in some other colonies which were mostly allotted to Harijans, the allottees were allowed to pay the amount in easy instalments.

Development of Malangtoli Iron Ore Deposit, Orissa

5062 SHRI D K PANDA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme for the development of Malangtoli Iron Ore Deposit, Orissa; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). A Study Group has been constituted to consider the integrated development of iron ore deposits in Bihar-Orissa, including Malangtoli iron ore deposits.

हिन्दुस्तान कापेर लिमिटेड की राखा ताबा परियोजना में बिहार के स्थानीय लोगों की भर्ती

5063. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार स्थित हिन्दुस्तान कापेर

लिमिटेड की राखा ताबा परियोजना में बिहार के लोगों को नौकरियों में नहीं लिया जाता;

(ख) इस समय उक्त परियोजना में कितने लोग काम कर रहे हैं और उनमें कितने

कर्मचारी बिहार के हैं और कर्मचारियों की तुलना में उनका प्रतिशत अनुपात कितना है; और

(ग) क्या राखा ताबा परियोजना में भर्ती के मामले में बिहार के लोगों को उचित प्रतिनिधित्व देने पर सरकार विचार करेगी ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खान) : (क) यह सही नहीं है कि बिहारियों को हिन्दुस्तान तास्त्र लिमिटेड के राखा तास्त्र प्रायोजना में भरे गए पदा पर भर्ती नहीं किया गया है।

(ख) राखा तास्त्र प्रायोजना में कार्यरत व्यक्तियों की कुल संख्या 495 है जिनमें से 436 बिहारी हैं। कुल कर्मचारियों में बिहारियों की प्रतिशतता 88% है।

(ग) प्रश्न के भाग (ख) के उत्तर से यह स्पष्ट है कि राखा तास्त्र प्रायोजना में स्थानीय व्यक्तियों का पर्याप्त प्रतिनिधित्व है।

Article "Provident Fund or Fund for Officials" Published in the Weekly "the Coalfield Times"

5064. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state .

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to an article "Provident Fund or Fund for Officials" in the weekly "The Coalfield Times" published from Dhanbad, Bihar;

(b) whether one Life Insurance Corporation agent who insured ordinary coalmine workers, represented his case to the Labour Minister on the 14th August, 1971 with some Members of Parliament; and

(c) whether any assurance was given to him and if so, the steps being taken to implement the assurances given ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, alongwith one Member of Parliament.

(c) They were informed that the matter would be looked into. It is being investigated accordingly in consultation with the Coal Mines Provident Fund Commissioner.

Employers in Default for Deposit of E. P. F. in West Bengal

5065. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 4,000 employers in West Bengal are defaulters regarding deposit of Provident Fund money with the regional Provident Fund Commissioner;

(b) whether till 31st March, 1972 the arrears amounted to Rs. 27 crores in the country including Rs. 7.50 crores in exempted establishments; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND

REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under :—

(a) There were about 2200 defaulting establishments in the West Bengal region as on 31.12.1971.

(b) The figures as on 31st March, 1972 are not readily available. As on 31.12.71; the unexempted establishments were in the arrears of provident fund contributions to the extent of about Rs. 18.61 crores, of Administrative charges to the extent of Rs. 0.4 crore and of penal damages to the tune of Rs. 3.2 crores. The exempted establishments also failed to transfer provident fund contributions to their Boards of Trustees to the extent of about Rs. 6.8 crores.

(c) The following steps are generally taken against the defaulting un-exempted establishments :—

(i) Prosecution is launched under section 14 of the Employees' Provident Funds & Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.

(ii) Revenue recovery proceedings are initiated under section 8 of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952.

(iii) In suitable cases, complaints are filed with the Police/Courts under Section 406/409 of the Indian Penal Code.

(iv) Penal damage are levied under Section 14B of the Employees' Provident Funds and Family Pension Act, 1952.

(v) In some cases, the establishments are afforded a chance to pay the dues in suitable instalments subject to production of adequate guarantee, surety etc.

(vi) In the case of Textile Mills which have gone into liquidation, reconstruction Scheme are examined on merits.

Following steps are generally taken against the defaulting exempted establishment;—

- (a) Exemption granted under Section 17 (1) of the Act is cancelled for failure to comply with the conditions of exemption.
- (b) Prosecution is launched under Section 14 (2A) of the Act for contravening or making defaults in complying with any of the provisions of the Act or any conditions of exemption granted under section 17 of the Act

(a) whether engagement of contractors in mica mines is prohibited by the Indian Mining Act and Bihar Mica Act; if so, the specific provisions of both the Acts with the extracts thereof,

(b) the reasons why there is large scale engagement of contractors and written agreements made between the mine-owners and the contractors and whether such contracts would not be void automatically as the same had been entered against the provisions of law, and

(c) whether the Directors of Mines posted at Jhumri-tilaiya and Director General of Mines and Safety have investigated the same ?

खेतड़ी ताबा परियोजना में मजदूर सच

5066. श्री शिवनाथ सिंह : क्या अम और पुनर्वास मंत्र यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) खेतड़ी ताबा परियोजना में मजदूर तथा अन्य कर्मचारियों की कुल संख्या कितनी है,

(ख) क्या वहां कोई मान्यता प्राप्त सच कार्य कर रहा है, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो उसके चुनाव आयोगी बार कब हुए, और उसकी सदस्य संख्या क्या है ?

अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० खाड़िलकर) : (क) 4663 ।

(ख) जी हाँ । राष्ट्रीय खेतड़ी ताबा प्रोजेक्ट मजदूर सच, खेतड़ी ।

(ग) चुनाव फरवरी, 1970 में हुए थे । 1-1-71 को सच के सदस्यों की संख्या बताई गई है, 2025 थी ।

Engagement of Contractors in Mica Mines in Bihar

5067. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) There is no provision either in the Mines Act, 1952 or in the Bihar Mica Act or in the rules and regulations made thereunder which prohibits the engagement of contractors in mica mines.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

12 02 hrs.

Re: POLICE FIRING AT AMBARNATH

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : I had given notice of a privilege motion under rule 222 and 223.

MR SPEAKER : You can get up only when I call you, not today, I have sent it to the Minister for comments.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Your Lobby Assistant informed me that it had been disallowed, that shook me.

MR SPEAKER : He made further clarifications. I have asked... (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Do not shut out the opposition. It is a serious matter. Last year in the month of August Mr. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed made a statement on Central land reform committee's recommendations and this year the agricultural ministry in its annual report says something quite different. It is a clear case of mis-

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

leading the House. You should allow this to be raised.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore) : Is the matter under your consideration ?

MR. SPEAKER : Yes; it is under my consideration.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Let us have a discussion. Every time confusion is being confounded by statements made by various Ministers on land reforms.....
(*Interruptions.*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : As it is the Lok Sabha is going out of existence; You do not care. Do not hit a dead horse; it is already half dead. The rule clearly says that the Speaker, if he gives consent under rule 222 and holds that the matter proposed to be discussed is in order, the right to raise the question shall be governed by the following conditions, namely, not more than one shall be put on the same day.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not given my consent; the very first thing is not there.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You should have. You are the creature of the rules. Your very Chair has come out of these rules. You cannot supersede the rules. The matter requires the intervention of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : Your interpretation may not wipe out my knowledge at all.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You must display a bit more of your knowledge.

MR. SPEAKER : I am not going to be let by your knowledge.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Kindly display it for our education sometimes.

MR. SPEAKER : You need it. Papers to be laid.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a

statement...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I find that the Maharashtra Government, from where Mr. Khadilkar comes, have fired and killed nine workers in Ambarnath at night with the help of a torch...(*Interruptions*) What is the Labour Minister doing ? Why should he be here ? He should resign...(*Interruptions*) Seven workers have been murdered. What is this ? We are not here to watch a circus. We want to know this. The police entered the factory at night with torches and the workers were spotted and they were shot dead. I want to ask the Minister what he has done so far...(*Interruptions*),

MR. SPEAKER : You are speaking without my permission. This is not the occasion. Papers to be laid.

12.05 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

STATEMENT IN ACTION TAKEN ON CONVENTION AND RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT FIFTY-FIFTH (MARITIME) SESSION OF I. L. O.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a statement (Hindi and English versions) on the action taken or proposed to be taken on the Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the Fifth-fifty (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference held at Geneva in October, 1970. [*Place in Library* See No. LT-1929/72]

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVT. ON ASSURANCES ETC. GIVEN BY MINISTERS DURING LOK SABHA SESSIONS

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : I beg to lay on the Table the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during the various sessions of Lok Sabha:—

Fourth Lok Sabha

(i) Statement No. XXXVIII	Fourth Session, 1968.
(ii) Statement No. XXXI	Seventh Session, 1969.
(iii) Statement No. XX	Eighth Session, 1969.
(iv) Statement No. XIX	Ninth Session, 1969.
(v) Statement No. XXI	Tenth Session, 1970.
(vi) Statement No. XII	Eleventh Session, 1970.
(vii) Statement No. XI	Twelfth Session, 1970.

Fifth Lok Sabha

(viii) Statement No. VII	First Session, 1971.
(ix) Statement No. XII	Second Session, 1971.
(x) Statement No. IV	Third Session, 1971.
(xi) Statement No. I	Fourth Session, 1972.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT—1930/72.]

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Arising out of the assurance may I say, Sir, about the Ambarnath firing, you asked the minister to make a statement. Would you remind the minister about it?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): The firing took place on the 25th night. You put yourself in their position, Sir. A man came all the way from Ludhiana to work in Bombay and he was killed. This minister does not do his job. That is the whole trouble. We want to know when he is going to make a statement. He promised one week earlier that he will make it.

MR. SPEAKER: When papers are being laid on the Table, that is not the proper opportunity to raise it. The members can ask it on some other occasion, when these items are over and I can pass it on to the minister.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I raised it on item 3 on assurances.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): In one case, in respect of the strike in Sealdah, you said that the minister's statement was not complete. You told us, "If anything is there, you kindly write to me and I will see that the minister makes a statement." That has been written but no statement has yet come from the minister. In the case of this firing at Ambarnath, you told us that you would convey the feelings of the House to the minister, but he has not made any statement.

MR. SPEAKER: You should raise it only at the proper time according to the agenda.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What is the value attached to this House? **MR. Hanumanthaiya.** . .

Mr. SPEAKER : I am not going to allow anything to go on record if you persist like this and speak without my permission. (*Interruptions*, Shri Shankaranand.)

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND : I have already laid it on the Table.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (*Contai*) : *Arising out of the assurances*, I want to say the Minister has not made any statement about the firing at Ambernath.

MR. SPEAKER : To which assurance are you referring to ? There may be hundreds of assurance. I am not going to allow it.

SHRI R. V. BADE (*Khaigone*) : The House is anxious to have a statement from the minister.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It arose out of the violation of the Payment of Wages Act, which is a Central Act. Many days have passed and it will be just a *post mortem* now. Will you remind him to make a statement ?

MR. SPEAKER : I will be asking him to do it.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (*मुरेला*) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, वक्तव्य देने के बारे में मंत्री महोदय क्या कहना चाहते हैं ? वह वक्तव्य देने के लिए तैयार हैं ।

MR. SPEAKER : Will the Minister please come with a statement at a later stage ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : So far as I can recollect, I have never given any assurance. The matter was raised. This is a law and order problem within the purview of the State Government.

MR. SPEAKER : You could have said it then and the matter could have been finished. The other day when it was directed to you, you could have come with any statement you liked.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Perhaps I thought it was directed towards the Home

Minister.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I know Mr. Khadilkar's position will become very embarrassing so far as the State Government is concerned. They were killed because they demanded payment of wages. And, Payment of Wages Act is a Central Act. That is why the Central Minister should make a statement.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Is he going to make a statement ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As I said, the implementation of the Payment of Wages Act rests with the States.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I know that. (*Interruptions*).

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : माननीय मंत्री जी जानबूझ कर बचना चाहते हैं ।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Is he making a statement ?

MR. SPEAKER : The other day when this matter was raised, I informed Shri Banerjee that it is within the jurisdiction of the State. Then he raised the question of wages and somehow tried to link it up with the Central authority. So, I leave it to the Minister to say whatever he likes. If necessary, he can come prepared tomorrow. Hon. Members have to bear in mind that there is no President's rule in any States now. We were doing it in the past when there was President's rule in some States.

SHRI PILOO MODY (*Godhra*) : Nothing is left to the States these days.

12.11 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

- (1) IRREGULARITIES IN PURCHASE OF
U. P. WHEAT FROM FARMERS IN
DELHI AND HARYANA

श्री रामचन्द्र बिकल (*बागपत*) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके द्वारा कृषि मंत्री जी का ध्यान केन्द्रीय सरकार की किसानों के गेहूँ की खरीद के सम्बन्ध में जो नीति नीति है, उसकी तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ । अध्यक्ष महोदय,

सरकार ने यह घोषणा की थी कि हम 76 रुपये क्विंटल पर किसानों से गेहूँ खरीदेंगे, लेकिन मुझे पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश, दिल्ली और हरियाणा के बारे में निजी जानकारी है, आज 4 मई तक अनेकों केन्द्रों में, जो केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा निश्चित किये गये हैं, कोई मरकागी कर्मचारी गेहूँ खरीदन के लिए नहीं पहुँचे और जिन केन्द्रों में कुछ कर्मचारी पहुँचे, वे भी किसानों के गिरे अनेकों कठिनाई और परेशानी पैदा किये हुये हैं। मैंने स्वयं मोके पर जा कर देखा है, पहले गेहूँ आठनी के पास जायेगा, उसके बाद आठनी का माल ज्यादा खरीदने है, किसानों का ज्यादा नहीं खरीदते हैं। जहाँ थोड़ी बहुत खरीद है, वहाँ भी लाइन में लगने के सम्बन्ध में, चूँ देने के सम्बन्ध में कई कई दिन तक चूँ के न भुनने के सम्बन्ध में अनेकों शिकायतें आ रही हैं। तोल के सम्बन्ध में भी शिकायत है कि मी तोन नहीं की जा रही है, इस तरह में किसानों के अन्दर बहुत ज्यादा असन्तोष फैल रहा है।

मैं कृषि मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उनकी जो घोषित नीति है, उस पर अमल कराये। अब तक उसके ऊपर बिल्कुल अमल नहीं हो रहा है। नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि किसान को अपना मारा गल्ला, विशेष कर जो छोटे किसान हैं जो गल्ले को जमा कर के नहीं रख सकते, आड़तियों के यहाँ ले जाना पड़ता है, क्योंकि केन्द्रों में अभी तक मरकागी कर्मचारी नहीं पहुँचे हैं।

इस बार इस काम के लिए तीन एजेंसियों की घोषणा की गई थी—खाद्य निगम खरीदेगा, कोआपरेटिव विभाग खरीदेगा और स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स खरीदेगी, इन तीन एजेंसियों के बावजूद भी अभी तक उनके खरीददार केन्द्रों में नहीं पहुँचे हैं और जहाँ पहुँचे हैं वहाँ भी से शिकायतें आ रही हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि कृषि मंत्री तुरन्त अपनी घोषित नीति पर अमल करें और किसानों से जो बायदा किया है गल्ला खरीदने का, उसको बहूँ दूर करें।

MR SPEAKER - I allowed these three hon Members because their motion is pending with me. The calling Attention scheduled for today had to be postponed because the Minister was not there. So, I am allowing them one or two minutes each to express their viewpoint.

(II) CEILING ON AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS

श्री नाथूराम मिर्चा (नागौर) अध्यक्ष महोदय, जमीन की मीलिंग के सवाल को लेकर जिस प्रकार का वाद-विवाद आज अब्बारो में और देश में सब जगहों पर उठ खड़ा हुआ है उसके बारे में सरकार की जो नीति है

श्री बी० पी० मोय्य (हाउड) : वह खाद्य मंत्रालय को गुमराह करने वाला नहीं है, उन्होंने अपना स्टेटमेंट दिया है।

श्री नाथूराम मिर्चा. आपकी राय में है। खाद्य मंत्रालय की कुछ जिम्मेदारी है।

श्री बी० पी० मोय्य कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं है।

श्री नाथूराम मिर्चा : जिम्मेदारी है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रकार का वाद-विवाद बहुत दिनों तक चलने देना अच्छा नहीं है। इस मामले में परस एक दफा गहराई से सोचना चाहिए—क्या हमारी नीति है, क्या हम चाहते हैं, क्या हमारा समाजवाद है, क्या एक परिवार की आमदनी की तस्वीर देश में होनी चाहिए—ये सारे अहम सवाल हैं और कई दूसरे मामलों के साथ जुड़े हुए हैं। इस लिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि कोई ऐसा समय निकाला जाय, जिसके जरिये इस सदन में बैठने वाले हम सब लोग अपने विचारों का आदान-प्रदान अच्छी तरह से कर सकें इस सारे मामले पर गहराई से सोच सकें। हम इस देश में लोकतन्त्र चाहते हैं, लोकतन्त्र के जरिये इस देश में जो गरीबी व्याप्त है, उसको बाहर निकालना चाहते हैं देश के धन को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं और उस का सही वितरण करना चाहते हैं, उसके लिए तमाम

[श्री नाथूराम बिर्वा]

सिद्धान्तों, नीतियों और देश के हालात को सामने रखकर चलना होगा। आज प्रगतिशीलता की कुछ होड़-सी लगी हुई है, बहुत से लोग समझते हैं कि 10 एकड़ की सीलिंग होनी चाहिए, दूसरे कहते हैं कि पांच एकड़ की होनी चाहिए, तीसरे कहते हैं कि दो एकड़ की होनी चाहिए। क्या सीलिंग हो और क्या न हो, इस देश में परिवार की क्या तस्वीर हो, इस सदन में वे सारे विचार सामने आ जायें, क्योंकि कुछ लोग इण्डियन अल प्रोपर्टी और लोकतन्त्र में विद्वान् करते हैं और उनकी होड़ कुछ दूसरे लोगों से लगी हुई है। इस देश में समाजवाद का क्या नकशा बनाना चाहते हैं, यह बड़ा अहम सवाल है और इसके बारे में गहराई से सदन में विचार होना चाहिए।

मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप सरकार के सामने इस बात को रखें और समय तय किया जाये ताकि हम बैठकर जिम्मेदारी से उस पर विचार कर सकें, ताकि लोगों के अन्दर जो कन्फ्यूजन पैदा हो रहा है, वह दूर हो सके। आज 75 फीसदी लोग जमीन के सवाल से जुड़े हुए हैं, उनके अन्दर अनिश्चितता पैदा हो रही है, सारे देश के अन्दर एक हलचल सी मची हुई है, इसलिए इस पर गहराई से सोचने का मौका प्रदान करें।

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, while endorsing the sentiments expressed by my friends, I may say that the introduction of land reforms and ceilings have to be done in pursuance of the promise given to the people by the party in power. So, land reforms and ceilings should not brook any delay. The State Governments are also engaged in this matter. But, unfortunately, instead of giving a clear and correct perspective of the socio-economic changes that are being brought about by land ceilings, a controversial twist is being given to the recommendations of the Central Land Reforms Committee and the statement made by the Minister for Agriculture on the floor of the House.

SHRI B. P. MAURYA : That state-

ment is most confusing.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : The centre agricultural community and also a vast section of our population who depend on agricultural operations in this country are very much perturbed and they are not sure of what is going to happen in the light of this unnecessary and unevenly controversy that is being carried on. So it is necessary that this supreme body, the sovereign representative of the people of this country...

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : That is No. 1, Saldarjung Road.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : ...should have a correct perspective of this matter and have a full dressed debate so that the land reforms are implemented effectively for the benefit of the vast mass of people who depend on agriculture.

श्री के० एन० तिवारी (बेतिया) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सीलिंग के सवाल को लेकर जो हमारे खेतिहर लोग हैं, उन सब में एक तरह की चिन्ता, एक तरह की अपहीवल पैदा हो गई है। हम सीलिंग चाहते हैं लेकिन सीलिंग किम तरह से हो, यह सब मुल्क के सामने आना चाहिए और एक मतवा तस्वीर साफ हो जानी चाहिए। इसलिए मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूँ कि आप कोई समय निश्चित कर दीजिए, कम से कम एक दिन का समय हो, जिससे इन पर फुल डिबेट हो जाय और हर प्वाइन्ट आफ व्यू हाऊस के सामने आ जाय।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : I want to draw attention to the statement made by the Minister...

MR. SPEAKER : Only those hon. Members who have given notice and their names are entitled to speak.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Sir, on a point of order. When the Minister made a statement on land ceilings and we demanded that there should be a full-dressed debate, you observed that if that is the desire of the House it can be taken into consideration. On the basis of that, many hon. Members have sent their notices.

MR. SPEAKER This is only a submission ; not a point of order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : So, how can you allow only a few chosen members ; I would rather say a few members, and not 'chosen' members ?

MR. SPEAKER You are also chosen sometimes. As you are chosen They have given notice of it. There was no Calling Attention notice today and they gave notice of it this morning and I allowed them.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru) Sir, I would request you to give us an opportunity discuss all the statements that have been laid on the Table of the House regarding land reforms. Not only the policy of land reforms but every income of an individual or an institution should be discussed. That is my contention. Only last week, the hon. Minister made a statement. As Shri Samar Guha also said, that statement may also be discussed. Though it is a State subject, the directions are being given by the Government of India also. They have appointed the Central Land Reforms Committee. They have not yet given any report. So, I would request you to give us full opportunity, may be one or two days, if possible, to discuss it.

श्री सुल्की राज सैनी (देहरादून) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह एक ऐसा सवाल है जिसमें हम देश में जनतांत्रिक तरीके से शांतिमय क्रांति लाना चाहते हैं और एक नयी व्यवस्था स्थापित करना चाहते हैं। इसमें छोटे किसानों का भी सवाल है और बड़े किसानों का भी सवाल है इसलिये इस पर पूरी बहस होनी चाहिए।

MR. SPEAKER . If the Business Advisory Committee decides to allot some time for it, I have no objection.

12.22 hrs.

DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS, 1972-73—Contd.

MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES—Contd

MR. SPEAKER : We will now take up

*Moved with the recommendation of the President

further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Steel and Mines. Shri Damodar Pandey was on his legs. He may continue now.

श्री दामोदर पांडे (हजारीबाग) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल मैं जैसा कह रहा था कि भविष्य के लिये इस सम्बन्ध में हमारी पालिसी स्पष्ट होनी चाहिए और उस दिशा में ठोस कदम उठाने चाहिए। राष्ट्र की प्रगति के लिये जरूरी है कि उद्योग प्रगति करे और उद्योग का चक्का सारे देश में चले। उस चक्के को चलाने के लिये शक्ति की आवश्यकता होनी है। वह शक्ति कोयले और दूसरी वस्तुओं से मिलती है जो कि चक्के को चलाती है। कोयले का सब्स्टीट्यूट निकालने का जो अभी तक प्रयास किया गया वह बहुत सफल नहीं हुआ और नये तरीके से फिर हम कोयले के ऊपर आये हैं। देश में इसकी मात्रा बढ़ी है और इसकी आवश्यकता भी बढ़ी है। उस सन्दर्भ में मैं कह रहा था कि अपने देश में कोयले के जो भण्डार हैं उनके विकास के लिये नये सिरे से सबसे पहले यह जरूरी है कि खान की मिल्कियत समाप्त हो और पूरे कोल के भण्डार का राष्ट्रीयकरण एक साथ किया जाये और नये सिरे से सोच कि किस तरह से विकास करना है।

हमारे देश में कोकिंग कोल की कमी है लेकिन नान-कोकिंग कोल के जो अक्षय भण्डार अपने यहाँ हैं उस भण्डार में हम काफी आगे की दिशा में सोचकर उपाय कर सकते हैं। अभी कोयले के उत्पादन की समस्या नहीं है। यदि कोयले के उत्पादन की समस्या होती तो उसे दूसरे ढंग से सोचा जा सकता था। कोयले के उत्पादन के साथ साथ कोयले का ट्रान्सपोर्टेशन, कोयले को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जान की व्यवस्था करना बहुत जरूरी चीज है। अभी कोयले के उद्योग के विकास की दिशा में जब हम बात करते हैं तो यह ज्यादा जरूरी हो जाता है कि उसे कम से कम दूरी तय करनी पड़े ऐसी

[श्री दामोदर पांडे]

व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। जल्द यह है कि जहाँ जहाँ बहुत नान-कोकिंग कोल के भण्डार हैं वहाँ लो टेम्प्रेचर कार्बोनाइजेशन प्लांट स्थापित किये जायें। उससे हम उद्योग के लिये भी गैस बढ़ा सकते हैं और शत्रुओं में जलाने के लिये भी गैस दे सकते हैं। उद्योग की स्थापना इस ढंग से की जाये कि कम से कम दूरी तय करके कोयला वहाँ आमानी से पहुँच सके। इसमें रेल मंत्रालय का भी बहुत बड़ा हाथ है, वे भी इस सम्बन्ध में बहुत बड़ा पार्ट अदा कर सकते हैं। तो इस दिशा में कदम उठाया जायेगा, ऐसा मेरा विश्वास है।

कोयला उद्योग में माइनाइजेशन, रिस्ट्रक्चर की बात जो कल मैंने कही थी उसका मतलब यह नहीं है, मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि उसके विकास के लिए मशीन न लगाई जाये। मशीन भी आवश्यक है क्योंकि हर स्तर पर सिर्फ आदमी ही काम नहीं कर सकता है। मशीनों की भी आवश्यकता पड़ती है। लेकिन केवल वही मशीनें लगाई जाये जिनका कि उपयोग हो सके। जिन मशीनों का उपयोग नहीं हो सकता और जिनमें पड़े पड़े जंग लग जाता है उनका आयात करने से देश को कोई फायदा नहीं होता है। तो मेरा ख्याल है भविष्य के लिए जो रिस्ट्रक्चर की बात करते हैं कोल माइन्स की उसमें इसी चीज को ध्यान में रखा जाये कि कम से कम मशीनों का उपयोग किया जाये। लेबर इन्टेन्सिव जिसको कहते हैं उस ढंग से मोचा जाए। वैसे तो यह उद्योग लेबर इन्टेन्सिव है लेकिन उस दिशा में थोड़ा दूसरे ढंग से काम हुआ है और आज मजदूरों की संख्या कम होनी जा रही है। जहाँ पहले चार लाख 8 हजार मजदूर काम करते थे आज मुश्किल से तीन लाख 80 हजार मजदूर काम करते हैं लेकिन प्रोडक्शन में बहुत बड़ी तब्दीली नहीं हुई है। तो इस तरह से जो बेरोजगारी की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है उसके लिए मेरा ख्याल है मशीनों पर थोड़ा प्रतिबन्ध लगा करके, मजदूरों को अधिक से अधिक रोजगार मिले, बेकार लोगों

को रोजगार मिले इसकी व्यवस्था करने की दिशा में भी, जो लोग रिस्ट्रक्चर की बात करते हैं, सोचना चाहिए।

विकास की दिशा में प्रगति करने के लिये वैसे तो सभी क्षेत्रों में जहाँ जहाँ नान-कोकिंग कोल का भण्डार है वहाँ उद्योग-धंधे स्थापित करने चाहिए और बड़े बड़े जो पावर जनरेटिंग यूनिट्स हैं अक्सर ध्यान रखा गया है कि उन्हें नजदीक में खोला जाये लेकिन अभी भी बहुत कुछ किया जा सकता है क्योंकि पावर जनरेशन के लिये हमें कोयले की आवश्यकता है और उसकी देश में कमी नहीं है। तो वैसे क्षेत्रों में जहाँ ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की सुविधा हो, जहाँ कम से कम दूरी तय करके पावर-जनरेटिंग यूनिट की स्थापना की जा सकती है उनकी स्थापना की जानी चाहिए। मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि एन० सी० डी० सी० ने एक अच्छा खाना प्लान बनाकर रखा है। उस पर कुछ पैसा भी खर्च किया है, रामगढ़ काम्प्लेक्स के नाम पर, उनमें लो टेम्प्रेचर कार्बोनाइजेशन प्लांट है, फटिलाइजर प्लांट है और उसके बगल में बिग्नार गवर्नमेंट एक सुपर पावर हाउस खोलने का भी विचार रखती है जिनमें काफी कोयले की खपत होगी तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि उस पर अविलम्ब ध्यान दिया जाये जिससे 15-20 हजार लोगों को तुरन्त काम मिल सके।

इसके अतिरिक्त वैसे क्षेत्रों में जहाँ आवागमन की सुविधा और कोयला उत्पादन के लिए ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं हो सकती है, मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि उस ओर अविलम्ब ध्यान दें। हजारीबाग क्षेत्र में इसका बड़ा भारी भण्डार है लेकिन बहुत बड़े इलाके ऐसे भी हैं जहाँ रेल लाइन नहीं गई है तो कोल के खदान तो खोल दिये जायें और रेलवे लाइन न हो यह ताज्जुब की बात है। ऐसी स्थिति में कोयले का दुष्पयोग होता है। जो अच्छा कोयला है उसको इटा

बनाने के काम में भेज दिया जाता है और द्रव्य से डोमेस्टिक वजश के लिये भेज दिया जाता है और औद्योगिक उत्पादन के लिये जो उसकी जरूरत होती है उसके मुताबिक वहाँ पर कोयला पहुँच नहीं पाता है।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह मंत्रालय रेल मंत्रालय के साथ बैठ कर इस पर विचार करे कि इतना बड़ा जो भंडार है केडला हजारीबाग कोयला क्षेत्र का और दूसरे इलाक़ के जा कि यह एक्वायर करने जा रहे हैं, लेने जा रहा है, उन में रेल लाइंस की व्यवस्था की जाय, माइडिंग बनाई जाय जिससे कि उस कोयले का सही उपयोग हो सके और उसे जल्दी स्थान पर पहुँचाया जा सके।

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wandiwash)
Sir the production and consumption of steel is accepted as an indicator of the economic prosperity of a country. We produce about 6 million tonnes ingots of steel. Out of this finished steel is only about 4½ million tonnes. When compared to the total production of the world, I think we produce only 1% of the total production.

Regarding consumption, the per capita consumption, in other countries is USA—685 kg, USSR 428 kg, Sweden—628 kg, West Germany 579 kg, Japan 494 kg, whereas in our country, the per capita consumption is only 11 kg. This shows the position in which India stands as far as steel is concerned.

Since there is a continuous shortage of steel in our country, we are constrained to import steel from abroad to the tune of Rs. 200 crores per annum. How are you going to increase the production of steel and thereby the consumption is a question a big question posed before the Ministry.

The Hindustan Steel Ltd is the main producer of steel in our country in the public sector where we have invested more than Rs 1050 crores. The three steel plants of Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela are under HSL and unfortunately, we have been incurring losses from year to year and I think till March 1971, the total losses are Rs 178

crores. Of course, the report says that there are many reasons. Particularly, last year there was break down of the coke-oven batteries in Bhilai; the collapse of the roof in Rourkela and the very disturbed industrial relations in Durgapur which is as usual going on.

But, when seeing the total figure, how are we faring in the last 23 years? It is disturbing to note that from year to year our total production is going down. The production in the three steel plants put together in 19 9-70 was 3.7 million tonnes, in 1970-71 it was 3.6 million tonnes and in 1971-72 it came down to 3.4 million tonnes. The production is not only very much lower than the rated capacity but it is still lower than the attainable capacity.

This problem of coke-oven batteries is not new. I know in the last report it is mentioned that even two years ago when the Committee on Public Undertakings visited—you were the Chairman at that time—we were told that the same problem existed even at that time. I think hence this problem should have been tackled for the last 23 years at least and it is a lapse on the part of HSL that has led to the losses ultimately. It is not only this trouble of coke-oven batteries but there is also the shortage of ingots for the steel melting shops. I thought that the Minister has to take immediate steps to maintain and replace the batteries. Something is wrong with our maintenance organisation. Otherwise, this will not have been repeated. The unfortunate calamity that occurred in Rourkela should not be repeated and I think the Minister is taking steps. A regular and continuous preventive maintenance is an immediate necessity and I think HSL must be held responsible for this. In case of breakdowns we do not know on how many people the responsibility has been fixed. So far the question has been hanging fire even in Rourkela. The responsibility has not been fixed. If it is fixed on a particular person or groups of persons then they will be more responsible in future and this responsibility will be there on the part of workers, employers, on the part of officers etc.

Regarding cost of production and prices the PU Committee had gone into this in detail. They have said cost of production

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is going up from year to year. Now, where do we stand? The main reasons are two. First is the increasing cost of the raw materials, productive materials and operating costs. The Committee has given a number of suggestions to reduce the productive materials cost. The Minister has to act swiftly and firmly in regard to the operation cost. Because, unless we effectively bring down operating cost, we will not be able to control the prices of steel. It is often argued by Minister or by the Hindustan Steel people that compared to world price, our price of steel is low. The Committee has examined the same thing. It has disagreed with Government's view or of the HSL. It has also suggested that because the Hindustan Steel has the best equipments and most modern, sophisticated machinery, we should be able to get more production at a lower cost. Steel produced from HSL is basic material for many of the manufacturing industries. When Steel price goes up, cost of manufacturing goods goes up in the market also. The Committee therefore suggested this :

"The Committee therefore emphasise the need to reduce the cost of production instead of having a vicious race between the cost of production and the selling price."

Regarding overstaffing, this is almost a regular feature in most of our public sector undertakings. The Committee on Public Undertakings found that the actual staff strength in the Works Department of Rourkela and Bhilai steel plants was about double the number provided in the project report of the expansion of the steel plant. But unfortunately the Industrial Engineering Department of HSL says that there is no over-staffing. But ultimately the question was examined by the Bureau of Public Enterprises and later on by the Administrative staff college at Hyderabad and they were of the opinion that there was definitely over-staffing in HSL. I don't say that overstaffed officers should be retrenched and sent home. At least in future we should see that over-staffing is avoided. Present surplus staff may be absorbed in future expansion of steel plants. They should get the expert opinion in this respect. Until and unless

they get the expert opinion, no appointments should be made.

Sir, industrial relation is the most important factor not only in production but also in determining the cost of production. All of us, employ, employee, members of the public Parliament, everybody is responsible, since we believe in public sector undertakings. We must put our heads together to see that cordial industrial relations exist. Not only that. The management of public undertakings must feel that they are the model employer in the country and they should be generous towards the demands of labour. The Unions and workers should feel that it is not a private sector. Ultimately it is the functioning of the public sector undertakings that is going to be the indicator of the future development of the country. They should believe that it is for the advantage and benefit of the public. Otherwise people will think that it is only a lip-service.

I think that all the parties should be held responsible for this and we must see that all these public sector undertakings flourish well as compared with the private sector.

Regarding the expansion programme of the plants, normally when we expand a plant, we expect that we should get some advantage not only in production but also in prices. I very much doubt whether our expansion programme is going to give us these advantages.

The biggest plant that we are having in the public sector is the Bokaro Steel Ltd. The original estimate for the first stage, apart from the off-site facilities which were given, was Rs. 620 crores. Later on, we had a revised estimate which has made the total shoot up to Rs. 90 crores more. We are told that this revised estimate has been sent to the Government and it is pending with them for more than two years waiting for the approval of Government. I want to know from the hon. Minister why Government should take two years to approve the revised estimate sent by their own undertaking. Again, Parliament has been kept in the dark about the revised estimate, because about Rs. 90 crores of public money is going to be spent in excess. I think that Parliament should be informed of the revised estimate.

We should have learnt from our past experience, at least from the HSL where we have committed very costly mistakes, and these things should not be repeated at Bakaro. There has been delay in construction, and organisational failures have also been there. The construction has been delayed for more than two years, and we should see that at least now the works are completed in time.

Regarding the contract with the USSR, the Committee has been very critical and has said :

"The result was that while on the one hand the supplies were deficient to the extent of 10,000 tonnes for the first blast furnace complex, a large number of items of rolling mills required much later have already been supplied."

I think the hon. Minister must take into consideration the criticism of the Public Undertakings Committee and see that this kind of thing is avoided in the future.

Now, I come to the mini-steel plants. The question came up today also. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government stand by the Industrial Policy Resolution or not. The hon. Minister should come forward with a clear statement on this matter. Para 7 of the Industrial Policy Resolution states :

"In the first category will be the industries, the future development of which will be the exclusive responsibility of the State."

Again, in para 8 we have :

"All new units in these industries..."

that is, Schedule A industries, where iron and steel finds a place—

"...save where their establishment in the private sector has already been approved, will be set up only by the State."

The hon. Minister has been avoiding to state how many licences have been issued to the private sector as compared to the public sector. We had an interesting debate in the Rajya Sabha also, where Shri Shah-

nawaz Khan had given one figure and the hon. Minister Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam gave a different figure and there was discrepancy...

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : The hon. Member is not correct. No different figures were given. The figures were different in relation to different questions.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : I hope he will give the complete answer in the course of his reply to the debate.

The point that I wanted to make was this. While we believe in the socialist objectives and we say that we must own the commanding heights and especially in steel and mines which is a very important public sector undertaking, why should we give licences to the private sector, and why should we not give it to the State public sector undertakings? There are many backward States and backward regions. Why should the Government of India not insist, even if those States do not come forward, that they should run those units? I want to know from Government how many such licences have been given to the private sector. I do not want to say that they must have taken money from them for the elections. Even if that be so, I want to know how many licences have been issued to them.

Regarding the three new steel plants which are going to come up, I know that Government are taking keen interest. But I want to point out that the techno-economic feasibility report had been submitted long back; I think it was submitted in November or so, as far as Salem is concerned, and enough land has been acquired. I want Government to expedite the matter and take a decision as far as investment is concerned, and as far as the commissioning of the DPR of the Salem plant is concerned.

I now come to another very important matter regarding my State, and that is the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. Not only does it produce lignite but it produces about 40 per cent of the total power supplied to our State. Even a paper like *The Hindu* which is known for its moderate views has

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commented as follows :

"The thermal power station has proved to be a case of inefficient panning and mismanagement"

And this year, the power production has gone down, mainly because of lack of lignite availability. We have been pressing Government for a second mine-cut for a long time

Government are sleeping over the matter. They themselves say that the machinery is old and outdated. I want to know from the Minister when they are going to get new machinery and when the second mine cut is going to be ordered. They say that the machinery may come by the end of the year. I would urge upon the Minister to give immediate financial help to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation so that power generation in the plant could be maximised which will alleviate the power shortage in the State of Tamil Nadu.

श्री प्रबोध चन्द्र (मुद्रगलपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, स्टील प्लांट्स पर मुक्त की तरक्की की निम्नानी और तरक्की का एक इस्लाम होता है। उसके बारे में कहने के लिए अब कोई आदमी खड़ा होता है.....

श्री हुसैनखान कछबाय (मुरेना) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन में गणपति नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : गणपति के लिए घंटी बजाई जा रही है।.....प्रश्न कोरम हो गया। माननीय सदस्य अपना भाषण जारी रखें।

एक माननीय सदस्य : अब तो लंच अवर है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी लंच अवर नहीं शुरू हुआ। यह ठीक नहीं है कि लंच के पहले भी हाउस में कोरम न हो। यह बहुत गलत बात है। अगर इसके बाद कोरम न हुआ तो मैं हाउस ऐडजर्न कर दूंगा। मालूम होता है कि मेम्बरों का हाउस में दिल ही नहीं लगता है।

श्री प्रबोध चन्द्र : हमारी स्टील मिनिसट्री के जो मिनिस्टर हैं वह बेहतरीन मिनिस्टरों में से माने जाते हैं। उनकी काबिलियत और अहलियत, उनकी मेहनत पर किसी को कोई शक नहीं है, मगर जो हमारे देश की स्टील मिल है वह हमारे देश की नाअहलियत की बोलनी हुई तस्वीर है। हमारे मुक्त की जो भी स्टील मिलें हैं अगर उनका मुकाबला आप दूसरे मुक्त की स्टील मिलों से करें.....मैं जापान और जर्मनी जैसे बड़े बड़े मुक्तों का जिक्र यहां पर नहीं करता, जो हमारे साथ के, हमारे पाये के मुक्त हैं उनके साथ भी अगर मुकाबला किया जाये तो हमारे मुक्त की स्टील की कीमत सबसे ज्यादा है और प्रोडक्शन के लिहाज में जो पर-वर्कर प्रोडक्शन है वह सबसे कम है। खास कर उस हालत में जब इन बड़ी-बड़ी स्टील मिलों में हमारे देश का इतना रपया लगता है तब इतनी बेरहमी में उस रुपये को मर्फ करने के बाद हमारे ऊपर बहुत बड़ी जिम्मेदारी आ जाती है।

आज से तकरीबन 38 साल पहले हमारी काम्प आफ प्रोडक्शन दुनिया के तमाम मुक्तों से कम थी। वल्कि हावड़ा ब्रिज जब बना तो हमें जिस कीमत पर स्टील मिला वह दुनिया के जो टेन्डर थे उनमें कम से कम कीमत पर मिला जो उसके पीछे यह भी बात थी कि हिन्दुस्तान की स्टील की इण्डस्ट्री को तरक्की दी जाय। मगर आज हमारे मुक्त की स्टील मिलों की क्या हालत है? मिनिस्टरों के मुंह से सुनकर अफसोस होता है कि हमारे स्टील प्रोडक्शन की कमी की वजह यह है कि रेलगाड़ियां नहीं मिलती, कोयला नहीं मिलना, हमारे यहां पर रिफ्रिक्ट्रीज नहीं हैं इससे ज्यादा खराब बात और क्या हो सकती है कि इन चीजों की कमी महसूस की जाए। आखिरकार मिनिस्टर तो इनको बनाने वाला नहीं है। जब प्लानिंग हुई थी इन स्टील मिलों की उस वक़्त इसकी सबसे पहले आपको देखना चाहिये था कि ओ-ओ चीजें इन मिलों को चलाने के लिए जरूरी हैं

वे हमारे देश में मिल सकती है या नहीं मिल सकती हैं।

अभी चन्द दिन पहले स्टील एडवाइजरी कमेटी की मीटिंग हुई थी और उसमें दम्तूर एण्ड कम्पनी की एक रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा हुई थी। तब यह बताया गया था कि ये जो मिले हम बनाने जा रहे हैं और जिन पर करोड़ों रुपया हमारा खर्च होगा उनकी 88 परसेंट कंपैसिटी भी यज्ञ अगर हमने की तो चांसिस हैं कि वे ब्रेक अप हो जाएं और आने वाले पच्चीस साल में कुल मुनाफा जो है वह 4.5 परसेंट से ज्यादा नहीं देगी जबकि आज बड़े से बड़े बैंक का भी इंटरेस्ट आठ या नौ परसेंट है। उससे कैसे हमारा काम चल सकेगा। अगर पब्लिक के रुपये से जो आमदनी होनी है वह 4.5 होगी तो हमारे लिए यह मोचना जरूरी हो जाता है कि आखिर कमजोरी क्यों है और कहा है।

आप दूसरे मुल्को के साथ आने देग का मुकाबला करे तो आपको पता चलेगा कि हमारे मुल्क का जो स्टील का प्रोडक्शन है वह मातवें या आठवें नम्बर पर आता है। जापान एक छोटा सा देश है और हमारी तरह से वह भी एशियाटिक कंट्री है और उसकी मिसाल आप लें। उन्होंने अपनी इस इंडस्ट्री को आगे ले जाना था तो उनके बड़े बड़े इन्जीनियर जहाजों में मजदूरों के तौर पर गए और अमरीका की इंडस्ट्री के जितने भी राज थे उनको अपने मुल्क की बेहतरी के लिए वे लेकर आए। वे राज क्या हैं, इसको हमें देखना होगा। हमारे देश में तो यह समझा जाता है कि आई० ए० एस० अमृतधारा की तरह से होता है जो सब बीमारियों का इलाज कर देता है। जिस तरह से अमृतधारा से सब बीमारियां दूर हो जाती हैं उसी तरह से आई० ए० एस० या आई० सी० ए० का जो केडर है चाहे उन्होंने कभी लोहे का नाम भी न सुना हो, हम समझ लेते हैं कि वे इस काबिल हैं कि लोहे की बड़ी से बड़ी मिल्नों को वे चला सकते हैं।

मैं समझता हूँ कि हमें इसमें शर्त महसूस नहीं होनी चाहिए कि हम बड़े आफिसर्स का पूल कर रहे हैं। हिन्दुस्तान में स्टील मिले कोई तीस चालीस साल पहले चालू हो गई थीं। टाटा के साथ आप अपनी स्टील मिल का मुकाबला करे। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा था कि टाटा की मिलें बहुत सस्ती लगी है, बहुत पुरानी लगी है इसलिए उनको मुनाफा होता है और हमारी ये मिलें बड़ी कीमती मिलें आई हैं। लेकिन जब वह यह कहते हैं तो इस बात को वह भूल जाते हैं कि वे नौ पुरानी मिले हैं और जो हमारी मिलें हैं वे मौफिटिकेटिड मिलें हैं। इन हमारी मिलों के साथ अगर वे मिलें मुकाबला कर सकी हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर वे हमारी मिलों से अच्छी चल रही हैं तो यह काविले फन्न वान है और पचास साल पुरानी मिलें आज की नई मिलों के साथ मुकाबला करने की स्थिति में हैं। मैंने एक सवाल वजीर साहब से पूछा था। अगर आप उन तमाम फैसिलिटीज को सामने रखें जोकि पब्लिक सैक्टर की मिलों को मिलती हैं और उसके बावजूद भी जो घाटा होता है उस सबका अगर अन्दाजा लगाया जाय तो मेरा ख्याल है कि पांच साल में सभी मिलों का जितना सरमाया है वह खत्म हो जाएगा।

एक और चीज देखने को मिलती है। आज से चालीस साल पहले हमारी मिले यह कोशिश करती थी कि अच्छे से अच्छा स्टील पैदा किया जाय और मुनाफे को वे दूसरा स्थान देती थीं। लेकिन आज हमारी मिले यह कोशिश करती हैं कि ऐसी चीजें पैदा की जाएं जिनसे ज्यादा से ज्यादा मुनाफा मिले, फिर चाहे देश का उससे कितना ही नुकसान क्यों न हो।

जहाजों के लिए हमें जो स्टील चाहिये वह सब हम पैदा नहीं करते हैं। मशीनरी के लिए हमें स्टील चाहिये और वह भी सब हम पैदा नहीं करते हैं काफी हिस्सा इस सब का हम इम्पोर्ट करते हैं। अगर हम मुनाफे का ध्यान न रखें और उन चीजों को पैदा करें जिनसे देश में

[श्री प्रबोध चन्द्र]

छोटी छोटी इंडस्ट्रीज हो सकती है तो आखिर में जाकर आप देखेंगे कि जितना घाटा इस किस्म के स्टील को पैदा करने से हमारी बड़ी स्टील मिलों को हुआ है, देश को उससे कहीं ज्यादा मुनाफा हो चुका होगा। हमारी शिप बिल्डिंग में जो स्टील लगता है उसका शायद पांच या दस परसेंट ही हमारे यहाँ बनना होगा लायडज के मुकाबले में मिनी स्टील प्लांट आप बना रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई न कोई इस में कोओर्डिनेशन होना चाहिये। मिनी स्टील मिलज क्या बनायेगी और जो दूसरी मिलें हैं वे क्या बनाएंगी? सिर्फ मुनाफे पर नजर रखकर किसी चीज को बनाना इस देश की वहुवादी के लिए काफी मुजिब बात होगी। तीन चार मिनी स्टील मिलज आप लगा रहे हैं। हम वहाँ इस बात पर कंसर्ट्रेट करे कि हम एक मिल के जिम्मे—यह लगा दें कि इस खास किस्म का स्टील वह बनाए क्योंकि वह स्टील हमारे मुल्क में पैदा नहीं होता और इसके लिए हमें दूसरे मुल्कों पर डिपेंड करना पड़ता है। फिर चाहे हमारी डिफेंस इंडस्ट्री हो, शिप बिल्डिंग इंडस्ट्री हो, इंजीनियरिंग इंडस्ट्री हो, उन सबके वास्ते हमें काफी तादाद में खास किस्म का स्टील बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है और हमारी कोशिश होनी चाहिए कि एक एक मिल के जिम्मे लगा कर हम उसको अपनी ही मिलों में तैयार करवाए।

बार बार यह कहा गया है कि हमारी स्टील मिलज में पैदावार में कमी की एक बहुत बड़ी वजह यह भी है कि यहाँ स्ट्राइक्स बड़ी होती हैं प्राइवेट सैक्टर की मिलों के मुकाबले में जब कि वहाँ बेजिज भी कम मिलती है। फिर चाहे आप इंडियन आयरन एण्ड स्टील कंपनी को ले या टाटा को लें और वहाँ की बेजिज को ले तो आपको पता लगेगा कि वहाँ बहुत कम स्ट्राइक्स होती हैं। यहाँ स्ट्राइक मजदूर नहीं बल्कि अफसर बहुत करवाते हैं। बड़े अफसरों के

साथ मुझे यह कहना पड़ता है कि दो साल पहले अगर एक अफसर के खिलाफ इनएफिडेंसी या नाग्रहलियत के सबूत थे और उसको इसका सर्टिफिकेट दिया जाना है तो अगले साल उसे पदमंथ्री का खिताब दे दिया जाता है। मुहतरिम बजीर साहब से मैं कहूँ कि उनको इस तरफ जरूर ध्यान देना होगा कि हमारी इन स्टील मिलों में आए दिन क्यों स्ट्राइक्स होती हैं प्राइवेट सैक्टर की स्टील मिलज के मुकाबले में। किसी अफसर को जिम्मेवारी के ओहदे पर या टैक्नीवल ओहदे पर रखने से पहले हमको चाहिए कि हम देखें कि उसको इसका कुछ इन्फो भी है या नहीं है। अगर आप यही देखेंगे कि कोई फ्रंट डिविजन की बी ए है या आई ए एस है और उसको स्टील मिल में रख लिया जाना चाहिए तो इसमें स्टील मिल नहीं चल सकेगी।

आप दूर न जायें। दो तीन प्राइवेट सैक्टर की मिलें हैं। इंडियन आयरन है, टिमको है, टाटा है। आप अब आकड़े निकाल कर देखें कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील में जितना मालाना उत्पादन होता है और यहाँ जितना होता है उसके मुकाबले में हमारे यहाँ—स्टाफ कितना है। अगर आउटपुट का मुकाबला किया जायगा तो आपको जान कर हैरानी होगी कि हमारे यहाँ दुगुने से भी ज्यादा स्टाफ है इन प्राइवेट मिलों के मुकाबले में। यह इनएफिडेंसी की वजह से नहीं है बल्कि बहुत ज्यादा स्टाफ होने की वजह से भी इनएफिडेंसी होती है।

जब हम हिन्दुस्तान स्टील से या कहीं और से दो टन सरिया लेने जाते हैं तो जवाब मिल जाता है कि स्टाफ में नहीं है लेफ्टिन ब्लैक में आप चाहे जितना ले लें। मोतिया खान में जाकर आप देख लें जिस किस्म का लोहा आपको चाहिए, मिल जाएगा। वह कहा से आता है? कोई आस्मान से या बिलायत से तो वह आता नहीं है। यह जो डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन है यह गलत होता है। जिन आदमियों को अफसर नहीं,

उनको—लोहा दे दिया जाता है। वह जा कर ब्लैक मार्किट में बिकता है। जिन को लोहे की जरूरत है उनको नहीं दिया जाता है। उन बेचारों को अपने छोटे मोटे कारखाने बन्द करने पड़ जाते हैं या ब्लैक मार्किट में ले कर अपनी रोजी कमाना पड़ती है। मिनिस्टर साहब जांच करें कि जो अलायमेट स्टील का होता है वह बड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज को क्यों ज्यादा किया जाता है और आया उनके यहां उसकी खपत उतनी होती है या नहीं होती है।

सैंकड़ों साल पहले से हमारे गांवों में ब्लैकस्मिथ काम करते आ रहे हैं। वे बेहतरीन स्टील बनाते थे। सौ साल पहले का बना हुआ हल आज के हल से कहीं ज्यादा ताकतवर, कहीं ज्यादा मजबूत और कहीं ज्यादा अच्छा होता था। आज पैदा होने वाला स्टील सौ साल पहले पैदा होने वाले स्टील का मुकाबला नहीं कर सकता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि प्राप क्वालिटी की तरफ भी तवज्जह दें।

छोटी इंडस्ट्रीज को आगे ले जाने के लिए यह निहायत जरूरी है कि मुनाफे पर नजर न रखी जाए और उनकी जरूरतों के मुताबिक हम अपने देश में स्टील पैदा करें। इससे वकनी तीर पर जरूर आपको नुक्सान होगा और शायद इस वजह से ज्यादा क्रिटिसिज्म भी हो कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील को 50 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ है लेकिन आप देखेंगे कि हिन्दुस्तान के लाखों जो मिडल क्लास इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट हैं, उनको कहीं ज्यादा उससे फायदा होगा।

इस लिए मैं अपने मोहतरिम साथी से कहूंगा कि सिर्फ़ बुर छोटे बड़े अफसर को डिफेंड करने से काम नहीं चलेगा। उन की बहुत इन्टीमेडली देखना होगा कि क्या अफसरों में नाअह्लियत है या किसी और बात की कमी है। आखिर कोई बात तो जरूर है, जिस की वजह से हमारी इंडस्ट्री दिन-ब-दिन नीचे जा रही है। कुछ दिन पहले अखबारों में छपा था कि अगर हवी इलैक्ट्रिकल्स का घाटा इसी तरह जारी रहा,

तो वह दो तीन साल में सारा सरमाया खा जायेगा। यह ऐसी हालत है, जिस पर हमें काफी तश्वीस होनी चाहिए और जिस पर गौर करना चाहिए।

मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर श्री कुमारमंगलम के होते हुए हम अपने स्टील प्लांट्स को ठीक नहीं कर सकते, तो शायद वह दिन कभी नहीं आयेगा, जब हम उन को ठीक कर सकें। जब वह मिनिस्टर बने थे, तो मैंने उन्हें लिखा था कि क्या मैं उन्हें मुबारकबाद दूँ या उन के साथ हमदर्दी कदं क्योंकि उन को विरासत में ऐसी चीजें मिली हैं, जिन के चारों तरफ गन्दगी है, लेकिन मुझे विश्वास है कि जिस चीज में भी वह हाथ डालते हैं उस में बेहतरी करते हैं। मुझे अब भी तबक्को है— मुझे इस बारे में मायमी नहीं है—कि वह इस तरफ तबज्जुह दे कर उस इंडस्ट्री को, जिस पर सारे देश की इंडस्ट्रीज निर्भर करती हैं, मजबूत पांवों पर खड़ा करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

13 hrs.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA (Domarlaganj): Mr. Speaker, Sir. I shall try to be very brief in putting before the House such of my views that I hold in generality with regard to the demands that are before us for discussion. This is indeed the most fundamental and most important demand that we are discussing in the House and I have also no doubt that this Ministry is held in the ablest hands of the Cabinet; and, therefore, so far as the Government is concerned and so far as the programmes of expansion and then the people involved in it are concerned, I have no doubt that their efforts will succeed and greatest efforts will be made to right the mistakes that might have occurred in the past, and which have occurred indoubtly in the past.

Mr. Speaker, as I see, the problems are much more difficult than most of us conceive. The task that faces this Ministry of Development of Mineral Resources of the country and its exploitation and production of steel, all its totality, are big complex in of tasks which require some basic introspec-

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tion as to whether our failures on several fronts are really only due to the inefficiency of a man here or a little planning there or there is something much more basic behind this. I believe in the letter and so I personally feel that we need not go into the past mistakes by way of cheap criticism. A qualitative change has come in the situation after the Ruling Party to which we have all the honour to belong, has committed itself to new goals so far as social progress is concerned and the radical nature of the progress is concerned. Therefore, it is not only the Government and the politicians who have to re-dedicate themselves to the great task that faces us but the services too have to deal with sincere Desire and the people in general also.

Recently, as the Reports show, there has been a fall in general—fall in the production of many of the basic products that we require for economic development.

There are various reasons for it like lack of transport, lack of raw materials, technical difficulties, etc. We have to examine as to why these difficulties have arisen and whether the social situation has satisfactorily changed for moving fastly towards helping progress. Even, so far as the problem of overstaffing in the several projects is concerned, it is not possible for us to solve it because in our democratic set-up, the States have their own political pressures in imposing workers on a public sector or private sector unit and the Centre has its own concept and there is a clash. It is not easy for the Centre to rationalise the whole complex problem of employment. Therefore, in its totality, we have to put up with it.

Similarly take transport. I have not made any calculation, but I personally feel that India is the country where there is the highest amount of railway travel in the whole world. With the kind of travelling we undertake on account of this mela or that flimsy reason and so many other things, the railway gets bogged down so much that the tracts are to carry more passengers and railways are not able to move the raw materials that are needed for the rapid progress of basic industries. So, either we

should expand the railways and increase their capacity or we should change our ways of life by which we put a restraint on travels so that we can move ahead faster towards building basic industries.

Restriction on consumption is a must before we can move fastly towards building up our basic industries. That is not being done. Under the new conditions, I would beg to Government to revise its concept so far as the consumption pattern in the country is concerned. The more you save the more you can concentrate on production. Then, there is the question of changing the entire psychology of those who are engaged today in this great venture of producing the basic goods. Their attitude has to change. If it does not change, I would warn the ministry that in spite of their best exercise, they will not be able to do anything. That attitude is not changing as fastly as I would like it. The management labour relations are also far from satisfactory. The public sector at any rate can now under the changed circumstances take up this question boldly and create a new pattern of relationship. Besides, we should take courage in our hands and leave a substantial initiative to the working class as an experiment to see whether a departure from the existing practice of controls by a few bureaucrats from the Government or from the technical units will do or leaving a substantial initiative to the labour class can deliver the goods. I personally feel that if we leave a substantial initiative to the workers, we can perhaps alter the situation in favour of rapid production. This will be an experiment in our bid to make a success of Parliamentary democracy for achieving socialism.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

MR. SPEAKER : The bell is being rung...now there is quorum.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Now, I wish to refer to another important aspect of the problems that face the Ministry. In this basic industry, the time has come for the Government to take a decision as to whether this mixed economy pattern should

stay or not. I personally feel that specially in the steel industry and in the major heavy engineering industry, both the systems cannot work even though the standards of accomplishments in public sector units continue as they are today.

One of the major reasons why we will not be able to increase our production according to rated capacity is the confusion that prevails today in the working, in the distribution pattern, in the organisational set-up and in many other political, economic and social aspects because both the sectors exist in trying to do their work in their own way. From this point of view also, I submit that the entire planning of steel production has to be taken up much more boldly than what the Government has so far been able to take or has ventured to do.

In this connection, I invite your attention to p. 22 of the Report which refers to the question having been handed over to the National Council of Applied Economic Research to make a projection study of steel demands. I do not know what was the basis of their study demands. But I for one try to see by the end of this century, 2000 A. D. what will be the pattern of our demand and how far shall we be more justified in having a heavier and a more massive planning than what we are able to do today. I would submit that even to convert our present society into a welfare State, we will require perhaps ten times more steel than what we are planning in the Fourth or Fifth or Sixth or Seventh Plan. By that time, the people will not wait for the estimates that you are making.

Take, for instance, drinking water. We have to give drinking water to all our 600,000 villages. How much steel is required to build water pipe-lines? We have to supply gas, fuel energy, to all these villages. Then comes lighting. All this requires a network of new pattern of transport system either for gas or for coal or for gas energy or for water, and we will require a colossal amount of steel, in order to complete this programme so that we may call ourselves merely a welfare state and not even a non-capitalist state, or a socialist state. This planning which was initiated by a project study of the National Council

of Applied Economic Research is far short of the needs that the people will have after 28 years from now. We will require so many things. I do not talk of big machinery. Our railways, our war machinery, our civil population, all will require far more than what has been planned. According to this, the rated capacity of the steel plants by the end of the Century may go up to a total of about 35 million tonnes or 40 million tonnes. Even if we take over Tatas and others the production cannot go beyond 35 or 40 million tonnes. But by that time our requirement will be hundreds of millions of tonnes in a year. Today America is producing about 100 million tonnes. Our total of annual production by the end of the Fourth Plan will not be 100 million tonnes according to the present rate. I, therefore, plead for a bolder plan; I plead for converting the whole pattern of our production into State control. I also want a more rigorous control on consumption so that we may be able to find the resources that are needed to expand our capacity. I have no time to go in details. It is said that about Rs. 2,000 per tonne are needed to plan our steel plants. Well, we can find these resources; I have no doubt about that, provided we really want to go socialist way. If we do not want to go the socialist way and if we have doubt in our minds, perhaps we will require another 75 years to become a welfare state where the basic needs might be met. Then, because of pressure of population even this slow progress will not be possible. You will not be able to achieve our objectives so long as the the bureaucrats and technicians do not commit themselves to the public sector philosophy. Therefore, the entire complex of problems, social, political, technical and economic, have to be put into one sweep, and a thorough survey has to be made to find ways and means to transform our method of life and action. If the feudal approach to life continues and faster rate of steel production and removal of inefficiency from the steel plants will be impossible to achieve. Therefore, while we all should try to press the Ministry to be more efficient and to have a better coordination in order to make a rapid advance, we also have to see that we go the socialist way, we try to transform the entire thinking process and introduce in services and in the working of the production units, a new spirit a new

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dedication, in favour of public sector and not in favour of mixed sector.

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी (गया) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारा भारत खनिज सम्पदा से भरा है। इतनी खनिज सम्पदा है कि अगर उस को व्यवहार में लाया जाय, उस का उपयोग किया जाय तो हम अपनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करते हुए दूसरे देशों की भी पूर्ति कर सकते हैं। किन्तु दुर्भाग्य है कि सारी आवश्यकताओं को देखने के बाद भी हम बहुत से मामलों में आत्म-निर्भर नहीं बन पाए हैं। बिहार की बात लें, हमारे माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं 314 खाने हैं जिन में से 311 बिहार में हैं। एक समाचार छपा है और उस समाचार को देखने के बाद ऐसा लगता है कि क्या औचित्य था, क्या कारण था आज से कुछ दिन पहले पूर्वी बंगाल में एक दिन घघवती हुई आग के विस्फोट होने का। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ क्या बिहार में इस तरह की सम्पदा है या नहीं? बिहार-वासियों के लिए उस का उपयोग किया जाता है या नहीं? कितने परसेंट बिहार-वासियों को नौकरी देते हैं? कितने परसेंट बिहार-वासियों को काम देते हैं? क्या नहीं आप वहाँ उद्योग-धंधे स्थापित करते?

अध्यक्ष जी, इस में बताए गये आंकड़ों से स्पष्ट हो जाता है कि बिहार देश की ज़मीन से निकाली गई दौलत का एक तिहाई हिस्सा मुहिया करता है, पर फिर भी सबसे गरीब राज्य है। बाक्साइट 460783 टन, कोयला 31794 टन, खनिज ताम्बा 475744 टन, कच्चा लोहा 5709 टन, क्यानाइट तथा अभ्रक 8888 टन, देश में सब से अधिक बिहार में पाया जाता है.....

एक माननीय सदस्य : यह खूबना गलत है। हम की अपनी बनाई हुई है।

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : यह दिनमान की सूचना है, यह 26 मार्च, 1972 का अंक है,

मेरी अपनी बनाई हुई नहीं है।

इतना ही नहीं समूचे भारत में 377 अरब रुपये का खनिज निकलता है, जिस में अकेले बिहार का योग 1.19 अरब रुपये खनिज का है, फिर भी बिहार में बारखानों की संख्या सिर्फ 381 है और इन में लगे हुए लोगों की संख्या 212020 है जब की सारे देश के खनिज पदार्थ में एक बड़े हिस्से का योगदान बिहार करता है।

इस का क्या कारण है? सारी सम्पदा हमारे बिहार में उपलब्ध होने के बावजूद बिहार को देश में उचित स्थान नहीं मिलता। 1942 में बिहार की देश में चौथी पोजीशन थी लेकिन अब 17वीं पोजीशन है। जहाँ भी देखिये-उपेक्षा की जाती है। हमारे यहाँ उद्योग धंधे होते हुए भी हमारे लोगों को उन में स्थान नहीं दिया जाता इसी लिये हमारा प्रदेश इतना पिछड़ गया है।

हम यहाँ पर प्रतिदिन चर्चा करते हैं कि रेल डिब्बों की कमी है, माल का ढेर लगा हुआ है लेकिन माल भेजा नहीं जा रहा है, क्योंकि रेल डिब्बे नहीं मिलते। हमारी उत्पादन क्षमता है, लेकिन उत्पादन नहीं है, क्षमता है, लेकिन माल निकाला नहीं जाता। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले 25 वर्षों के अन्दर खान और इस्पात मंत्रालय ने रेल विभाग से क्यों तालमेल नहीं बैठाया, क्यों डिब्बों की व्यवस्था नहीं हुई। माल बरसात में पड़ा रहता है, लेकिन भेजा नहीं जाता। रेल के डिब्बे उस समय मिलते हैं जब उन की जरूरत नहीं होती, लेकिन जब जरूरत होती है तब डिब्बे नहीं मिलते। मेरा सुझाव है कि ऐसे अबसरों पर माल को शहर से 50 किलोमीटर या 75 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर गोडाउन में रखा जाय और जब माल की जरूरत हो तो उस समय यदि रेल के डिब्बे उपलब्ध न हों तो ट्रकों से माल भेजा जाय।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या मैं आप से पूछ सकता हूँ कि आप कौन सी डिनाइड पर बोल रहे हैं।

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : मैं स्टील प्लैंट माइन्ज पर बोल रहा हूँ। हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने रेल के डिब्बों की कमी का जिक्र किया था, इस लिये मैं उन से निवेदन कर रहा था कि वह रेल विभाग से ताल-मेल बैठ कर शीघ्र से शीघ्र रेल के डिब्बों की व्यवस्था करे ताकि हमारा खनन का कार्य ठीक ढंग में चल सके।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस्पात आज हमारा बुनियादी उद्योग बन गया है, यह सामान्य जनता के उपयोग की चीज है किन्तु हमारे जैसे साधारण लोगों को, छोटे छोटे लोगों को बिल्कुल नहीं मिल पाता है। इस का क्या कारण है ? मैं समझता हूँ या तो मैनेजमेंट की कमी है, या हमारे सरकारी अधिकारियों में कमी है। आज भी हमारे यहाँ का कच्चा माल दूसरे देशों को भेजा जाता है और दूसरे देशों में वही माल पक्का माल की शक्ल में, फिनिश माल की शक्ल में मंहगे दामों पर मगाना पड़ता है। इस व्यवस्था में अब सुधार होना चाहिये, लेकिन वह सुधार हो नहीं पाता। यहाँ तक कि कच्चा माल भी लोगों को, छोटे छोटे कारखानों को सीधे नहीं मिलता, बड़े बड़े कान्ट्रैक्टर उस को खरीद लेते हैं, जिन का उस से सम्बन्ध नहीं होता और मंहगे दामों पर बेचते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय बिहार में जितनी खनिज सम्पदा है, उस का लाभ बिहार को नहीं मिलता। मैं अपने एक अखबार का उद्धाहरण आप के सामने प्रस्तुत करना हूँ, इस में लिखा है...

बिहार में इतनी अधिक खनिज सम्पदा होती है भी उद्योग के मामले में बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। प्रकृति ने बिहार को कोयला, बौक्साइट, चूना पत्थर, डोलोमाइट, फायरक्ले, शीशा, जस्ता, फास्फोराइट जैसे बहुत खनिज प्रसाधनों से सम्पन्न किया है। हमारे हजारी बाग, पालमऊ और गया जिलों में इन सम्पदाओं का भरपूर भण्डार है। चतरा में अभी हाल में गोमद का पहाड़ निकला। बड़े बड़े व्यापारी वहाँ जा कर 20 रुपये मन में उन

पत्थर के टुकड़े को ले गये। सरकार को इतना देने के बावजूद भी कार्यवाही नहीं हुई, अब हाल में पुलिस ने वहाँ घेरा डाला है। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यही है कि बिहार के अन्दर चूना पत्थर से लेकर हीरे-पुखराज तक उपलब्ध है, लेकिन सर्वे की जरूरत है, खोज करवाने की जरूरत है और खोज करवा कर उस को निकालिये तथा इस काम में हमारे बिहार के लोगों को लगाइये, जिन से वहाँ की बेकारी दूर हो सके। आज हम दूसरे राज्यों के मोहताज बन गये हैं। अगर हम इन विभिन्न कामों में बिहार के लोगों को लगाय तो उन को काम मिल सकता है, लेकिन दुख यह है कि जितने उद्योग लगे हुए हैं, उन में ही बिहार के लोगों को नहीं लिया जाता। मैं सरकार से माग करता हूँ कि आप आदेश निकालें, हमारी परसेन्टेज को देखते हुए, हमारे आदिवासियों को, हरिजनो को, पिछड़ी जातियों के लोगों को अनिवार्य रूप से इन कामों पर लगाया जाय। यदि आप ऐसी व्यवस्था कर सकें तो आप का खनन विभाग, आप का कोयला विभाग और दूसरे काम सफल हो सकेंगे, बरना गरीब तडपेगा और पेटवालों का पेट बड़ेगा, इस से सफलता नहीं मिल पायेगी।

13 26 hrs

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

मैं अभी हाल में अपने घर गया था। वहाँ पर थोड़ा सा सीमेंट लान की जरूरत पड़ी तो पता चला कि रिटेल के भाव से तीन रुपया अधिक है। मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ कि एक साधारण व्यक्ति कैसे इतने उचित मूल्य पर सीमेंट नहीं ले सका। छड़ों की जरूरत पड़ सकती है, 10-20 किलो या क्विंटल की भी जरूरत पड़ती है, लेकिन क्या कारण है कि मंहगी मिलती है। शायद अपने छात्र श्री एम० पी० बतलाऊँ तो सस्ती मिल जाय, लेकिन अगर मेरे परिवार का कोई आदमी जाय तो उस को नहीं मिल सकती। इस बात का पता लगाना चाहिये कि इस बड़ में ऐसी कौन सी चीज है जो इस को खोखला बनाती चली जा रही है, कौन सा महकमा है,

[श्री ईश्वर चौधरी]

जिस में कमी रह गई है। आज जो बड़े बड़े पूँजीपति बन गये हैं, जिन की बड़ी बड़ी फैक्ट्रियाँ चल रही हैं, उन के कितने शेयर होते हैं, लेकिन पूरा फायदा उठा रहे हैं। लेकिन उन के मुकाबले हमारे जितने कारखाने हैं, दुर्गापुर, झरकेला, झिलाई, सब में कुछ न कुछ घाटा चल रहा है, इस का क्या कारण है ? जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर की लिमिटेड कंपनियाँ हैं उन को घाटा नहीं होता है हमारी कंपनियों को घाटा होता है और मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि इस में घाटा लगता है, हम इन को कैसे चलायें। कल यहाँ पर यह कहा गया, एक पेर मिल का उदाहरण देते हुए कि चूँकि वह पेर मिल घाटे में चल रही है इसलिए उसको सरकार नहीं लेगी। तो सरकार घाटे में चलने वाली चीज को नहीं लेगी... (व्यवधान)... मैंने केवल एक उदाहरण दिया है जोकि कल यहाँ पर सरकार ने कहा। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहाँ भी खानें हैं, जैसे हमारे यहाँ दोहरी खानों के बोलों खानी, भूकम्प हुआ तो पता चला कि खदान में जितने खनिकारी थे वे मारे गए तो उनके परिवारों के खर्चे को सरकार ने क्या चिन्तन किया है ? खनिकारों की और के उनके लिए कौन सी व्यवस्था की गई है ? इसी प्रकार से मेने आज झरखार में पढ़ा कि चूँकि सरकार खान को अपने हस्त में ले सकती है इस डर से मालिक सोचते हैं कि हम इसको क्यों चलायें और वे मजदूरों को हटा रहे हैं। इस प्रकार से तीन हजार मजदूर बेकार हो गए हैं। मैं जानना चाहता उन गरीबों के लिए सरकार ने क्या प्रयास किया है चाहे प्राइवेट सेक्टर हो या सरकारी मोहकमा हो सभी जगह उन गरीबों के हितों को सोचना चाहिए। उनके नाम पर बीनस निकाला जाता है लेकिन उनके लिए भकान और बच्चों की पढ़ाई की व्यवस्था न होने का क्या कारण है ? क्या गरीब के लड़के अमीर नहीं बन सकते हैं ? क्या उनके लड़के पढ़ लिख नहीं सकते हैं ? क्या उनके के लड़के जंग

और वकील नहीं बन सकते हैं ? बन सकते हैं। न बनने का कारण केवल उनकी गरीबी है और आप उनकी ओर कोई ध्यान नहीं देते और उनके लिए कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं करते। (व्यवधान)... मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूँ कि हमारे बिहार में जितने भी उद्योग हैं, जितनी खानें और फैक्टरीज हैं उनकी ओर उचित ध्यान दिया जाये और वहाँ पर हरिजन, आदिवासियों और पिछड़ी जाति के लोगों को नौकरी दी जायें इन शब्दों के साथ मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूँगा कि हमारी बातों पर वे विशेष ध्यान दें।

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Shri S. Mohan Kumaramanagalam deserves our praise and support for the one great leap which he took by taking over 214 coal mines.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछबाब : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप की व्यवस्था चाहता हूँ। सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member may resume his seat for a while. There is no quorum. The bell is being rung.

Now, there is quorum. The hon. Member may resume his speech now.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA : As I was saying, Shri Mohan Kumaramanagalam has to be given all praise and support for the great leap forward he took so far as the coal mining industry is concerned and to the extent he has been implementing Shrimati Indira Gandhi's policy, the end result of this was that in Jharia coal fields for the first time in their lives, the colliery workers started getting their dues—I am told the wage bill increased from Rs. 12 lakhs to Rs. 18 lakhs per week.

In the steel sector—I will take up coal a little latter—after mishaps like Rourkela roof collapse, destruction of fire bricks in Bokaro, crippling of steel production in

Durgapur and in Rourkela in terms of rated capacity, Shri Kumaramangalam has done a good day's job by minimising our losses. In 1970-71, production was 3.612 million ingot tonnes while in 1971-72 it was 3.476 million ingot tonnes. The difficulties in the three steel plants, the HEC's contention that we will reach break-even point if we start erecting two steel plants every year; otherwise we will never make it, the coking coal producing collieries, 214 of them not yet fully taken over and therefore cannot be reconditioned so as to reduce losses and step up production—in the background of all these, Shri Kumaramangalam's effort reminds me of the difficulty which Alice faced in Wonderland. That was with the flamingo. Just as she straightened its neck and wanted to give with it the hedgehog a blow, it would curl round itself and look up in her face. So, the difficulty is this that in terms of production, productivity or rated capacity, we are not making the grade, although there has been a successful holding operation so long. But I understand that the Steel Ministry has set its target at 90 per cent rated capacity. Although that may be realistic, that is not far enough, when you remember that in Japan they go up to 125 to 140 per cent of the rated capacity of steel plants. How do they do it? It is one of their knowhows which we have to import just to make the grade.

Two major innovations have been made in order to implement the policy of self-reliance. First, the CEDB—the Central Engineering and Design Bureau—is doing its job, and that way, we will be getting independence not only in technological skill but we can improve on the technologies in the existing schemes that are in operation in the different steel plants. Second, it is a big innovation that is coming; that is, the restructuring of the coal and steel corporations in one joint complex. I am told that it is a holding company, with a three-tier structure, and a vertical and horizontal integration. That is part of the industrial picture in advanced countries like the United States of America.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your main interest is in coal. You had better come to that. There is not much time.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYA : Therefore, I should like to

come back to the project reports. A quarterly evaluation the probe by the Parliamentary Committee on Public Undertakings, the suggestion of a techno-economic survey for Bokaro and the White Paper about the proposed new steel plants are all necessary and proper. They brought to light not only the teething troubles, the irritations and mistakes in the formulation of policies, but also the errors in the estimates vis-a-vis performance in Hindustan Steel.

While we are debating on the production and productivity and costs and losses, the difficulty is that the level of science and technology abroad is not only rapidly rising in all those countries including the USA but is expected to rise at an accelerating speed following an exponential curve. A telescoping of change in times has become the only alternative. We had the vertical blast furnaces which have been replaced by curvilinear furnaces as in Bokaro, and are to go in for horizontal blast furnaces which are round the corner. If only corruption is eliminated in the washeries, Hindustan Steel which has reduced its losses from about Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 5 crores will be reaping a profit. In coking coal reserves, a large investment would be necessary in the coming years.

Coming back to Giridih, I remember with regret how much of coal we have lost through faulty timing and faulty measures. We understand that the atomic energy authorities in Britain have reported the manufacture of fibre which is four times tougher than steel and almost inexpensive. Therefore, for the perspective planning over the next 30 years, we must know what is happening and what is going to happen round the corner before we take any big decision.

Now—this is an important point—we must be aware of the way in which we have to run these plants. The question arises as to how to run them. These technocrats in the steel plants are all right. But what about the techno-bureaucrats? No. Some of them have the habit of becoming techno-bureaucrats and prisoners of their own experience.

To the extent the IAS and ICS officers

[Shri Chappalendu Bhattacharyya]

can take a broader view, their services should also be welcome in running the steel plants.

I should make another submission. In order to combat that fibre we must intensify our search for bauxite, nickel and copper because these metals can combat the fibre that is round the corner. I want to make a special plea about Giridih mica mines. 5,000 jobs are off.

SHRI K. N. TIWARY (Bettiah) : Do you want to switch from iron and steel to that fibre ?

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA : No. We must be able to complete with it when it comes ; I do not want to switch over.

As regards Giridih, I make bold to say that there are at least 3-4 million tonnes of first grade metallurgical coal lying under water the like of which there is nowhere else in India we have to get that coal out. That would be a challenge to the Government of India and the Ministry of Steel. In the context of rising prices, it will be worthwhile. As Rs. 50 per tonne of coal we found it too costly. Now we are going to pay Rs. 175 for every tonne for prime coke and even at Rs. 80 per tonne, that coal would be economical to mine.

In my constituency there starts a mica belt of over 72 miles. There was a lot of agitation as regards the proposed nationalisation of mica mines and mica foreign trade. I suggest that the take-over of mica foreign export trade should be given priority. For the same reason, to give the small self-employed man a break, nationalisation of mica mines should be the last in the list of Government of India's programme. In the meanwhile the raising contractor in mica mines should be there and there should be legal recognition to the share cropper. The mineral concession rules should be amended only for mica mining industry to give the small men the benefit, without which the exploration or prospecting of mica mines will come to a stand-still in this belt.

श्री काशीराम लंबर (साबुजा) : उपाध्यक्ष

महोदय, खान और इस्पात मंत्रालय की मांगों पर चर्चा चल रही है। मुझे बहुत कम समय दिया गया है और मैं बोलना काफी चाहता था, लेकिन मैं आप के आदेश का पालन करूंगा और तीन या अधिक से अधिक पांच मिनट में समाप्त करने की कोशिश करूंगा।

खान और इस्पात मंत्रालय की मांगों के मिलमिले में अनेक सदस्यों ने घाटे की चर्चा की है और खानों की प्रगति के बारे में शंकाएँ व्यक्त की हैं। मैं भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस विभाग को सक्रिय बनाया जाय और इस में जो घाटा हो रहा है उस की पूर्ति की जाये। लेकिन अगर ऐसा करना है तो सब से पहले इस विभाग में बड़े बड़े अधिकारी हैं उन बड़े बड़े वेतन-भोगिया का कम किया जाये और जो छोटे लोग हैं, बेकार लोग हैं और धन्य के लिये भट्ठे रहें हैं, उन को काम दिया जाये। अगर ऐसा किया जाये तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह घाटे की पूर्ति में सहायक हो सकता है।

देखा यह गया है कि भिलाई के इस्पात कारखाने में, राउरकेला तथा दुर्गापुर आदि कारखानों में बड़ी बड़ी तनख्वाहें लेने वाले अधिकारी तो बहुत हैं लेकिन वहाँ काम उस हिसाब से नहीं होता है। माननीय सदस्यों ने शिकायत की है कि आई० ए० एस० और आई० सी० एम० अफसर वहाँ हावी हैं और वहाँ जिस ढंग का काम होना चाहिये नहीं होता। साथ ही साथ इस विभाग में काम करने वाले जो इंजीनियर हैं वे भी विदेशी इंजीनियरों की तरह से काम नहीं करते हैं। देखने और सुनने को यह मिलता है कि भिलाई कारखाने में जो रशिया के इंजीनियर काम करते हैं वे मजदूरों के रूप में नजर आते हैं और मजदूरों की तरह काम भी करते हैं लेकिन हमारे इंजीनियर अफसरों की तरह से काम करते हैं। मजदूरों की तरह से काम नहीं करते हैं। हमारे यहाँ के इंजीनियरों में और विदेशी इंजीनियरों में काफी फर्क है और अगर हमारे

यहाँ के इंजीनियर भी विदेशी इंजीनियरों की तरह से काम करने लग जाए तो हमारा उत्पादन बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ सकता है।

14 hrs.

अभी तक इम मंत्रालय ने कुछ विशेष क्षेत्रों में ही कोयले या खनिजों के कारखाने खोले हैं। पूरे देश में इसका विस्तार नहीं किया गया है। इसका नतीजा यह है कि पूरे देश को इसका लाभ नहीं मिल पा रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सम्पूर्ण देश का और सम्पूर्ण क्षेत्र का भूँ होना चाहिये और पूरे देश को लाभ मिले, ऐसी कोशिश की जानी चाहिये। कुछ क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं जहाँ पर अपार खनिज सम्पदा भरी पड़ी है लेकिन अभी तक उनका सर्वेक्षण नहीं हुआ है। इसका नतीजा यह है कि उन क्षेत्रों को विकास की दौड़ में पीछे रहना पड़ा है।

लोहे और कोयले का उत्पादन देश में बढ़ रहा है। लोहे की हाथत को आप देखें। साधारण से साधारण आदमी को भी लोहे की आवश्यकता होती है। किसान को होती है, जो गरीब आदमी मकान बनाना चाहता है उसको भी होती है। उस को लोहा ठीक ढ़ग में उपलब्ध नहीं होता है। खेती के औजार बनाने के लिए, ट्रैक्टर बनाने के लिए सरिये की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। लेकिन उनको भी महंगा मिलता है। आम लोगों के इस्तेमाल का जो लोहा है और कोयला है वह काफी महंगा मिलता है। आम लोगों के इस्तेमाल का जो लोहा है और कोयला है वह काफी महंगा होता जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसका एक मात्र कारण यह है कि इस विभाग का जो खर्चा है वह बहुत बढ़ा हुआ है। इस खर्च को कम किया जाना चाहिये। इसकी जाँच होनी चाहिये। दुर्गापुर, राउरकेला आदि में यह खर्चा बहुत बढ़ा हुआ है। राउरकेला के इस्पात कारखाने की एक छत गिर गई जिस की वजह से करोड़ों रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। वह किस की जवाबदारी है। किसने इसको बनाया और कब बनाया और

क्या कारण था कि वह गिर गई? इस सब की जाँच करने के लिए कमेटी बिठाई जानी है। लेकिन रिपोर्ट जब आ जाती है तो आगे उस पर विचार नहीं किया जाता है, कार्रवाई नहीं की जाती है। नतीजा यह होता है कि घाटे पर घाटा होना जाता है और इसका नतीजा देश को तथा देश की जनता को भुगतना पड़ता है।

मैं मध्य प्रदेश से आता हूँ। उसका झाबुआ क्षेत्र बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। वह पहाड़ी एरिया है। वहाँ कुछ खनिज पदार्थ पाए जाते हैं जैसे अभ्रक है, मैंगनीज है, साफ्ट स्टोन है। इनका दोहन भी कुछ हद तक हो रहा है। लेकिन ठीक से नहीं होने के कारण उसका पूरा लाभ वहाँ जनता को नहीं मिल पा रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश के झाबुआ, रतलाम, धार, खारगोन, गुजरात के बड़ोदा और पंच महल और राजस्थान के वामवाड़ा, डूंगरपुर, चित्तौड़ आदि जिलों का भूँ कराया जाए इस विभाग के द्वारा और इन खनिजों का पना लगाया जाए और इन का दोहन किया जाए ताकि उन पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रों को इस विभाग के द्वारा लाभ हो सके। ऐसा अगर किया गया तो उस क्षेत्र में रहने वाली आम जनता को और खास तौर पर पिछड़े हुए लोगों को, आदिवासी लोगों को, गरीब लोगों को जिन को काम नहीं मिलता है, उनको लाभ होगा और उनको काम मिल सकेगा। सब करवा कर आप ठीक से वहाँ कदम उठावें ताकि देश को और देश की जनता को लाभ मिल सके, यही मेरा आप से निवेदन है।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): Sir, I am conscious of the fact that there are many speakers yet to speak and the time allotted is only 5 hours. So, I will not take much time. Many members have evinced a very keen interest in the nationalisation of coking coal mines. They have rightly appreciated this most important step perhaps in our move towards socialisation. There are some

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facts which I would like to place before the House.

Bharat Coking Coal is the largest labour intense public sector enterprise in India today. Nowhere in India do we have a working force of 1.20 lakh persons in one contiguous belt of 20 miles under one employer. Persons earlier employed by a multitude of owners with different service rules and working conditions have been brought under one umbrella and the problem of bringing measures of uniformity among them is stupendous. The personnel and welfare officers who used to be employed by some of the owners more to suppress the workers rather than look after their genuine grievances have now to be replaced and wherever possible an effective industrial relations department has to be built up and strengthened.

A reference has been made to the heavy losses in Bharat Coking Coal during the first six months of its existence. Members may be aware that during this period, the ownership remained unaltered and Bharat Coking Coal was only in charge of management. Necessarily, therefore, the identity of the different collieries had to be maintained. It is only when the full ownership is taken over, we can start the process of amalgamation.

On 17th October last year, we took over the management of 214 coking coal mines. Some member said that of these 78 were abandoned mines. Actually, there are about 50 mines which had been abandoned and flooded, because they worked at shallow depths and exhausted the reserves in top seams. Now we find that in those 50 mines and from under Railways and Roads in Jharia we would be able to reclaim about 350 million tonnes of very valuable coking coal. The coal seam goes very deep, thousands of feet below. The owners had worked only to a few hundred feet and abandoned the mines and they are now flooded. In scientific mining, we have to go very deep. In Sudamdih and Monjdih which we started in the Jharia-Dhanbad area, we are going down to 1600 feet and we are working at three different levels at the same time. It is tremendous advantage to take over these coking coal mines.

Now, some hon. Members have mentioned about losses and said that during the last six months, we have incurred huge losses. The fact is that during the last six months of our working, there has been a loss of about only Rs. 25-30 lakhs, whereas in the implementation of the wage board award and in implementing other statutory obligations, we have paid over Rs. 1.50 crores extra. Now that we have paid that much extra amount, it just shows the extent to which the labour were exploited in that area.

14 hrs.

AN HON. MEMBER : That includes extra man-power also.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : Extra man-power is there. We are only managing agents. We inherited the extra man-power. Since we have just taken over the management, we have to more or less continue the same structure. It is only when we take over full ownership, we will be able to make proper arrangements and nationalise the man-power.

One thing which I would like to mention here is this. It was said that overnight many people were in, and new labour was recruited. That sort of a thing would not have been possible if we had received full cooperation of our friends working in the labour field. We in future look forward to getting plenty of help from them.

I am glad to inform the House that in spite of this, neither the output has fallen nor the Company has incurred heavy losses. The actual loss comes to about 40-50 paise per tonne of coal raised.

The House is fully aware of the circumstances which compelled us to nationalise the coking coal mines. There is scarcity of resources of this very valuable material and we had to conserve it. There has been almost a unanimous demand from all sections of the House that the entire coal industry should be nationalised. If the private trade play their part honestly and faithfully, as present, we do not feel the same urgent necessity for nationalising the coal industry. There are huge reserves of non-coking coal in this country. We have

sufficient stocks to last, say, for 500 years and, therefore, the necessity or urgency is not there to the same extent to warrant nationalisation of the entire coal industry. But if we find that the private trade is not playing fair, that they are not investing and that they are only out to exploit, then it will be upto the Government to take proper steps.

Sir, a number of hon. members referred to the surplus labour in the coal mines. We are aware that there is surplus labour, but our intention is not to retrench any genuine labour and we hope that, in the future expansion programmes, we will be able to utilise that labour.

SHRI R. N. SHARMA (Dhanbad) : They are not labourers ; they are *pahalvans*

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : Once we take over the owners then we will deal with the *pahalvans* also.

Some hon. members expressed apprehension that there might be flooding of mines during monsoon. I would like to assure the hon. members that we are fully conscious of this. Already a sum of over Rs. 50 lakhs has been spent on purchase of pumping sets and other equipment. The only thing of which we are rather apprehensive is the irregular supply of electric power. There are wide fluctuations and there is lot of tripping of power. (*Interruption*) We hope that, with the full cooperation of the State Governments and the D. V. C. which they have assured to the hon. Minister, we will be able to tackle it. (*Interruption*) Power problem is one which has to be tackled rather carefully to save the mines.

A number of hon. members said that Bharat Coking Coal Company has increased the price of coking coal. This is nothing extraordinary because even for the non-coking coal, the Railways have given an increase of Rs. 3.50 per tonne during the past two years whereas coking coal price has been steady for nearly 3 years. This is nothing extraordinary that we are asking for. This hardly covers the statutory obligations which have been placed on them.

About shifting of the head office from

Calcutta to Dhanbad, some members were unhappy. The whole House knows that, out of 214 coking coal mines, 211 are in Bihar. For better control and coordination we feel that it will be advantageous for us to have the head office in Dhanbad itself. But we are retaining an office in Calcutta for sales and purchases, and that office will continue there.

My hon. friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, referred to the necessity for opening up the mines which have been flooded and which contained very valuable coal. We are going ahead and are trying to conserve as much valuable coal as we can, and we shall therefore consider and wherever necessary reopen the mines which still contain a large quantity of coking coal.

Regarding the closed mines, there were in all 14-12 in Bengal and two in Bihar. Of the 12 in Bengal, a large number had been closed because the reserves had been exhausted ; the other columns were due to industrial unrest. We are doing our best to get all these examined and whenever possible reopened as quickly as we can.

My hon. friends. Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi, and Shri D. K. Panda, spoke about copper. Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi was of the view that the Indian Copper Corporation the management of which was taken over by us recently, should be handed over to the Government of Bihar. One of the important reasons for taking over the management of that Corporation was that it was the only company in the country which was producing copper. There is no other concern in the country which was producing copper. They have very wide experience in this line and in view of the great shortage of copper, we went to expand our activities quickly and make use of that trained and efficient personnel for opening up other mines and other industries of copper in other parts of country. That was the main reason and if we hand it over to only one State, then, of course, numerous problems will arise. Also there is the question of concentrates. We are developing Khetri. Large deposits of copper have been found in Malaj Khand. Balaghat Dt. of Madhya Pradesh. We are developing Rakha mines and there may be need for transferring concentrates from one area

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to another so that they could be processed. That would not be possible if we hand it over to one State.

People talked about the slow and tardy progress of Khetri. I admit there has been some delay. But recently, say, during the last 2-3 years, since the appointment of the new Chairman, the tempo has increased and the work is progressing well. I would like to assure the House, one thing, Yesterday, one hon. Member sought to make out that only one stope was ready out of seven. To an unstarred question it was said that only one stope was ready. But that reply also said that of the remaining six stopes, 80% were ready. 80% have been completed. I want to assure the House that the work now is progressing. We have already built up a stockpile of 1,42,000 tonnes of copper ore. This is a very good stock that we have built up and I am sure that will come in very handy. By the end of the year seven stopes will be ready at Khetri.

The position at Kolihaan is much better. Two out of four stopes are ready. Stockpile of ore production is 1,42,000 tonnes till March 1972 and regular production is likely to commence very soon and by the end of the year the stockpile would be five to six lakh tonnes. That would be sufficient to enable us to start work on production of copper in October.

The Concentrator will be commissioned in the first quarter of 1973. The smelter will be commissioned by the end of 1973 and so would be the refinery. The acid and the fertiliser plant will be completed by February 1974.

Some hon. Members spoke about the rising costs. As per original estimates, the original cost of the plant excluding the fertiliser plant and the township was assessed at Rs. 70 crores approximately. It has now gone up to Rs. 93 crores. There is an increase of Rs. 23 crores. Of this, one-third, that is, about Rs. 7 crores is due to additional mining equipment which was not originally ordered. Now, there is a very obvious reason for this. Previously, we were hoping that we will be able to mine the ore to 0.8%. Then we brought it down to 0.7%.

But now we hope that with the addi-

tional machinery we would be able to utilise ore containing 0.5% of copper. I may inform the House that the Indian Copper Company which we have just taken over was not utilising ore which was carrying even 1 per cent. They were utilising only 1.8% ore and over, and the ore below 1.8% copper was thrown away. We are going to use 0.5% ore. This is because there is tremendous shortage of copper in the country. We want to make use of the best methods for processing copper. We want to make use of it as much as we can. That is why we have had to order additional machinery for Rs. 7 crores worth. The remaining Rs. 16 crores accounted for general escalation in prices and wages. As you know, we have no control over wage rise. I would assure the House that Khetri is progressing very well. We hope we will be able to stick to the dates which have already been given.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH (Jhunjhunu): In the budget proposals you have shown Rs. 120 crores. In the unstarred question you said Rs. 115.98 crores. Here you state Rs. 93 crores for the same thing.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Rs. 93 crores did not include the fertilizer plant and the township. I have made it clear. The estimates which you quote include all these. That is the overall cost. Shri Bhattacharyya and Shri K. D. Malavia spoke of the need to attain self-sufficiency in metals as quickly as possible.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA (Khammam): Since he is dealing with copper, I would like to know one point about the Agniguntala ore project. The Agniguntala ore content is much higher than Khetri. So, what steps are being contemplated by the hon. Minister to speed up this project?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Geological Survey has got units which are spread out in different parts of the country. They carry out exploration, drilling and prospecting in different parts. That place is showing good prospects and we hope we will be able to make good use of that ore there. In addition to Agniguntala, there is a good reserve at Malajkhanda in Balaghat district. Some very promising reserves are there and we hope to utilise that as quickly as we can.

I would like to give a general picture to the House. Our present production is 9 to 10 thousand tonnes. Our present requirements are 1,13,000 tonnes. There is a wide gap. To fill this gap we have taken up various programmes. We hope to produce 30,000 tonnes at Khetri and another 30,070 tonnes in Singhbhum. We hope to produce another 30,000 tonnes at Malajkhand in addition to the other places I have mentioned. We are aware of the fact that there is tremendous scope in this country for developing and prospecting basic metals like copper, aluminium, lead and iron.

Regarding aluminium, we have located plenty of bauxite ore. By the end of fourth plan or beginning of fifth plan, we hope to make substantial progress and be self-sufficient in aluminium in the next few years.

We have our Bharat Aluminium Corporation coming up at Korba. They will be producing one lakh tonnes of aluminium metal eventually, and we are already in an advanced stage at Raigarh and we hope that another lakh of tonnes of aluminium would be produced there. We are in touch with the State Government of Maharashtra regarding some difficulties of mining leases. I am grateful to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra who has helped us in getting our difficulties resolved as quickly as possible and clearing that area by giving us the mining leases.

Regarding zinc also, we are going ahead and doubling our capacity at Debari in Udaipur. We are also putting up a zinc smelter at Visakhapatnam. Messrs. Cominco Binani Zinc Ltd. are also expanding their capacity. So we are fully conscious of the urgent need to develop our mining resources and minerals and to process them as quickly as we can, and we are going ahead with full confidence.

My hon. friend from Kudremukh, Shri P. R. Shenoy talked about a very interesting point in regard to the transport of iron ore, whether it should be in slurry form or in the form of pellets from the port. We are lucky in this country that we have been endowed with huge reserves of iron ore; 10,000 million tonnes have been proved in this country and there may be more. So

far, we are aware of 10,000 million tonnes of iron ore in our country. We are expanding our steel industry as quickly as we can, consistent with our resources. But there is the urgent need for earning foreign exchange, and so, we are exporting iron ore as much as we can. Last year, we exported about 20 million tonnes, but we wish to expand our export, and with that view, we would like to adopt a new method of export of iron ore from Kudremukh. The ore in the Kudremukh area is a low grade ore; it is a magnetite ore with about 35 per cent iron content, and it has to be crushed and formed into slurry so that it could flow and it can be transported through pipes and put into tankers, which will stand in the sea some distance away from the shore, about 8 or 8 km away from the shore. The advantage of this method is that we shall be able to carry that by tankers carrying 2½ to 3 lakh tonnes. The transport of iron ore by smaller ships is most uneconomical and it adds up to the transportation cost. It is with a view to reducing the cost of transportation and to be in a position to compete with countries which are now emerging as great exporters of iron ore, countries like Brazil and Australia who are coming up and who are using the most modern methods for reducing the cost of transportation and who are advancing very fast, that we have to use new and modern methods. The whole DPR is before Government, and I am sure Government will give very careful consideration to this new method of transportation in slurry form, which is something new to this country.

I am sure, as the hon. Member has said very rightly, it has therefore to be considered very cautiously, and the whole thing has to be considered and given due consideration whether it is the proper thing to do or not. The matter is before Government and at the highest level it is receiving the urgent attention of Government.

My hon. friend's apprehension was that if we adopted this method, it might retard the progress of Mangalore port. I can assure him that in the Kudremukh area alone, there are 6 million tonnes of iron ore and it is not only the slurry pipe that will carry ore, but we want that the Mangalore port

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should develop as fast as it can so that from its present capacity, we can raise it to 2,25,000 tonnes load. In any case, therefore, there is no conflict between the two. As a matter of fact, we are anxious that Mangalore port should develop as fast as it can so that we can export more ore through that port.

Export of iron ore today is not a simple matter. We have to find markets and in the new company we are thinking of forming, the Government of India would have 51 per cent shares and the Marcona Company of US, who have great experience in carrying iron ore in slurry form would invest 25 per cent, three topmost firms dealing in iron in Japan will also be associated as shareholders. The advantage we will have is that we will have export companies participating in the transportation in slurry form and we will be assured of a regular market in Japan. The hon member knows how difficult it is for us these days to compete with other countries in sale of iron ore.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: How long will the Minister take?

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM: About 30 to 40 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will call him at 2.55.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON (Lohardaga): What about other members just waiting?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I do not know.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Some members spoke about losses incurred in washeries, Gidi, Kathara and Swang. The Bokaro steel plant is coming up and we are hoping that with its development, the economics would improve and they will be able to make full utilisation of the washeries.

Shri G Viswanathan spoke about the Neyveli project and the need to develop it to meet the requirements of power in Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI T LAKSHMI-KANTHAMMA: Many members coming

from mining areas want to speak. Kindly extend the debate by an hour.

SOME HON MEMBERS: Yes.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: That will be at the expense of another Ministry and it will go on like that. We started at 12.23 today with a balance of 2 hours 50 minutes. Even if we conclude the debate at 3.30, we would have extended the time already.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON: Here is a note which says that you have extended the time by which I presume that I will get some time.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER: I do not know whose note it is. I have not given any (Interruptions) Order, please.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN: Sir, the Neyveli plant was to produce six million tonnes of lignite and it was to produce 600 megawatts of power. But due to certain reasons, we have not been able to attain the full capacity. One important reason has been the rather strained industrial relations, and the situation is that a lot of work which could have been done is not being done. We are hoping that the industrial relations would improve, and we will be able to attain the rated capacity of power for the Tamil Nadu Government. But we have approached the Tamil Nadu Government to use their good offices to improve the industrial relations and we have been assured that they will do their best in that regard.

There is a plan also to open a second cut at Neyveli. But in the light of the present conditions, we find it is rather difficult to go forward when even the targeted capacity has not been attained. We hope that with the improvement in industrial relations and the improvement in output—and we are also going to import an additional machinery to make up the gap in production—the full capacity would be realised.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have taken almost 40 minutes, which is more than what the senior Minister proposes to take.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : I am just taking off his load. Shri Chapalendu Bhattacharyya spoke about mica mines. I entirely agree with him that there is need to give protection to the small producers of mica by nationalising the trade of mica, and we are moving along this line; and I can assure him that we have no intention of nationalising the mica mines.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri C. D. Gautam. I am going strictly by the list given by the party whips.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM (Balaghat) : May I seek your leave to sit and speak ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes; you may sit and speak.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given us an encouraging account of the Malajkhand mines, but the steps taken for accelerating the work have not been so much encouraging. He has also given us a statement about the Khetri mines.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If each Member takes not more than five minutes, I would be able to accommodate more Members, as many as possible. At 2.55 I shall call the Minister.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM : All right. The hon. Minister has also spoken about of the Khetri mines. If these two are compared, then the hon. Minister will find that it will be more advantageous to work the Malajkhand mines, giving it priority over the Khetri mines. The Khetri mine is being worked since 1957 and we have not been able to produce copper ore as yet. In Khetri, it is required to bore underground, while the Malajkhand mines are open-cast mines. As far as I know, it will produce copper ore within five years and also it is of a better quality and is in greater quantity than the ore from Khetri mines.

I request the hon. Minister to visit the mine and look for himself the possibility of its working results. I may inform the hon. Minister that Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary who was a Minister visited the mines and was much impressed.

We know the country's demand for this metal is about a lakh of tonnes and we are producing only 10,000 tonnes. There is thus a big gap. If Malajkhand mine goes into production, I think it will produce about 30,000 tonnes from what he has told us. I request the hon. Minister to speed up this work.

I also request the hon. Minister to set up a smelter at Malajkhand so that we may be able to have side industries such as sulphur dioxide and sulphuric acid. Sulphuric acid is required for preparing fertilisers and there is great need for fertilisers in the country as available land-areas get reduced. Gypsum and card-board industries could also be set up there. This is a adivasi area and it will be in keeping with our policy of removing poverty and unemployment. It will give employment opportunities to people in these backward areas also.

When ore is produced, there should be a railway line to take it from Malajkhand to Balaghat; otherwise it will be costly to transport it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You should speak about it on the Demands for Railways.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM : It goes along with the mines. I therefore suggest a railway line from Malajkhand, Barhar, Balaghat to Gondia.

At present the number of local people who get employment in an area is not great; only a small number get employment. I suggest that employees from Balaghat should be employed, and not from outside districts. There are also bauxite deposits near Supkar, Gadhi and Godmaon. They are said to be in a huge quantity. Similarly huge quantities of iron ore are said to be near about Lavagur in Balaghat district.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can send these details in a letter to the hon. Minister so that his attention could be drawn to these matters.

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA (Midnapore) : This Ministry is holding a large number of public undertakings and most of the important undertakings are mentioned in the

[Shri Subodh Hansda]

report on page 3. I should like to mention some of them. There are nine big undertakings which are mentioned in this report and out of these I think two are yet to be commissioned and seven undertakings are already under production.

Out of the seven undertakings, I find that five undertakings are already running at a loss and the cumulative loss upto date is Rs. 892 crores. It is very difficult to say after so many years of commissioning of these projects how this loss is gradually accumulating day by day. I think Government has taken certain steps like task force scheme. Though this scheme has been introduced, I do not think much improvement has been made in this respect. This is a serious matter and the Government should take special care to see that this loss does not occur in future. I do not think that people will forgive us for this big loss which is going to occur in the next years also.

I would like to say about the steel distribution policy. Steel is distributed directly to the steel consumers. 90% of the total output goes to the consumers directly. I find that most of these big chunks of steel go to the big consumers rather than the small consumers. By experience, it has been seen that the big consumers put their indent directly to the JPC or the Steel Controller and they get steel directly from them but the small consumers like the small scale industries Corporation of the various States. For that reason there is much of delay and the required quantity which is usually indented by the SSI Corporation for the small scale industries is not usually given. I would like to suggest that to feed the small consumers, certain portion—at least two-thirds of the total quantity that goes for consumption of the steel industry to these big consumption—should be ear-marked for the small scale industries.

Steel industry is one of the biggest undertakings and it employs more than 2 lakhs of people, I find that in most of these undertakings, the local people do not get employment and this is a general complaint, particularly of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Where most of these

undertakings are located, most of the local people are up-rooted from these places. They do not get chance in these undertakings. I would request the Minister to look into this so that they get accommodated in these undertakings. If we look at the figures, by calculation I would say that at least 14,000 tribals should have been in these undertakings. But the figures can be counted on fingertips.

My last point is that there was a proposal to set up an Alloy Steel Plant at Purulia. I do not know what is the position? The cost of the project is Rs. 42 crores. I am told the project is going to be set up somewhere else. I would strongly object if it is being shifted somewhere else. West Bengal is mostly a backward area. There is unemployment problem in the State. The steel plant may be set up at Purulia.

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह (झुंझनू) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप ने जो समय मुझ को दिया है उतने कम समय में कुछ कह सकना मुश्किल है, इस लिए मैं केवल अपने कुछ प्वाइंट्स रखूंगा।

स्टील किमी भी देश के विकास के लिए बहुत आवश्यक है हम इस बात को रिअलाइज करते हैं लेकिन जब हम अपनी इंडस्ट्री का मुकाबला दुनिया के अन्य देशों से करते हैं तो पाते हैं कि हम दुनिया के कुछ प्रोडक्शन का केवल 1 परसेंट प्रोडक्शन करते हैं और उसके हिसाब से हमारा पैर कैपिटल कैप्चरेशन 11 के 0 जो 0 आता है। जब हम इस पर विचार करते हैं तो पाते हैं कि हमारी मिनिस्ट्री ने इस के लिये बहुत कुछ किया है। आजादी के बाद हमने भ्रलग-भ्रलग बड़े-बड़े प्लान्ट्स बनाने की योजना बनाई। उसके अन्तर्गत स्टील का प्रोडक्शन काफी बढ़ना चाहिए था लेकिन दस साल तक काम रुका रहा। अब उस ने थोड़ा मोमेंटम पकड़ा है। हम चाहते हैं कि सरकार इस तरफ और ध्यान दे।

स्टील से ही देश गजबूत बनता है क्योंकि बिना स्टील के न देश डेवेलप कर सकता है और न इंडस्ट्री डेवेलप कर सकती है। मैं इस संबंध

मे एक निवेदन करना चाहूंगा। मंत्री महोदय ने यहाँ पर कहा कि हम आयरन और एक्स्पॉर्ट करते हैं, जो हमारे पास सप्लस होना है। लेकिन हमारे लिए आज स्टील इंडस्ट्री बहुत आवश्यक है। सरकार को इस बारे में सोचना चाहिए कि आयरन और का एक्स्पॉर्ट बन्द करे क्योंकि आयरन के बिना हमारा काम नहीं चल सकता। ऐसा हो सकता है कि हम जो इस से फारेन एम्बेज मिलता है लेकिन हम फार्न एक्स्चेंज तो दूसरे मुद्दे में भी कमा सकते हैं। इस लिए आयरन और का एक्स्पॉर्ट आप बन्द करे। आयरन और के एक्स्पॉर्ट में दण को नुमान हो सकता है।

यहाँ कोल मार्ग के बारे में बहुत कुछ कहा जा चुका है इसलिए मैं उस के सम्बन्ध में आपका समय अधिक नहीं लगा। केवल इतना कहूंगा कि उस के उत्पादन के लिये जिस प्रकार की आवश्यकताएँ हैं उन को पूरा कर तो इस से दण का काफी लाभ हो सकता है।

मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि हमारी जो स्टील की डिमान्ड है वह 1975 में 76 मिलियन टन होने वाली है और 1980 में 129 मिलियन टन होने वाली है। अगर आप इस डिमान्ड को आज की ही रफ़्तार से पूरा करगें तो हमारा काम कैसे चलेगा? इसके लिये कोई उचित व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये और सरकार दण का और मदद की आवश्यकता दे कि हम इस मांग को पूरी कर सकेंगे।

मैं खेतड़ी प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में भी कुछ निवेदन करना चाहूंगा। क्योंकि वह मेरी कास्टिगुएन्सी से सम्बन्धित है। मैं मंत्री महोदय के विचार से सहमत हूँ कि पिछले बारह महीनों में इस प्रोजेक्ट की जो प्रोग्रेस रही है यदि वह चलती रही तो बारह, चौदह या सोलह महीने में वह फ़ाइन करना शुरू कर देगी। लेकिन उस कामप्लेक्स के सम्बन्ध में जो डिफ़िकल्टी हैं उन को बतलाना चाहता हूँ मैं कोई उस प्रोजेक्ट की आलोचना नहीं कर रहा हूँ,

केवल मंत्री महोदय के विचार करने के लिए कह रहा हूँ। मैंने देखा कि हमारी प्लानिंग गलत हो गई है। हमने फारेन एक्स्पॉर्ट्स में राय लेने से ही काफी रुपया खर्च किया है लेकिन उस राय का फायदा हम नहीं पा सके। हम देखते हैं कि आर्गिजिनल प्लान में 2 स्टोप्स रखे गये थे लेकिन अब दो की जगह 13 करने पड़ रहे हैं। हम ने सारी प्लानिंग गलत की है। अगर हमने प्लानिंग गलत न की होती तो फिर यह प्रोजेक्ट सफ़र न करता।

इसी तरह से ओरिजिनल प्लान के हिसाब से बहुत सी मशीनरी इम्पोर्ट करने की हमारी स्कीम है और कुछ हमने इम्पोर्ट की भी है। मेरे पास इस के डिटेल्स हैं कि कहाँ कहाँ स इम्पोर्ट की गई है। लेकिन अब वह सारी मशीनरी आउट ऑफ डेट हो गई है और प्लेन्ट में लगे बिना ही बेकार हो गई है। हम उसको इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकते। उसके बजाय अब हम को दूसरी मशीनरी मंगानी पड़ रही है। हमको इन बातों को देखना चाहिये। आज गड़े मुद्दों को उखाड़न से कोई फायदा नहीं है, लेकिन हम को उनको देखना चाहिये और जो भी डिफ़िकल्टी पैदा हुए थे उन में सबक लेना चाहिये।

खेतड़ी के अन्दर हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड का हेड आफिस था। अब उस को कलकत्ते में शिफ्ट किया जा रहा है। मैं उसके विन्दु स्ट्रागली प्रोटेस्ट करता हूँ। 1967 में कहा गया था कि खेतड़ी प्रोजेक्ट देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रोजेक्ट है और उस का हेड आफिस वहाँ पर ही होना चाहिये। आज भी हम प्लान्ट के अन्दर हम 31,000 टन का प्रोडक्शन पाते हैं आज यह आर्गुमेंट दिया जाता है कि हेड आफिस सेंट्रल प्लेग में होना चाहिये। लेकिन क्या फलकत्ता हिन्दुस्तान की सेंट्रल प्लेस है? आज अगर दिल्ली को सेंट्रल प्लेस कहा जाय तो वह माना भी जा सकता है, लेकिन कलकत्ता तो दिक्कल नहीं है। इसलिये खेतड़ी के अन्दर ही उस का हेड आफिस रहना चाहिये।

[श्री शिवनाथ मिह]

इन शब्दों के साथ में इन मन्त्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करना हूँ।

SHRI KARTIK ORAON (Lohardaga)

Sir, our objective is to have socialism in the economic system based on the nationalisation of means of production and distribution and exchange. Now we are thinking in terms of increasing the wealth of our country. For that, we have to lay more stress on self-reliance. While thinking in this way, we find ourselves rather too far away from the task that lies before us. The challenge is really very difficult. I am sure that unless the Hon'ble minister assumes the properties of steel, I do not think he will be able to deal with this task.

He will have to deal with this with a firm hand and only then he will be able to reverse the order which exists today. We have invested about Rs 3,000 crores in our steel industry. Within three years of production the steel industry is supposed to give a return of at least a minimum of 10 per cent dividend on the capital outlay. What is our position? Though we have invested about Rs 3,303 crores in the public sector, we are losing to the tune of Rs 530 crores annually instead of getting a return of Rs 500 crores annually. That means, we are losing to the extent of Rs 1,000 crores. This is a very serious problem which the hon. Minister will have to take note of. He should try to devise ways and means to bring about a change. This is really a very big challenge for him. Unless he brings about a change in structure, behaviour and functioning which is of a revolutionary character, I am afraid the change of this order in a very short time is really difficult. So, this should be the concern of not only the Minister but of the whole country. We should try to see where the snag is and how we can get over it.

I have many points to cover but for want of time I am not able to do it. There are some good points brought out in this report. There is sufficient development in research. I notice that every public sector factory or undertaking has a design office, a research and development centre. This is, of course, a must for all industries.

But I cannot understand one thing. In

one place he talks of a Holding company where he has tried to combine a number of items. The Holding company will deal with steel, coking coal, iron ore, manganese and so on. Unless each unit is capable of functioning in a proper and efficient way, I am definitely of the opinion that putting all of them together will not be able to bring about good results. I personally feel that it is like sitting for a test. Suppose I sit for a test and answer one question half way, another question only for a quarter, take yet another question and leave it in the middle, will I pass the test? No, I will pass the test only when I reply to all the questions correctly and in a nice way. So, though this idea is very good, I personally feel that this is not the time when we should go in for this. Again, he is trying to involve some private companies also. Before I would think in terms of looking after the house of another person, I would have to keep my own house in order.

There is very much disparity in recruitment and promotion policies in the public undertakings. I hope the Minister in his set up one public sector service commission for recruitment to all posts in the public sectors. Then only he will be able to bring in uniform standards in the matter of recruitment and promotion in the public sector.

We have to develop the national character. It was Pandit Nehru who once said that we should judge the result not by the statistics or the amount of money spent but by the development of human character. What we have to do today is to develop the human character to tackle these challenging problems.

Finally, I would like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the condition obtaining in HEC which is likely to create ill-feeling, discontent, dissatisfaction and hatred between different sections of the people. What is happening in HEC today? The acquired 3,767 acres of land in the nearby area and made these people refugees. What are they going to do with that land now? I am told that they are trying to open a co-operative society instead of giving back the land to these people. Why are you trying to blackmail the people of that area? If you cannot give them any assistance, at least do not try to blackmail.

them. So, I would request the hon. Minister to issue directions straightway, immediately, to the Chairman or the Managing Director and restrain him from taking any such steps. I want to say in the end that though my voice is harsh I am not harsh.

He should not be a party to this type of a thing. I would once again request the hon. Minister to look into it. This is a very serious issue. If he does not take note of it, I am sure, the situation will develop to such an extent that it will get out of control.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR-MANGALAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to hon. Members for the interest they have taken in the working of the Department in my charge and for the kind words and some times the not so kind words which have been said about our work. I sympathise with them for the shortness of time and I would also ask them to excuse me if I am not able to answer all the questions that have been raised in the debate. I do not think there will be adequate time to deal with all of them. But I assure them that whatever has been said will be given utmost consideration by the Department and we shall try to see the extent to which we improve our work.

There can be no doubt if we examine the record of the Department during the last year in steel that we have not been able to attain the targets which we had put before ourselves last year and which in a sense I committed myself to in this House that I would try to attain. I do not want to make any secret of that. I think, it is necessary for me to fully put before the House the position, frankly and honestly, of the industry and the steps that we are trying to take in order to improve it.

What exactly had happened during last year? We had put before ourselves at the beginning of the year a target of 2,200,000 tonnes of ingots steel in Bhilai and we achieved 1,953,000 as against 1,940,000 in 1970-71. We went slightly ahead of last year's production. In Durgapur, we were better than last year but far away from the target which we had put before ourselves. The target was 1,153,000 tonnes and we

reached 700,000 tonnes as against 634,000 tonnes that we did last year, i. e., 1970-71. In Rourkela, the target was 1,400,000 tonnes and what we reached was 823,000 tonnes as against 1,238,000 tonnes that we did in 1970-71. So, obviously, we were well behind what we attempted to achieve and what we had put before ourselves as the target.

I certainly do owe it to the House to explain quite clearly what were the reasons for not achieving the target. The most important one, of course, was the collapse of the steel melting shop roof in Rourkela. That cost us, at a conservative estimate, something like 350,000 tonnes, i. e. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakh tonnes. Had we been able to keep up to the same level of production which we had achieved in Rourkela in normal working months, then, you will appreciate, we would have reached somewhere in the region of perhaps even 1,200,000 tonnes or certainly 1,150,000 tonnes. That would have made the entire difference both to the steel production in our country and to the economics, that is to say, the need for imports and the profitability of the Hindustan Steel Ltd. itself.

I would, however, at this moment like to pay my tribute to the manner in which, after the collapse of the roof took place, the roof was again put up. It was put up in a record time. The work was done on a war-footing. We brought in Jessops who did an excellent job in fabricating material for the roof. We thought it might take even as much as a year to get back into normal production. But it was done in a matter of $4\frac{1}{2}$ months.

The second main reason why we were not able to achieve what we wanted to do was the very serious trouble we had in the coke oven in Bhilai. Despite this, we reached the figure of 1,953,000 tonnes. But I cannot gainsay the fact that, had our operation of the coke oven in Bhilai over the year been executed according to the technological rules which we should have followed, we would have achieved well over $2\frac{1}{2}$ million tonnes in Bhilai this year. We have paid for our technological violations in the working of the coke ovens and also for our incompetence in maintenance. We are trying to make it up, and I will come to the measures that we are taking, in a minute.

15 hrs.

[Shri S. Mohan Kumarmangalam]

The third is—and this is also a very serious matter—the disturbed industrial relations that we have had, particularly in the Durgapur area. It is our assessment that we have lost somewhere in the region of one million man-hours of work in Durgapur during 1971-72. And it is important to note that something like 65 per cent of the financial losses that have been suffered by Hindustan Steel are due to what has been happening in Durgapur.

The fourth is the eternal problem—as you must be feeling because I have repeated it time in and time out—of inefficient maintenance to which we are really trying to make a difference.

What are the steps which we are taking? What are we trying to change and how do we think that we will be able to achieve the targets that we have put before ourselves this year?

To improve the performance of the coke ovens in the short run, that is to say, for immediate, direct improvement in the working of the coke ovens, we have appointed two special groups of experts—that is, Hindustan Steel did—to look the coke ovens in all the three public sector plants, and we are going to check up what is going on in the two private sector plants, where also we are facing trouble in the coke ovens. The services of a leading Soviet specialist—I think, he is number two in the coke oven branch in Soviet Union were availed of. He came down, spent a number of months here and gave us a detailed manual on the working and maintenance of the coke ovens. It is being translated, distributed, throughout the coke oven areas in our steel plants and all the steps that he has proposed are being implemented. I hope, this will mean a real improvement in the working of the coke ovens this year.

A special Group, apart from the two groups set up by the Hindustan Steel, was constituted by the Government for suggesting the most cost effective measures for increasing coke production, and this Group's suggestions also are under implementation. A Group has been set up under the chairmanship of the Steel Secretary to make an assess-

ment of the coke requirements in the steel industry and its availability from other sources, for example, the small coke ovens which we find in the coke oven areas in Dhanbad and Jharia. I think, we have now taken effective steps to ensure the best use of the coke that is available in our country. And even in the case of coke oven gas the shortage of which became inevitable with the bad working of the coke ovens, we were using supplementary fuels like Naphtha and Benzene by suitable modifications, in reheating furnaces, etc. Some hon. members suggested that we must have a long-term plan for improvement of the coke ovens. We have already started doing that in terms of re-building our coke ovens. A new coke oven battery, as the hon. members are aware, was commissioned in Bhilai in January 1972. Capital repairs of all the batteries in Rourkela are being planned taking one-half of a battery down as in Japan to ensure minimum dislocation in production. We have decided to instal an additional half coke oven battery at Rourkela and another full battery at Bhilai. It will take probably two or two and a half years to put these schemes through. We have also taken a number of steps one is setting up separate Group concentrating on the maintenance in the plant itself and the other is to be able to make adequate provisions for spares to be available continuously whenever they are needed. We have planned a three-year rolling plan for stores and spares, raw materials, etc. and to ensure that, as a result of this, we will get all the spares at the cheapest and most economical prices and also that they will be available whenever we want them.

Now, these are broadly the steps that we are taking in the field of organisational and, what I would call, mechanical improvement. Perhaps, the most important, particularly, I would say, in Durgapur is the difficulties that we have been facing in the field of industrial relations. Whatever my friend Mr. Dinan Bhattacharyya may say the fact is that we have suffered a lot. I do not say that it is the labour relations that are exclusively responsible for the troubles in Durgapur. Not at all. But I do say that more than in the other two plants, disturbed industrial relations have affected the working of the plant to an extraordinary degree and perhaps it may be use

ful if I Just gave one single instance which will enable hon. Members to appreciate what happens when we do not have proper industrial relations machinery working and proper relations between the management and labour.

On the morning of the 21st April, just a few days back, one of the EIMCO operators—there are five EIMCO operators to remove the slag which is on the site—refused to work and did not work from 11.15 a. m. to the end of the shift, that is, 2 o'clock. As a result, he was under-timed that is to say, he was marked as not having worked for that period. Immediately all the other EIMCO operators went on a lighting strike as a protest against the under-timing, namely against the under-timing of this operator. As a result of these five persons not working, the entire production in the steel melting shop had to be severely curtailed and almost brought to a stop. The management, for the first time in many years, rightly said, 'We are not going to talk to you even over this under-timing affair until you go back to work. Then only we will discuss.' They refused to go back to work. As a result of the agreement we have arrived at with all the three Unions, none of the Unions supported these workers, also probably for the first time, including the Union for whom Shri Bhattacharyya may have sympathy. None of the Unions supported them. They tried the various political parties and tried to fish round hoping that they would get some support. Ultimately, finding that they did not get any support, after three days, they went back to work unconditionally. We lost 4000 tonnes of steel as a result of the strike of these 15 EIMCO operators. This was taking place time and again. Unfortunately....

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) : What is the punishment given ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Please don't interrupt.

Unfortunately, the policy that we have been pursuing so far has been that whenever pressure like this builds up, we retreat, feeling that if we did not retreat, production will go to pieces. But with a new General

Manager there who it not going to resign—I assure Mr. Sokhi though he wants him to—I think we are beginning to get a grip on the situation there. Now, as a result of the intervention of the Labour Minister of West Bengal, Dr. Gopal Das Nag, we have come to an understanding with all the important Unions in Durgapur to set up a three tier system for settlement of disputes—one tier at the plant level, then with the management and ultimately with the Labour Minister himself involved in a sort of joint Council—and we hope that this will mean a real improvement.

I do not at all say that the workers alone are responsible. It is a sort of demagogic way of putting the management and the Government in the wrong and always charging us of trying to shift our responsibility to the workers, because after all it is the duty of the Government and the management and, more than that of the Government, of the management to manage the workers. But the fact remains and we cannot get away from that fact and if we try to get away, we will not realise that what is really harming production in Durgapur namely instances as the one I described now have continuously been responsible for keeping the production at such a low, depressed level in Durgapur. Why is it that in Bhilai and Rourkela we do not have these troubles on the scale that we have in Durgapur alone? I would appeal to the hon. Members on the other side to apply their minds and try to make a distinction. The management is the same. The Chairman is the same. Officers are transferred from one plant to another. It is not that the officers in one plant are worse than the officers in another. Now, as a result of the new approach that we are making in Durgapur, we hope we shall have some improvement. I was there in Durgapur only day before yesterday. I met all the Unions and I had discussions with them and I think the situation is improving. I would appeal to the hon. Members to lend their support to our approach and I think the management also hopes that in its policy of firmness combined with justice and combined with fairness the management should now have the entire support of the House and I am confident that if we implement it fairly and honestly, we will be able to make a decisive turn in Durgapur this year.

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We are in other respects also improving the position. The hon. Member Shri Bhattacharyya mentioned about the production incentives which of course are frowned upon in China, but I know he has no longer any sympathy for China, and I can assure him that production incentives are being introduced, they have already been introduced effectively in Bhilai. To a large extent we will be able to implement them also in Rourkela and in Durgapur also. So, that is being done. I think that will lead to improvement in productivity. The Hindustan Steel are making a number of improvements so far as the day to day organisation is concerned.

Then, a number of general allegations and statements had been made, that the our steel is very costly, why we are producing so little and so on, I would appeal to hon. Members to appreciate that by and large the steel prices in our country do correspond very favourably with the international prices. If we are able to bring our production from the present 65 to 67 per cent level which it is today to the level of 80 to 82 per cent which we aim at, I have no doubt that we shall be able to bring our steel prices to possibly among the cheapest steel in the world. This is not my opinion alone. There have been World Bank experts who have also come and looked around. Undoubtedly they expressed their regret regarding the present low level of production, but they have also said that on the basis of the present skills and organisation which we have got in our steel plants, if we are even able to come up to 80 to 82 per cent we should be able to bring down the cost of steel substantially, and also substantially less than in some of the other countries in the world like Japan, the United States and so on. So, that is so far as this aspect is concerned.

May I now deal briefly with the question why it is that we are suffering these heavy losses? About this year, I do not want to give any exact figure, because no final figure is arrived at, the accounts are still in the process of being checked, but I have no doubt we shall suffer a fairly serious loss in Hindustan Steel. There were various reasons. First, of all, the full impact of the wage agreement is coming to Rs. 6 crores or so.

The higher consumption of stores and spares and on account of maintenance comes to Rs. 6 crores and possibly another Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 crores are due to war risk insurance and revaluation of the Dutchmark, which is a German decision, and another Rs. 1.5 crores being our liability for additional bonus, altogether Rs. 20 crores. And then, whatever extra loss we may suffer will probably be due to the fall of the roof in the steel melting shop etc. It is a fact that we will be losing money but I do want hon. Members to appreciate that we are controlling the price of steel and that when we fixed it originally we did it not by price control but by regulation; when we did it in 1962, we fixed it on a standard capital block of Rs. 1,176 per tonne of saleable steel. Now the actual capital block today is somewhere in the region of 2,000 so far as Bhilai is concerned and may be even more so far as Bokaro is concerned. The difference between the private and the public sector arises out of the fact that the capital block of the private sector,—most of it, was constructed long before and at much cheaper cost. The share capital so far TISCO is concerned is Rs. 50 crores. Necessarily it is a bias, as it were; I would not say against the public sector alone. But, as a result of pinning the steel prices down, we do almost necessarily ensure that we are working at a loss.

If we were going to increase the steel prices, which we had no intention of doing then it would have meant on the one hand that we were going to increase the profits in the private sector and on the other hand we would merely have improved the both working of the public sector. So, what we thought we would do and what has been done by the Government this year is to funnel off what can be paid extra by the steel consumer by the imposition of the excise duty. That is really the method by which we would funnel off even possible profits in the public sector in the steel plants and which would become much more in the private sector, because the private sector has advantages so far as capital costs are concerned. This is how we are looking at it. But you may say that if the increase in excise duty had been given to the steel plants as increase in price, the financial position of all the steel plants would have been better including that of Hindustan Steels. But of course, the financial position

of the TISCO and IISCO would have been much better; I do not think that I should actually bracket TISCO and IISCO like that the financial position of TISCO would have been much better, and the financial position of IISCO would have been a little better, because if you look at IISCO's production it is nothing very much more than the production even in the public sector plants and substantially worse than the production in Bhilai.

SHRI R. N. SHARMA : That is under the influence of Durgapur.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR-MANGALAM : Now, we think that this is the way in which the matter should be looked at.

Let us not beat our breast too much about our own inefficiency. There is no doubt that there is inefficiency. There is no doubt that we have got a long way still to go. But I think, and I am confident that during the last year, as a result of a number of measures which we have taken and which I have outlined very briefly just now, we shall be able to make a turn inside Hindustan Steels and inside our steel industries. I think with that I shall leave Hindustan Steels and go on to other points.

Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi raised the question of Bokaro and said that there had been complete organisational failure in Bokaro. Of course, the use of hyperbole is not impermissible in Parliament, and I have no objection to the language used. But I think that it is good also to look at the facts.

The tempo of work at Bokaro has progressively and significantly improved during the last year. Probably, the best index of the pace of construction is to see the rate of erection of steel structures, mechanical equipment and refractories. During 1971, the erection of steel structures amounted to over 71,000 tonnes, an increase of about 51 percent over the previous year. The progress in the erection of mechanical equipment was more striking as the aggregate work done during 1971 amounted to 39,000 tonnes, which is a hundred per cent more than in 1970. In refractory works, the progress is from 5568 tonnes in 1970 to 34,000 tonnes in 1971, a

sixfold increase. The monthly rate of erection of equipment has been doubled last year and is proceeding at the rate of 12,000 tonnes a month, the highest rate ever achieved anywhere in our country in a major project of this character. But it is inevitable and I would plead with the hon. Members also to appreciate some of the difficulties that we are facing in Bokaro, that in such a gigantic project involving 50,000 to 60,000 workers working in a single area, we have a number of difficulties, such as non-availability of essential goods, scarce raw materials, delay in supplies of equipment, periodic failures of a number of contractors who have been engaged and a continuous under-current of labour indiscipline arising from the necessity for us to go on keeping to targets. As soon as a particular section of the worker know that they are in a crucial position in the chain of production or construction which will enable them to hold us, they hold us and when they do so, we find it very difficult to know how to get over that difficulty. As a matter of fact, at the present moment, we have got a lock-out in Bokaro in one of the areas, in the blast furnace and coke oven and refractories area as a result of the workers thinking that with the date of commissioning of the blast furnace coming up within a seeable distance towards the end of June or the beginning of July, they are in the best possible position to, if you pardon my using that language, twist the arm of Bokaro Steels as well as that of the Government as effectively and as possible; but we decided that we could not give in any more, and if we gave in as we did in earlier days in Durgapur, we would never see the end of this arm-twisting policy which is followed by strategically placed groups of workers, who twist the arm only when it becomes most useful and most proper from their point of view and most difficult from our point of view. Unfortunately, there is no other way that we have been able to find because there are a large number of unions in Bokaro and the larger the number of unions, the less becomes the strength of each union and its capacity to deliver any goods. So, on this occasion, with the full knowledge of the Chief Minister of the Government of Bihar as well as of the local authorities, the Bokaro Steel Ltd., have declared a lock-out in a small area, and I think that as a result of it, we should be able to bring some sense to certain sec-

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tions of the workers who think that they can use the critical stage which the project has reached, in order to be able to get what they want.

There has been no revision of the revised schedule of construction finalised in the middle of 1969. After the commissioning of the first blast furnace complex the first stage will be completion about a year i. e., in June 1973. The coke oven battery was lit by me in March and we hope we would be able to keep up to the schedules we have put before ourselves.

So far as the estimates of expenditure are concerned, I do not want to go into them as they have been mentioned here repeatedly, but I think hon. Members should appreciate that almost the major part, more than major part, perhaps 75 per cent, of the escalation has been due to increase in the cost of indigenous equipment, particularly in regard to HEC and other organisations. Since I do not have much more time, I shall leave Bokaro at that.

I would like to deal with certain important matters in the other organisations, particularly in HEC and MAMC. I always wonder about one thing. When hon. members speak on the floor of the House, they always quote from the reports of the Committee set up by Parliament regarding public sector undertakings only those parts that are critical of their functioning. I suppose the same weight can be attached to those parts that are favourable to us. Since hon. members are not prepared to quote the parts favourable to us, I suppose I shall have to do it.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN (Madras North): That which is greater has to be quoted.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM: In the Heavy Engineering Corporation, we are making a real change. The Committee on Public Undertakings in its report submitted on 27th April, just a few days ago, has stated—and it is very gratifying—

"The Committee find that the

Ministry have already taken action in organising task forces to tackle systematically and earnestly the problems of the Heavy Engineering Corporation. While the Committee appreciate the determination with which the problem of putting to full utilisation the capacity of the Heavy Engineering Corporation is being tackled of late, they feel that this effort would have to be sustained over a number of years till all the teething troubles of the plant are overcome".

We entirely agree.

The Committee have also made a remark about the systematic way in which the problems of the Heavy Engineering Corporation are being tackled. What I would like hon. members to appreciate is that within the last one year we have made a real improvement. In 1968-69, the equipment produced was 23,852 tonnes and in 1971-72, we have improved it to 33,000 tonnes. In between, in the two years, it was 24,462 and 23,109 tonnes—almost at the same level. But this year we have made a decisive jump. In terms of value, in 1968-69, it was Rs. 10 crores, in 1969-70 Rs. 14 crores, in 1970-71 Rs. 19 crores and in 1971-72 Rs. 28 crores. This is a decisive improvement. Not only this; we have made certain items of equipment which have never been made before in the country, wagon tipplers, 180-ton EOT crane and so on and so forth.

I think we are beginning now to get over the hump in HEC. I am confident that this year we will really reach a stage when certainly there will be loss. It was already there, but we are confident of being able to break even in the latter part of the year.

How has this happened? We have made certain changes in the top management. We have given special attention to the integration of effort and sharing of workload, to securing adequate orders to see that production is uninterrupted, to improve the foundry forge plant, particularly its operation was examined by the Administrative Staff College in Hyderabad, to improve the methods and procedures of planning and production, because it is a very complicated plant in which every single thing that is produced is separate and different from any single other

article. All these things together with planning properly the availability of raw materials have, I think, led to a real improvement in HEC.

We have also done something which I think the management can certainly take credit for. We have pretty well solved the problem of rehabilitation of the Muslim employees which had been a running sore in the Heavy Engineering Corporation since 1967. We are now almost at the end of the road so far as that problem is concerned.

So far as the Mining and Allied Machinery is concerned, here also there has been a substantial improvement in terms of tonnage as well as in value. In 1970-71, the production was 7,742 tonnes, compared to 5,764 tonnes in 1969-70, and it has increased to 12,000 tonnes in 1971-72; that is, the last year. Production also has gone up in value; from Rs. 3 crores in 1969-70 to Rs. 5 crores in 1970-71, and has doubled to Rs. 10 crores in 1971-72. The Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation was the sickest child among the many sick children which exist in the Ministry of Steel and Mines. But I think we are really out of the woods, and I am confident that during the coming year, the steps which are being taken being similar to those we have taken in the Heavy Engineering Corporation, we will put the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation properly on a sound footing. We will go ahead as we are planning for in the coming years.

I am reaching the end of the time allotted to me, and I only want to mention, with the Deputy-Speaker's permission, one or two points made by hon. Members, because I do not want all of you to feel that I have escaped from here without answering a single point. I had to deal with certain general matters which are of importance, because, I think hon. Members will appreciate that the time is not enough for me to be able to deal with every single question.

The hon. Member Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya, mentioned particularly about the poor maintenance and the consequential breakdown, and not the workers performance, as being responsible for the Durgapur loss. I have already made my

point on that, but I would like to emphasise that we are taking and have taken steps inside Durgapur regarding improvement of the technological position.

Certain allegations have been made by the hon. Member Mr. Sokhi regarding corrupt officials and action not being taken and so on. I can assure him that whatever information he has got on that matter appears to be incorrect, because I have myself examined the position in Durgapur, and all those allegations which had any *prima facie* content in them at all, have been referred to proper authorities and action will be taken on the basis of whatever reports we receive.

There has been an allegation made that the recommendations of the Pandey Committee have not been implemented. That is not correct. We have implemented most of them one after the other,

My friend Mr. Boattacharria was very exercised for a second time on the promotion of a particular persons within six hours in one day. At that time, I had expressed a certain amount of doubt about the truth of the report. Now, I am in a position to tell him that that is not true. The position is simple. Every General Manager has to have a private secretary; I think that is very obvious. And every private secretary of a General Manager has to be really a competent person. Speaking as a Minister I can say that if my private secretary is not competent, I cannot do a quarter of the work that I should do. If you want a good, first-class man as private Secretary to a General Manager, you must enable him to move out of the private secretaryship somewhere else, because he cannot move from his private secretaryship to become General Manager which is the post immediately above him and below which he is working. So, a decision was taken by the board of Hindustan Steel sometime ago—I do not know whether it was one year or two years back—that every private secretary of a General Manager should be entitled to a lateral move; that is to say, he can move into any other department for which he is qualified and on a lateral basis. All that happened in this case was that the private secretary laterally moved; that is considered to be one promotion which it is not. Late-

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ral movement means—I think we know it—one moves sideways, but at the same time, at the same level; you know it is neither forward nor upward nor downwards. (Interruption)

Let me finish. I am giving the fact. There, he was in a place where he was qualified to be promoted. He was, given a promotion. There is nothing out of the way, and it is unfortunate that a small matter like that which is entirely according to the rules of Hindustan Steel should be the subject of so much comment.

Because, while hundreds of these things happen in the Private Sector nobody bothers about that, but only when we stick to the rules, the matter is picked up and given a slight twist. Unfortunately, it creates a considerable amount of demoralisation when such things are looked upon as a major mistakes.

Mr. Bhattacharyya also said that it has become a practice to allot quota not on the basis of actual requirement but on the recommendation of somebody. It is not so. Nobody makes the recommendation regarding the allotment of steel. Allotment of priorities regarding steel is done strictly on the basis of sponsoring by authorities—Governmental or Quasi-Governmental authorities—on the demands of different areas of industries. They go before the Joint Plant Committee, then before the Steel Priority Committee and then only, it is not allotment, but it is a question of priority requirement that is determined.

Mr. Sokhi has given some details about the personal experiences and inspection he had of the Rourkela Plant. I have not got the details in answer to what he said. I will give him details later if he is still interested at that time.

So far as taking over the Asian Refractories is concerned, Hon. Members know that the delay was due to the delay in the court. It took four months for us to get through the court. I think we all know that this can happen.

Mr. Viswanathan spoke about over-staffing. But the difficulty about over-staffing of any particular concern is when a person gets inside the field of constructing a particular plant, then in our country he thinks he has a prescriptive right to the job in the plant itself. You are not, as I know, from Salem. If you were an M.P. from Salem, I am sure, after we have constructed a steel plant in Salem, there will be into few workers who will be on your head asking you to see to it that they are given jobs in the steel plant. This is the trouble in our country, and I think it arises out of difficulty regarding employment, and the Members of Parliament from the particular area, where you and I may be complaining about over-staffing. I can assure you, would be the first in the field to demand that there should be no retrenchment, and unfortunately we have to follow that. What you had also suggested was, at least to see that they are assimilated in future. We shall try, but I think it will be difficult to avoid it for some time to come, until our whole man-power problem viz., solution of the unemployment in the country has been properly achieved.

Mr. Panda has charged me about the question of the second steel plant in Orissa. Well, he can wait for hearing my remarks tomorrow afternoon. I am sure he is going to wait. I think that discussion on the Resolution has not yet concluded.

So far as Khadiiikar formula is concerned, that was inevitable because we are dealing unit by unit. If we had take Hindustan steel everybody would have got 1% extra. Because we dealt with it unit by unit, Rourkela got more, Bhilai got more, Durgapur did not, Fertilizer plant did not. But if we take Hindustan Steel as a whole every body would have got 1%. What happens? The Fertilizer people have not been badly treated, but others have been well treated or better treated I do not think you want me to take back the extra bonus from the Rourkela or from the Bhilai worker; that is not your intention. We cannot extend it because applying the principle of Khadiiikar formula they are not entitled to. So, merely because next door the workers are entitled to it, because we apply Khadiiikar formula in that way does not mean that the plant which is not entitled

becomes entitled. I think it is a better way to meet that problem like that.

So far as the sale of scrap at Rs. 50/— to a contractor from Bhilai is concerned, that is not true. I have examined that matter. I do not think any mistake has been committed by the Bhilai authorities.

I have not, unfortunately, the time to deal with mines at all. My hon. friend the Minister of State, Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, had dealt with these elaborately. I think all the questions that were raised have been dealt with him.

I shall finally deal with two points. One is, so far as the copper deposits in Madhya Pradesh are concerned, Mr. Gautam has rightly said that there are very good copper deposits, possibly, they may be the best in our country. The copper ore content is 1.16 and 21 million tonnes of reserves have already been discovered there. Probably, we got 40 million. We are definite that we will be putting up a concentrator there, and very likely we may put up a smelter. We have not taken a final decision. That will be done very soon.

Mr. Shivnath Singh said, we should not export iron ore and we should put a stop to it. I am afraid I cannot agree with him. At the very minimum, we have got 10,000 million tonnes of iron ore. I do not know how we are going to calculate how soon we are going to exhaust it, but assuming we even reach the Japanese rate of production, which is going to take us some time, we need not have any fear. These are the discovered, proved reserves. If we take reserves which we are in the process of discovery our broad guess is in the Kudremukh to Goa area alone on the West Coast which has magnetite ore of 35%. We will have 6,000 million tonnes. So, we need not have any fear that we are going to exhaust our reserves. Even countries like Brazil and Australia are earning so much money by exporting iron ore. I think you should criticise us for not exporting enough. That is the real charge against Government, to which I cannot plead guilty, though I can feel rather uncomfortable about it.

Finally, both in the Department of steel and in the Department of Mines, we

are trying to put the working of the department on a more and more scientific and rational basis. The holding company about which some hon. Members had made a mention is essentially a device by which we would be able to coordinate and control the development of our iron ore and steel industry more effectively than before. My friend, Mr. Mohanty, was sceptical and said, "Why don't you put your present house in order before trying to build a new house?" I am not trying to build a new house. This is only a better method of being able to put the present house in the proper functioning order. We are merely setting up a coordinating authority which will not be interfering in the day-to-day operations of Hindustan Steel or Bokaro Steel, etc., but bringing them together, giving them maximum assistance and helping them to get over the difficulties and pushing up in the most effective way the iron and steel production in the country. I am confident that the holding company which we hope to bring into operation within the next few months will mark a significant step forward in the more effective leadership by Government of the industrial sector, both public sector and private sector and also in the area of production of the principal metal steel in our country.

Sir, I once more thank hon. members for their friendly remarks today. I assure them that when we all meet together next year, we will have a better story to tell them.

Some Hon. Members rose—

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow only those whose names have been listed and who had no opportunity to speak.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : What about Neiveli?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : My colleague, the Minister of state, has dealt with it.

I admit that I have not been able to deal with probably 75 per cent of the questions raised in the debate owing to lack of time. It is a choice between taking point by point and trying to give a broad picture. I assure hon. members that I will go through

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the debate and reply to them personally on every single question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They can take it up directly with you also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA (Khammam) : Since we did not get any time to speak on the debate, we may be allowed to ask three or four questions. Is there any co-ordination between the Department of Mines and the Ministry of Railways about transportation? Coal has to be transported from Ramgundam to Kothagudam. Because of shortage of coal at the thermal power station at Kothagudam on account of the non-availability of wagons to carry coal from Ramgundam, there is power cut and industries are affected. So, is there any coordination in the matter of lifting of coal?

Secondly, this morning the question of having a mini steel plant at Kothagudam was raised. Many tests have been conducted for years and years by metallurgical laboratories. Feasibility study has also been made. Recently, a UN team visited that place. What is the latest position?

My third question is about the closing down of the diamond mines in Andhra Pradesh. His predecessor had promised that he will make Rayalaseema into a Ratnaseema. Now that the diamond mines are closed there is so much of unemployment. Even before the formation of the Gem Corporation I had requested that the diamond mines should not be closed down.

Finally, what is the recruitment policy in the steel industry? There is a feeling growing among the local people at Visakhapatnam that only outsiders are recruited in the Visakhapatnam steel plant. That feeling has to be removed, if that is not correct.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Regarding the question of transportation of coal from Ramgundam to Kothagudam, I would like to mention that the question of difficulties faced regarding transport of coal are always under exami-

nation collectively by the Department of Mines and the Ministry of Railways. I do not think there is any gap in the understanding of the two departments. Possibly, even daily sometimes they will be meeting to try to solve the problems. Unfortunately, sometimes there is not enough foresight in planning ahead and, therefore, these difficulties do arise.

So far as the question of the mini-steel plant at Kothagudam is concerned, at present there is no question of setting up a mini-steel plant at Kothagudam. It is not a mini-steel plant at all. The idea probably is to put up a sponge iron plants there with the help of UNIDO to experiment whether we can use coal as a solid reductant to increase the ferrous content of iron ore. It is being processed and probably will come up. But it will take some time.

So far as the recruitment policy is concerned, I am glad the hon. Member has mentioned it, because this is one of the things which I wanted to make mention of. Perhaps the way in which things are going on is best illustrated by my friend, Shri Shivanath Singh's sudden espousal of the cause of Hindustan Copper headquarters at Khetri. What does moving of Hindustan Copper headquarters from Khetri to Calcutta mean? It means not a single employee of Khetri need be moved to Calcutta. It means you will have the headquarters of Hindustan Copper in Calcutta, employing the vast number of 60 workers, which is going to change the employment situation both in Calcutta and Khetri, completely, of course! Let us appreciate that this small headquarters we fix not according to the State but according to the working of the organisation. I may be wrong in deciding on Calcutta; I do not wish to get into a debate on that and I do not think it is right.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH : The shifting of the headquarters will affect the development of copper at Khetri.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : What you must appreciate is that it makes no difference to employment. Whether the headquarters should be either at Calcutta or Khetri is a matter of balance between the various considerations. H.C.L. has to look after not only Khetri; it

has to look after Rakha project, integrate Indian Copper mining with Rakha, it has to supervise Agrigundala project in Andhra Pradesh and many other projects. He may think that it should be in Khetri because it is in his constituency. But I have been put in charge of Hindusthan Copper Ltd. as a whole. If I have to think of H.C.L. as a whole I cannot think in terms of one State. Unfortunately, there has been a tendency growing, and I say that with a great deal of sorrow, for thinking in terms every particular plant that is put up in every particular State to provide employment only for the persons in that particular State.

The Government of India have taken a decision which we are vigorously implementing that all posts below Rs. 500 a month should go to the people of the area. We are giving those posts to them. But there is a tendency not only in Vizag but in so many places also of over-stressing this point, and of demanding that if there is an engineer with a salary of Rs. 750 or Rs. 1000 or Rs. 1250, you have taken too few Bengali engineers in Durgapur; that you have too few Bihari engineers in Dhanbad; that you have taken too few Rajasthani engineers in Udaipur and so on. Surely, India is a single country and we should try to go on the basis of merit. Our claim in the Government of India and in the public sector products projects entrusted to my charge is that employment in superior posts is being given strictly on the basis of merit and the capacity to do the job. If we are wrong in judging of merits, you can criticise us. But it is not fair that everyone of these posts should be put under a microscope and to try to examine who was his father, who was his mother and where from he has come. The posts below Rs. 500 a month are going strictly to the people of the area. But when it comes to higher posts, it is strictly on the basis of merit and merit alone.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are a number of cut motions moved. I put them all together to the vote of the House.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the respective sums not

exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 75 to 77 and 129 relating to the Ministry of Steel and Mines."

The motion was adopted.

[The Motions for Demand for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.]

DEMAND NO. 75 : DEPARTMENT OF STEEL.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 95,63,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Steel'."

DEMAND NO. 76 : DEPARTMENT OF MINES.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,92,63,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Mines'."

DEMAND NO. 77 : GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,04,14,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Geological Survey'."

DEMAND NO. 129 : OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 55,55,20,000 be granted to the President

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel and Mines'."

15.48 hrs.

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 66 and 125 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals for which 4 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House who are desirous of moving their cut motions may send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move.

DEMAND NO. 66 : MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 64,73,000 be granted to the President *to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals'.*"

DEMAND NO. 125 : CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 69,12,61,000 be granted to the President *to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1973, in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals'.*"

15.48 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair.]

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Ministry deals with very vital sectors of our economy. The saddest commentary that I want to make is that the foreign monopolies have had the strongest grip on these products, that is, petroleum and chemical products. These two vital sectors, petroleum and drugs, are under the firm grip of foreign companies, mainly, British and American.

Take, for example, the price of crude. We import about 14 million tonnes of crude. What is more astounding is that the oil companies, the foreign monopolies, import crude from their own source. Our Government cannot direct them to use crude oil from any other source. Several times it was discussed here also—the Soviet Union wanted to supply crude at a cheaper cost to these Anglo-American oil magnates and they openly said that they were not going to refine any crude that the Government may bring from any other country except their own. What is more astounding is that the prices of the imported crude have been fantastically pushed up again and again at the sweet-will of the big foreign companies. Till the end of 1968 Burmah-Shell charged 1.38 dollar per barrel imported from Persian Gulf and 1.31 dollar per barrel for Agha-gary crude oil. ESSO and Caltex were charging 1.31 dollars for Arabian crude. In between, only for a short time, 5 per cent was reduced. Again the plea was raised by these foreign monopolists that because higher royalties were charged by the oil-producing countries, they had to increase the cost of the crude. The sale of 1.25 to 1.28 dollar per barrel shot up to 1.81 to 1.85 dollar per barrel in the year 1970-71. What an unimaginable increase! When Government, day in and day out, talk of taking the country towards self-reliance, this is the picture that is prevailing year after year in the most vital sector of our economy. Again there is pressure for rise because of devaluation of dollar. The Indian people will have to pay for the higher cost of crude that they will import from their own sources. So, the Indian people will continue to be looted by the Anglo-American magnates and our Government

will always plead helplessness. West German economists have once again proved that the cost of production of one barrel of crude in Middle East is between 25 and 30 cents only. What a naked exploitation and a loot that is going on !

Originally when the foreign companies were given permission to set up three oil refineries here, their sanctioned capacity was was only 2 million for Burmah Shell refineries, one million for ESSO and 0.75 million for Caltex. These foreign monopolists clandestinely increased their capacity against the laws of the country, and ultimately the Government had to accede to their request. Today Burmah Shell is refining 4 million tonnes, ESSO 2½ million tonnes, Caltex 2 million tonnes. Thus is done to subvert the development of our indigenous production capacity. Government has been forced to sanction foreign exchange to import these increased quantities of crude by foreign companies.

Then, Sir, what a fun it is ! On 7th April, Mr. Gokhale, the Minister in charge of this Ministry, announced that the foreign oil magnates would not be permitted to make foreign exchange remittances without prior approval of the Government. This announcement was made by him so that we might reduce the remittances of these foreign companies. But by a subsequent statement Mr. Gokhale made it clear that these remittances had certain specified things in terms of certain agreements in force; hence, Government were, under these agreements, required to permit remittances, etc. What Ceylon can do, what Chile can do, what Egypt can do, the Government led by Shrimati Indira Gandhi which is proclaiming 'Garibi Hatao' and self-reliance is hesitating and hesitating to do. I do not know how long this hesitation will continue. Therefore, I demand, immediately outright nationalise all the foreign oil companies.

Then I come to the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. The ONGC is a mystery. For the last ten years there is no progress I do not know whether the Minister is in a position to tell us actually what has been done by the ONGC in the last ten years. Nothing—I will say. On the other hand, so many corruptions were brought to light. The Thakru Committee was set up regarding

the pipeline. What is the result of that inquiry ? When will it end ? Nothing is known. Every time it is coming up for extension of time. May I here say that Dr. Triguna Sen in whose time this Committee was set up, lost his job as a Minister because he had the courage to set up a committee against the high officials who are corrupt and carrying on their loot along with the foreign oil companies for a long time and that is why Dr. Triguna Sen is no more in the Ministry.

16 hrs.

Coming to the drugs, what is the position ? There also, you will find that most of the drugs we have to import at a very high cost. One committee headed by Mr. Gaylord Nelson went into this matter and their finding is that the foreign American drug companies charge upto 11,000% higher prices than the prices prevailing in Europe. This was revealed during investigation of the Senate Committee headed by Mr. Gaylord Nelson. This committee found that many of the drugs marketed by the American companies have not been properly tested about the quality and their therapeutic effectiveness. During the last 20 years out of 16,000 new products marketed by these companies, 11,000 i. e. 70% of them, do not satisfy the therapeutic claim made for them. In addition, many untested and dangerous drugs are regularly marketed. Sometime back there was a case of Thalidomide. As a result of using this drug, many children were born with so many defects. A crop of Thalidomide babies were born.

The latest is the case which has come recently in the papers 'Hexachlorophene' which is used in cosmetic items and we import it from America where it has been found to be injurious. We have seen in Indian newspapers two or three days back that this item should not be used by anybody.

Sir, loot is going on in crude oil. Loot is going on in drugs.

16.01 hrs.

[SHRI R. D. BHANDARE in the Chair]

There are foreign monopolies making huge profits. There is Alembic and Com-

[Shri Dinan Bhattacharyya]

pany. They are producing so many medicines. You have reduced the price of some items. But the drug Company as well as others have increased the cost of so many other items. When you reduce the price of any drug, you do not find it in the market. That is the position. This conspiracy is hatched by the big drug manufacturing concerns both foreign and indigenous. My grouse is that you don't have any check on the prices of drugs. Even in the hospitals that are run by the Government, you won't get the same at fixed price or controlled price, whatever you may say. Under these circumstances, the Minister must make a categorical statement.

I charge the Minister that, at the top of this Ministry there are some people who are in direct connection with the foreign oil companies. There are such top men in the Finance Department also. It is they who did not allow Mr. Gokhale to stop the remittances to the foreign monopolists. You will be surprised if I tell you the way in which they are looting. I will give you some examples of the way these remittances are made. It is not only profit, there are overhead expenses, and so many other items. In the year 1969, Rs. 8191 lakhs were remitted. The figures are Rs. 7264 lakhs in 1970 and Rs. 9441 lakhs in 1971. Until and unless we are free from these big sharks of foreign monopolists, our talk of self-reliance is just a hoax. What about profits of the foreign oil companies? In the year 1970, there was a profit of Rs. 102 crores which they got. In the year 1971 the profit was Rs. 138 crores. In the year 1972 the profit was to be Rs. 144 crores. From this you see what is the state of affairs in this respect, Sir.

I would appeal to hon. Minister Mr. Gokhale to see that with regard to drugs the supply is guaranteed. But this is not done. You fix the prices, but there is no supply. You may fix price, but manipulation is done by the big business, big drug company. They give another name to the same product. They sell at higher rate. Suppose Rs. 15 is the original cost before price fixation. Now after price fixation, the company adds something to it, gives different name, avoids drug control regula-

tion, and charges huge money from the buyers. Regarding the pipeline I have many things to say but I do not have the necessary time for that purpose. I would like to know why the drilling at Baramoola in Tripura had been stopped. I know that there is some scandal regarding the supply of materials there and charges were framed against those who were responsible for it. I do not know what has been done. I would like to know how many inquiries have been set up by the CBI against the corrupt officials. Let the hon. Minister kindly state it. Everybody knows how corruption is rampant in this Department particularly.

So, I would appeal to the hon. Minister to be straightforward. Let him nationalise all the oil companies and have them in the public sector. Let him see that the ONGC serves its purpose and the country may be self-reliant at least in oil.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA (Tamluk): I am not happy with the working of this Ministry, especially of the refinery section of the this Ministry. I had to raise a half-an-hour discussion here about the pipeline laying...

SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN (Badagara): I would request that one more hour may be given for this debate, because it is very important for our economic development.

SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR (Patiala): We also join in this request. The Deputy Minister of Parliamentary Affairs is here, and he may increase the time allotted for these Demands.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patan): Instead of four hours, it should be increased to 5 hours.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If ten hon. Members get up and start speaking simultaneously, let them not be under the impression that their demand is going to be accepted. I shall simply put it to the House, and if the House agrees, I have no objection.

SHRI SAT PAL KAPUR: You may put it to the House just now.

MR. CHAIRMAN : For the time being, let Shri S. C. Samanta continue his speech.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : The pipeline was constructed from Haldia to Barauni through Allahabad, and there was a grievance in the country about the quality of the pipeline that had been laid. I was astonished to see the pipeline for myself, because Haldia is in my constituency, and when I went there, I say that almost 99 per cent of the pipes had been damaged, and this was brought there by the contractors. Shri P.R. Nayak was the Secretary to the Ministry at that time and he was looking to all these things. He had something to do with the Bechtel company. Those things have been found out and now the Takru Commission's inquiry into the pipeline affairs is going on.

When a commission of inquiry is set up by a Ministry, then it should be given all facilities, and all documents and other things that are required by the commission should be supplied. We hear that they are not being supplied. The concept and policy of entrusting big public undertakings to the care of industrial managers as chief executives has been seriously compromised in the case of the IOC, in the refineries, pipeline and marketing divisions. The Bureau of Public Enterprises was set up to guide public undertakings. Guidelines were given as far as back as 1967 by the Bureau to all undertakings including IOC regarding various stages of project planning by commissioning a feasibility study or preliminary project report to take investment decision followed by Detailed Project Report and preparation of engineering drawings. This is the procedure to be followed, but in the case of Haldia Refinery, which was estimated to cost only Rs. 46 crores when it was cleared by Government in 1967, the cost has escalated to nearly Rs. 68 crores already and this top. Priority Project which was supposed to be ready in 1969 or so, already late by three years and I can say with the fullest sense of responsibility that there is no prospect of this refinery getting ready earlier than 1974, by which time the total project cost may go up to Rs. 75 crores.

This has happened because deposit clear directives by the Finance Ministry in 1967 guidelines given by the Bureau of Public Enterprises, Haldia refinery is being built

without a DPR and the foreign collaborators, in conjunction with unworthy executives of the IOC are, once again, taking us for a ride.

IOC has violated government directives about project planning once again to the detriment of the public interest and public exchequer. The IOC Board, according to my information, had insisted on regular review of the project by means of PERT diagrams some 2 years ago. Throughout 1971, no realistic PERT diagram was presented to the IOC Board. The Committee on Public Undertakings in its 66th Report had highlighted the follies of project planning of the Haldia-Barauni pipelines without a proper project reports. Without a paper project report things are going on. We must know where we are.

The Special Secretary to the Petroleum Ministry had admitted while vouching evidence before the PUC that the entire pipeline project needed redesigning. After the pipeline was completed and defects found, it is now said that redesigning should be done. Then, what has been done? This gentleman, Shri Mangat Rai, ICS, apparently got jittery towards the end of 1971 and quietly resigned from the ICS. The Secretary to the Petroleum Ministry, the Finance Associate and Government Audit have not only ignore the fact that Government guidelines on project planning of Haldia Refinery has been defied by the ICS, but these watchdog agencies, particularly the controlling Ministry, have not taken any action against the persons responsible for it.

An escalation of Rs. 25 crores may not matter to the new breed of public sector executives, the new capitalists without investment, but Rs. 25 crores is a very big amount and, if I may quote, "money covers a multitude of sins".

Mr. P. R. Nayak, ICS, the presiding deity of the petroleum firmament for nearly a decade had to be suspended from service for his role in the pipeline muddle. His role in the Haldia refinery project as Secretary of the Ministry when the contracts were executed in 1967-68, the role of his successor, the present Secretary of the Ministry and the concerned executives in the IOC should be looked into forthwith.

[Shri S.C. Samanta]

The conduct of the Finance Director of the IOC in 1967-68, Mr. M. V. Rao, for his role in the pipeline muddle is now under enquiry.

Sir the watchdogs of public undertaking are the Financial Controller and the Finance Director. From 1966, till September 1971, a brother-in-law of Mr. Nayak was the Financial Controller of the Refineries and Pipelines Division of the IOC. How did Mr. Nayak manage these things?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The matter is before the Commission. So, these facts as to what he did and what others did need not be mentioned in the House because the matter is *sub-judice*. Let the Commission make all possible enquiry. Kindly switch on to other points.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : All right, Sir. This Ministry has suffered much because of the change of Ministers. Perhaps in no other Ministry such changes have taken place. Fortunately or unfortunately, we have now got one Minister, and we hope that the grievances about which we feel very strongly will be taken care of by the hon. Minister.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola) : After all, oil is slippery.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : But the law is there and the law will protect.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal) : Not brother-in-law!

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do not disturb him, Let him speak.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Sir, you have reminded me of the Takru Commission I would not, therefore, go further. I would only request the hon. Minister to see the Thakru Commission is helped with all the papers and other things that it requires, so that we could look to the Ministry in such a way that we can have some faith in the public undertakings in which we are taking so much interest. We are nationalising so many institutions, and so, if our men who are put

in charge of them do not to well, what will be the fate of the Government, I do not know.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants.

SHRI R. V. BADE (Khargone) : I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Need to take over all medical pharmacies which are owned by foreign companies. (26)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Need to stabilise prices of medicines. (27)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced to Re. 1"

[Need to check adulteration in medicines. (28)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced to Re. 1"

[Failure of I.O.C. to give petrol pumps to the cooperative societies in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. (29)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure to nationalise all foreign oil companies working in India. (30)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced to Re. 1."

[Failure in conducting inquiry into the corruption prevailing in India Oil Corporation. (31)]

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : I beg to move :

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to nationalise oil companies belonging to U. S. A. and Great Britain. (39)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the price of kerosene oil. (40)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to check adulteration in petrol supplied from petrol pumps. (41)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to reduce the cost of drugs commonly used by people. (42)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to re-instate twelve employees of Antibiotic Plant at Birbhadra, Rishikesh (43)].

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to bring the wage scale of the employees of Antibiotics at Birbhadra, Rishikesh at par with the wage scale of Pimpri Plant under the same Ministry (44)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to set up a permanent Joint Committee in I. D. P. L. to negotiate and settle the grievances of employees (45)]

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take steps to improve the deteriorated industrial relations at the Antibiotic Plant at Rishikesh (46)].

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need for a thorough revision of wages in the pharmaceutical factories both private and public (47)].

"That the Demand under the Head 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to take effective steps to check the sale of spurious drugs in the market (48)].

MR. CHAIRMAN: The cut Motions are also before the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in this modern age of technology and science, the economic well being and prosperity of our country will largely depend on how the plans in the field of oil and petroleum are executed. I am sorry to say that at present, in the country's battle for self-reliance and economic independence, the petroleum sector represents the most dismal and depressing picture that one can imagine. Instead of increasing self-reliance we are moving in the opposite direction. The gap between the demand and the supply of petroleum products is not narrowing but increasing sharply. My friend, Shri Bhattacharyya, spoke quite a lot about imports of crude oil. The bill for this at the present rate will soon go up to something like Rs. 200 crores per year. It is estimated that the requirements of crude will increase from 18.46 million tonnes in 1970 to 26.50 million tonnes in 1974. In this increase the degree of indigenous production will not go up but go down from 36.9 per cent in 1970 to 33.2 per cent in 1974. These are calculations made by the Public Undertakings Committee in its latest report on ONGC.

In this vital and strategic sector of national economy in which there are very

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

high stakes, it is my charge that the Government has been criminally complacent. I am not blaming this Particular minister, because he is new to his charge, but over the years, the Government has been criminally complacent, allowing persons in high places to bungle and make the country pay dearly for their incompetence or may be for something worse than incompetence. The PUC's report on ONGC shows something which is truly shocking. At a time when the country is struggling with its back to the wall, when we are being blackmailed by the cut-off in US aid, when foreign-owned refineries are importing crude at fancy prices, at such a time, this report shows that the ONGC, or rather, one of its subsidiaries called Hydrocarbons India Private Limited, has failed to lift and utilise 62.2 per cent of the country's share of Rustom crude which was allotted to us. This has cost the country a loss of Rs. 15.59 crores. If this is not criminal, I would like to know what is.

It is estimated that the annual cost of imports of petroleum products in this country is roughly Rs. 30 crores. On that basis, we find that if Rustom crude had been imported and utilised in the last four years, this country could have saved Rs. 120 crores in foreign exchange, and the idle capacity of 1 million tonnes in Barauni Refinery could have been put into commission. You know what happened? For two years, this matter was held up because Mr. N. N. Kashyap, who was then boss of IOC, had pleaded that unless this Rustom crude is properly analysed by the Petroleum Institute at Dehra Dun to see what its lube content is, it is not proper to use it in Barauni or any other refinery. After two years, it was found that this crude is perfectly all right and there is nothing wrong with its lube content. IOC had actually passed a resolution that this Rustom crude should be brought and utilised. But two years were wasted by Mr. Kashyap. Even now I am told it cannot be used straightway, unless the Barauni Refinery is redesigned to some extent, because it was designed for a different type of crude. For redesigning, IOC had sanctioned an amount of Rs. 13 crores and a decision was taken by Government that this project would be undertaken for making the necessary modifications in the

design, so that the Rustom crude could be utilised and 1 million tonnes of idle capacity at Barauni could be put into commission. But nothing has been done about it up till now; I want the minister to tell the House who is responsible for sabotaging and scuttling this whole thing, why the country is being made to suffer this enormous loss and why 62 per cent of Rustom crude which is ours is not being lifted and used. Somebody in the Petroleum Ministry has to be held responsible. This kind of constantly covering up and allowing people to go scotfree is something which this country will not tolerate any longer. I think a thorough shake up is called for, a thorough shake up in the ONGC and the Ministry for this kind of scandal has to be stopped.

I would like to make three specific suggestions. Firstly, we have had a prolonged experience of successive ICS officials heading this Ministry in the capacity of Secretary. I want now, at least for once as a trial, let us have as Secretary in this Ministry a technical expert who knows something about petroleum, a petroleum expert. We do not want this successive tribe of ICS officials to go on fouling up this very vital and strategic sector. As you all know, three previous Secretaries, Shri S. S. Khera, Shri Damle and Shri Nayak, have been put on the mat by the Pipelines Enquiry Commission. Notices have been served on them to appear and answer for their responsibility in this whole sorry tale. So, my first suggestion is: let us make a break, let us have as Secretary a technocrat, if you like, an expert who knows something about petroleum.

The second suggestion that I would like to make is that a vast new prospect has opened before us, which we should explore and pursue, a tripartite agreement should be worked out between India, Bangladesh and USSR for a joint off shore exploration for oil. The entire off-shore from Visakhapatnam to Cox's Bazar can be explored provided there is co-operation between the governments of India, Bangladesh and USSR. USSR, I am sure, can supply the necessary equipment. But this should be done and it should be given priority. At least we should try for it, provided the other two governments are willing.

My third suggestion is we should encourage young petroleum geologists, very young and good scientists who are already in the ONGC itself to go in for off-shore and on-shore exploration for oil.

Incidentally, while I am on this point if I may ask a specific question what has happened about the resumption of drilling for oil in Bodra in West Bengal? Because in 1964 when one of the drills broke up we were told by Dr. Triguna Sen that after some more sophisticated survey was carried out by some equipments which were to be imported drilling in this area would be resumed. After that we have not heard anything further on that. I wish he will tell us something about it.

I would like to support the plea of Shri Bhattacharyya for the nationalisation of the foreign oil companies. I have four specific complaints against them. Firstly, they are demanding higher and higher prices, fancy price as, for their imported crude. Secondly, they are repatriating not only their large profits, but it is reported that they are repatriating portions of their reserves. They are removing their assets. Thirdly, they have drastically reduced employment; especially in the eastern region of the country, I know that thousands of their employees have had their services terminated or been forced to resign their jobs. They are either handing over much of their work to contractors or installing computers in their Bombay offices and they are cutting down their staff in the eastern region. Fourthly, in times of national emergency these oil companies have always betrayed a tendency to try to pressurize us and blackmail us.

Finally, I would like to say a few words about the Pipeline Enquiry Commission, not about anything which is sub-judice, as you correctly pointed out. My grouse is that government took a stand regarding the principal accused, Shri P. R. Nayak, of extending his services and then suspending him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can say that he is a "defaulter" not accused".

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Are you sure he is only a defaulter? Anyhow, I do not mind using the term "defaulter".

MR. CHAIRMAN: So long as he is not found guilty, you cannot call him accused.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I have no objection to using the word which you suggest. The principal defaulter, Shri Nayak, was placed under suspension by a procedure which the Government of India undertook with all good intentions for preventing him from seeking protection under the ICS privileges, because he was due to retire. Once he has retired he is beyond the scope of any inquiry. Subsequently, as you probably know, he went to the Supreme Court and the Supreme Court held his suspension to be technically void because I was notified to him that disciplinary action was only "contemplated" against him. The actual disciplinary action order which means that it must be reduced to the form of a concrete charge-sheet was not given to him. He was only informed of a contemplated disciplinary action and he was suspended. The Supreme Court held that this cannot be done and held his suspension order to be technically void. They held that a defective suspension order had been given to him.

I want to know how this was done. It is Mr. B. B. Lal, a responsible officer, the Secretary of the Department of Personnel, who framed the suspension letter. So far as I know, Mr. B. B. Lal has been a member of the I.C.S. for the last 30 years. I cannot believe that he does not understand the English language or he does not know how to draft a letter or frame a proper suspension order. Already, the charges were there. Nine charges had been framed by Mr. Mangat Rai, the Special Secretary in the Ministry and forwarded to Mr. Takru for preliminary investigation. Mr. Takru enlarged those 9 charges to 15 charges. Out of 15 charges, Mr. Takru held Mr. Nayak being *prima facie* guilty or a defaulter on 14 charges. This was done on the 11th January, 1971. Yet, the suspension order which came later on that is, on the 23rd March, 1971 contained no charges. Hence, it was held by the Supreme Court to be defective. Am I to take it that Mr. Lal is such an immature or an inexperienced officer that he did not understand this or is this another example of the I.C.S. brotherhood gang up in defence of each other?

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

Perhaps, I am being uncharitable. At least there is one other I. C. S. man, Mr. B. R. Tandon, the Special Commissioner of Departmental Enquiries, who found Mr. Nayak guilty of 11 charges, specially, absolving Bechtel's from paying income-tax on their profits. I believe, this comes under the Prevention of Corruption Act. I would like to know from the hon. Minister why the C. B. I. should not prosecute Mr. Nayak separately and directly on the basis of the finding of Mr. B. R. Tandon's inquiry. A copy of this report, may I ask, should be placed on the Table of the House. Let the Members have a chance of studying it. The Tandon Report was submitted six months ago and we are still in the dark. We do not know what the Government is doing subsequently on the basis of the Tandon Report.

Why is it that the Ministry is opposing the enlargement of the terms of reference of the Takru Commission? Dr. Triguna Sen had assured the House—I am quoting—"All allegations in the P.U.C. Report, the 66th Report, have been referred to the Takru Commission of Inquiry."

Now, it is found that they have not been so referred. Why should the Ministry oppose the enlargement of the terms of reference? I would like to know that. The original terms of reference had been drafted by the very officers who are under the inquiry of the Commission. Now, it is being argued before the Commission that the terms of reference should be widened. Why should the Ministry come forward to oppose it, we are not able to follow.

Finally, I would like to know what is the role of the Ministry in such inquiries. I am told that even certain files which have been asked for by Mr. Takru are either not being produced or inordinate delay is going on in submitting those files to the Commission. What is the role of the Ministry in that? Is it its job in the face of the P.U.C. Report to assist the Commission in finding out the truth in fixing the guilt where it

belongs to or is it the job of the Ministry to try to shield the guilty officials and even, if necessary, to bring ridicule on the P.U.C. findings and their Report? This is very serious state of affairs. There is not much time at my disposal. I would just say that the whole pipeline inquiry affair must be taken seriously and the way in which the Ministry has been behaving towards it must be given up.

As far as the whole question of sliding farther and farther away from self-reliance, instead of going towards self-reliance, is concerned, and the arguments which I have advanced earlier, it must also be found out who is responsible for this huge loss which the country is made to suffer due to this bungling.

SHRI M.B. RANA (Broach) : I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. It was Panditji who, many years ago, took a decision to develop public sector undertakings. His dream has come true today and 97 public undertakings are functioning. It was said by many capitalists that these public undertakings were a loss to the country. But that is not so. Out of 97 public undertakings, 5 are making profits and only 33 are making losses. On the whole, the public undertakings will start making profits very soon after their period of gestation.

No hon. Member has mentioned about ONGC so far. I would like to say a few words about that, but before I do that, I want to bring to the notice of the House that many capitalists are interested in defaming these public undertakings as far as they can and are putting up arguments against the prosperity of the public undertakings. I had the opportunity during the last two years as Chairman of the Committee on Public Undertaking to study in great detail the working of the ONGC. The 16th Report of the Committee was laid on the Table of the House on the 21st of last month. It is rather a bulky report, about 400 pages, and I do not propose to cover more than a few important points in it which relate to the efficiency of the ONGC, to the pattern of financing and the workers' bonus,

16.37 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARI *in the Chair*]

The Report covered a period of five years from 1966-67 to 1970-71, and for all this period, except for the last seven months, the Chairman was Shri L.J. Johnson. For the last twenty months, there has been no permanent Chairman and one of the Members has been acting. We have expressed our regret in the Report that the Government should have allowed such a situation to arise.

We found, somewhat to our surprise, that in spite of the fact that the ONGC was one of the largest public sector organisations in the country, with a staff of about 22,000 people and an annual budget of Rs. 60 to 70 crores, the Chairman has no powers at all! As the Member in charge of stores and administration, he had the same powers as any other Member for the subjects in his charge, but as Chairman he had no powers. He presided at meetings of the Commission and if there was an equality of votes at any time, he had a casting vote. It seemed to us to be anomalous that the Chairman should have such a heavy responsibility without power. We have again recommended that the Chairman should be the chief executive. The Government representative, when he appeared in evidence before us, again reiterated that the Chairman's role should be merely that of a planner and co-ordinator. We disagreed with this view and felt that merely designating him as a coordinator would not clothe him with effective authority. We have recommended also that, in an expanding organisation demanding quick decision-making, the power to take prompt decisions is a primary pre-requisite and this cannot be fulfilled unless the Chairman, as the chief executive, has the power to overrule the dissenting view of the members in the overall interests of the organisation.

My experience of the public sector organisations has been that, although power and authority are necessary for those holding high office, if they are expected to produce results, efficiency depends much more on personality, drive and commitment than on the fact of being able to exercise power. In many organisations which are doing

badly, those in charge have no lack of power and authority and yet they have failed. We were, therefore, very happy to find an organisation where the Chairman had been able to secure a high degree of efficiency in all spheres of work without actually having any power. We were also impressed by the enthusiasm which we noted at all levels, particularly among the younger scientific and technical officers, which showed that moral was high.

Here I would like to say a word about the labour relations in the ONGC during the period covered by our Report. I must say that they were among the best, if not the best, I had come across. The day before the Committee visited Baroda, two years ago, for example, the labour union of workers of the ONGC in Gujarat was holding its annual conference and they had invited the Chairman to sit with the union leaders on the dais to address the workers. This seemed to us to be an excellent index of the sound relations between management and the workers. We also saw evidence of this wherever we went in the oil fields of the ONGC and at their headquarters in Dehra Dun. It is largely because of these factors that the ONGC's working results in the past four or five years have been so good. In the year 1967-68, for example, they made a profit of nearly Rs. 12.8 crores and in 1968-69, Rs. 12.93 crores. We found that these profits would have been higher had the ONGC not been selling gas below the cost of production and had the sale price of oil not been reduced because of the reduction in the parity price.

The workers of the ONGC brought to our notice the fact that even though the ONGC through their hard work and devotion to duty was earning the highest profits in the public sector, this was not being reflected in the workers' bonus. They complained that the IOC workers, whose work was much less onerous and dangerous, were getting 16% bonus, while ONGC workers in 1968-69 were getting an *ex-gratia* bonus payment of only 8%. This has been raised for next three years to 10%.

When we went into this question, we found that under the pattern of financing in the

[Shri M.B. Rana]

ONGC the exploration losses of the Commission and the expenses on non-producing fields were all being met by setting off the revenue from the sale of oil and gas. Of course, in exploration for oil, and in wild-cat drilling, there are bound to be heavy losses. But we feel that the workers have a genuine grouse since the system implies that they can never expect to get a higher bonus and, in fact, in poor year, the bonus might even come down. So, it was because of this that the ONGC had pleaded with the Government to allow them to undertake refining operations also. The bonus will continue to depend on the profits of the ONGC and since the ONGC's exploration programme is being expanded, it may have to incur further losses. In addition, if it has bad luck and does not find many new fields, all its profits from the sale of oil and gas will be eaten up to meet its losses. We have suggested to the Government that one way out of the difficulty, perhaps, would be to form a parent company to take care of both the ONGC and IOC and to share the profits of these two organisations in some equitable manner.

Apart from the good leadership at the top and high morale in the organisation, the efficiency which we observed in the ONGC appears to be the result also of applying modern management techniques, e. g., Control Rooms at Dehra Dun and at Divisions.

Then they have the Central Workshops. The ONGC whose present rate of production is 4 million tonnes per annum is the largest producer of oil in the country. In the past six or seven years, it has discovered as many as 13 new oil or gas fields. Two or three of them are still being developed. The production of gas is at present about 333 million cubic metres per annum. As a result of the discoveries in the last 5 or 6 years, ONGC should be able to produce 912 million cubic metres per year in 1973-74 on land, which is included in its ten year plan. It should also be able to produce at the rate of 6.7 million tonnes of oil per year on land by 1973-74. The ONGC deserves credit because with seismic equipment which is not the latest in the field, they have been able

to discover as many as 13 fields in the last seven years. This is a very creditable achievement when one considers that these fields are small fields and, therefore, much more difficult to find.

Finally, I would like to remind the House of the magnificent success of the ONGC in 1970 in building up its first off-shore platform in very difficult conditions in the Gulf of Cambay. It is in my constituency. The conditions were very difficult. The Russians were expecting high tides in the Narmada river. There were tides of upto 12' and the Russians gave it up and it is our young engineers who worked there day and night and put up this platform and started drilling.

About the ONGC, I would like to mention what a former Minister, Shri Ashok Mehta said in the Lok Sabha while replying to the debate on the Demands of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals in 1968. He says :

"I would like to say something about the exploration programme. It is said that we have spent a lot of money, but not achieved adequate results. We have spent something like Rs.200 crores on the ONGC and we have established 130 million tons of reserves which will be produced. I think these figures are comparable to similar figures anywhere in the world. The performance of ONGC has improved remarkably in the past 12 months...

Today the facts are that the ONGC's drilling performance in 1967-68 has been a record performance for all time. Next year's target is 40 per cent higher than what we have done this year. I would like to know from any Member of the House belonging to any section of the House if we say that our 1968-69 performance would be 40 per cent over the record performance we have put in 1967-68, is not that something for which we should pat the ONGC on its back. I would like to take this opportunity to put on record my appreciation of the work that the Chairman of the ONGC, Mr. Johnson with the wonderful team of

youngmen that he has brought together,—the planning and development team,—and with the control room, has done "

Before I sit down I would like to say that oil has been struck in my district of Broach. We had about 1 lakhs acres of khar land in Broach district while the refinery is put up at Baroda. When the question of expansion comes they want to expand the same refinery while they could easily have a refinery in Broach district where the petro-chemical complex and other things can be set up. In Broach the oil production is same things like 5,000 to 8,000 tonnes a day. So, they should have a second refinery in Broach district for the welfare of the district and for the welfare of the people there.

*SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY (Tiruchendur). Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, before I sit expressing my views on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals, I would at the very outset refer to certain important issues relating to my constituency.

For the four southern most districts of Cape Camorin Tutucluchi Madurai and Ramanathapuram petrol diesel oil and other petroleum products will have to come either from Madras Refinery or from Cochin Refinery. As these have to be transported from a distance of 400, 500 miles away we have to pay 5 to 8 paise more per litre of petrol on account of heavy transportation charges. Bearing in mind the high price that the people of this area have to pay for getting petroleum product and also keeping in view the needs of fast-becoming industrial complex in and around Tuticorin, the Tamil Nadu Government for the past five years has been requesting the Central Government to set up an oil refinery there. Besides this, the work on Rs. 85 crores worth Southern Petro-Chemical Industries Corporation is progressing rapidly. Add this industrial unit's main requirement of raw material is naphtha. One million tonne naphtha per annum will be needed by this unit. As I pointed out earlier, this naphtha has also to come from either Madras or from Cochin, 400 or 500 miles away from the location of the industry. If you take

into account the transportation charges involved in this, naturally the cost of production of this unit will be mounting up, the burden of which will be passed on to the consumers. The Tuticorin harbour is being expanded at a cost of Rs. 35 crores and the work is likely to be completed next year. If the expanded harbour facilities are to be utilised in full and if the Government wish to have some return on this huge investment the tonnage at this harbour should be increased substantially. In other words, the import and export trade through this harbour should be considerably increased. This in turn emphasises the need for having an oil refinery at Tuticorin.

With a view to making available to the people of these four districts the petrol, the diesel and other petroleum products at the same price at which they are available to the people in Madras Bombay and Cochin to supply naphtha in quantity locally to the Southern Petro-Chemical Industries Corporation so that its products could be sold at a competitive price to utilise the expanded harbour facilities of Tuticorin in full and also on account of the strategic place Tuticorin occupies in the naval defence of the country I would appeal to the hon. Minister that an oil refinery should be set up at Tuticorin and the Central Government should initiate preliminary action on this proposal.

In the 1971-72 Annual Report of the Ministry, there is reference to Koyali Refinery, Barauni Refinery Haldia Refinery and also to the necessity of having another refinery in the north-western part of the country. I regret to say that there seems to be no realisation on the part of the Central Government of the need for having a refinery in the southern part of the country. There is no indication of this in the Annual Report also.

On August 15 this year, we will be celebrating the silver jubilee of our Independence. Even after 25 years of our Independence, so far as petroleum products are concerned, we continue to import them draining our slender foreign exchange resources. Every year the crude oil is imported to the tune of Rs. 135 crores and Rs. 21 crores worth refined petroleum pro-

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

[Shri M.S. Sivasamy]

ducts are imported annually. It has been estimated that in the year 1973-74, to meet the requirements of the country, the import bill on this score will reach Rs 350 crores per year. I don't think I will be wrong to say that the Ministry should bestow its immediate attention to the ever increasing import of crude oil every year. It is claimed that huge deposits of oil are there in Assam. Four years ago, the Estimates Committee of this House recommended that the Barauni-Gauhati pipeline's capacity should be expanded further if the import of crude oil is to be reduced. This recommendation has fallen on deaf ears and we are importing merrily crude oil worth Rs. 135 crores every year and this figure may go up to Rs. 300 crores in two, three years. If the Government are determined to conserve our meagre foreign exchange resources, then the Barauni-Gauhati pipeline's capacity should be expanded immediately as recommended by the Estimates Committee four years ago. This will help further exploitation of oil available in Assam.

Only the other day I came across a news item in which the Chairman of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Shri Negi, has stated that Cauvery Basin in Tamil Nadu and Godavari Basin in Andhra Pradesh have considerable oil deposits. I have also been given to understand that the Government are likely to drop the exploration of oil in these two areas. I am not able to reconcile myself to the two contradictory postures of the Government. When the head of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has stated categorically about oil deposits in Cauvery basin and Godavari basin, would like to appeal to the hon. Minister that the exploration work there should continue.

It is stated in the Annual Report that there is enormous potential for oil in the off-shore areas of our country. It is also stated that if the Aliabet off-shore area in Gujarat is exploited in full, it will meet the entire oil requirement of the country. What do we see? The work in this area has come to a standstill. The lame excuse advanced is that the floating crane and the power tug are not available. When you are importing crude oil and other petroleum products to

the tune of Rs. 160 crores a year, which is likely to go up to Rs. 300 crores in a year or two, when the foreign exchange position is not so good, can you accept the argument of non-availability of floating crane and power tug for continuing the off-shore drilling in Aliabet area? If this is the performance in the basic requirement of petroleum products without which our economic advancement will receive a set-back, I am tempted to call this Government as inept, ineffective and inefficient. If the drain of foreign exchange is to be stopped immediately the floating crane and the power tug must be made available to the O. N. G. C. so that it can continue the off-shore exploration of oil. I don't think the House will tolerate any delay on the part of the Government so far as this issue is concerned.

Before the independence was achieved, it was the slogan of the Congress Party that all foreign exploitation would be exterminated from the country immediately after achieving independence. After 25 years of independence, what is the position? Out of the total import of 19.6 million tonnes of crude oil, 8.2 million tonnes of crude oil are in the hands of foreign-owned oil refineries. The Government and the Members of the ruling party take pride in doing nationalisation of this industry and the other. They also proclaim from house-tops that the Government are thinking of nationalising so many institutions in the country. The Government boldly and courageously nationalise industries of indigenous origin, industries which have been set up, and developed by our own people. But the Government show all signs of reluctance, hesitation and cowardice in the matter of nationalising foreign-owned companies and industrial units. During the last four years, the Anglo-American Refineries have earned a profit of Rs. 55 crores and have repatriated the whole sum. During this period their investment is Rs. 109 crores. The profit is more than 50%. They have not brought money from their countries for investing Rs. 109 crores here. They have just converted the dividends into share capital. If the Government ask them to buy crude from Russia, they will not buy. They have their own preferred source of supply. I would appeal to the Government that there should not be any delay or any

sign of hesitation on their part to nationalise the Anglo-American giant companies. They have swindled the country for two and half decades. They have dominated our economy for twenty-five years. They have repatriated to their countries more than what they have invested here. If the exploitation of white people is to be put an end once and for all, then these foreign-owned refineries should be nationalised without any fear or compunction.

In this regard, the Shantilal Shah Committee has recommended that the Government should set up a separate purchase organisation for the purpose of importing and stocking crude oil and then distribute it to the private refineries and to the public refineries. The Committee has stated that that is the only way to curb the profiteering tendency of these foreign-owned refineries. I wonder why the Government have not so far set up such an organisation. For marketing the oil they have the Indian Oil Corporation. Why should they not have another organisation for making purchase of crude oil from other countries and then it can be distributed to both private and Public refineries? I would like the Government to do this immediately and end the exploitation of foreign-owned refineries.

17 hrs.

The Drug Control Act was passed by this House. There is 15% ceiling on profit under this Act. But the balance-sheet of Glaxo has revealed a profit of 20%. The profit of Pfizer and Hindustan Warner has gone up by 27½% after the enactment of this law. It is not that I am saying this. Their own balance-sheets reveal this. I would like to know what action has been taken by the Government under the provisions of the Drug Control Act fixing a 15% ceiling on profit. When these foreign-owned companies are making profits against the express provisions of a law, then it is essential that the Government must take penal action against them.

We have many public sector undertakings in the fields of medicine, engineering heavy engineering and so on. I will give here the example of Indian Durgs and Pharmaceutical Ltd. The paid up capital of this public sector undertaking is Rs. 27.15 crores. The long-term loan received from

the Central Government is Rs. 31.20 crores; the short-term loan comes to Rs. 25.49 crores. With the total investment of Rs. 83.85 crores, if you look at the performance of this unit during the last four years, you will find that is continuously running under a loss. In 1968-69 the loss was Rs. 4.59 in 1969-70, the loss was Rs. 3.80 crores; in 1970-71 the amount of loss was Rs. 2.6 crores and in 1971-72 the loss came to Rs. 4.72 crores. With an investment of Rs. 85 crores, and after giving administrative and technical experience during the last 11 years this unit was set up in 1961—if this undertaking is showing a loss, either it must definitely be due to administrative lethargy and inefficiency or the unit must have become a bureau for malpractices. It is time that the Ministry goes into the question of recurring losses of such public sector undertakings. If the programme of nationalisation is to yield any beneficial results to the people of the country, if the pace of socialism is to be hastened, then it must be ensured that these public undertakings start earning profits. If the present trend continues unabated, then the people of the country will give their verdict about the intentions of the government.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Gauhati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have before us the Annual Report of the Petroleum Ministry and the Annual Report of the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., public undertakings under this Ministry, covering the period upto March, 1971.

Even a casual study of the Balance Sheet and Annual Report of the IOC for the period ending March, 1971, will make the most ardent votary of public sector set up in the agony and in despair because during the period under review, during 1970-71, IOC's sales turnover increased by nearly Rs. 100 crores compared to the previous year, but the net profits went down by nearly Rs. 5 crores—from Rs. 0.41 crores in 1969-70 to Rs. 15.77 crores in 1970-71. It is indeed strange and unfortunate because IOC operates in a near-captive market. Barring the city of Bombay and the Maharashtra region where two on-shore foreign-owned refineries are located, IOC has no competition and even in an economy of shortages, it is obvious that IOC has failed, miserably failed, to achieve economics

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of scale. All Indian Market participation of IOC during the year was 51.6 per cent. In other words, IOC alone sold more products than all the other organisations put together.

The Industrial Policy Resolution of the Government of India placed oil in the highest priority category, where it was supposed to attain the commanding heights. IOC has attained, thanks to Government policies, that commanding height in distribution of Petroleum products without the commensurate return to the public exchequer. Its unit cost of operation is by far the highest among similar organisations refining and marketing petroleum products.

Over the years, most constructive suggestions made by experienced and knowledgeable Members of Parliament, and by Parliamentary Committees to improve the working of the IOC, and to streamline its administration at various levels have been ignored with impunity by the bureaucratic machinery completely. The result has been obvious. I will come to the results shortly.

So far as payment to ONGC and Oil India, a fifty-fifty partnership with British oil interests, is concerned, the question of import-parity price comes in. The crafty bureaucrats who got the Government to accept import parity as the basis of pricing of indigenous crude, had acted against national interest and the IOC, manned at the top, at the Chairman's level until recently by undesirable men from the ICS and at the Managing Directors level by pensioners from Burmah-Shell, and the Ministry have failed to protect the interests of IOC. The so-called Arbitration Award given by Mr. Mangat Rai, ICS, who recently resigned from ISC apparently apprehending departmental action for his role in protecting guilty ISC men involved in pipeline muddle, gave a thoroughly subjective award about crude prices. In the first place, his selection as Arbitrator of a fellow-ICS and Chairman of IOC was behind the back of the Board of Directors and in the second place, the Award itself was bad. It is high time the Government, particularly the Planning Commission, thoroughly reviewed

the question of import parity and find rational solutions in our national interest and in the interest of the public sector in oil. The agreement should be reviewed and revised so that we may have a majority share and the entire audit of Oil India may come within the purview of the audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Board of Directors must also be reconstituted.

The ties of the British oil industry and the bureaucrats of the Petroleum Ministry deep and well-known. This started with the refinery agreement with Burmah-Shell 20 years ago and BOC as well as AOC, who are direct beneficiaries and partners in the Oil India agreement are part and parcel of the international oil cartels as represented by the Burmah-Shell group. One has reason to doubt that the oil India agreement, particularly the second supplementary agreement executed in 1961, is a manipulated and fabricated document. The Joint Secretary dealing with this subject had openly asked for an enquiry by writing to the then Cabinet Secretary. The then Financial Adviser, Mr. A. V. Venkateswaran had also supported the Joint Secretary that the second supplementary agreement with Oil India was manipulated. But the result of this action of the two honest officers has been that both of them had to leave the ministry and officers against whom specific allegations have been made were rewarded. For instance, Mr. S. D. Bhambri, the then Deputy Secretary who was dealing with this matter, was rewarded in many ways by the superior officers at whose behest this shady deal was executed. Mr. Bhambri was brought back from IOC to the Petroleum Ministry as Joint Secretary and he is now the Official Director in the Oil India Board. I have heard people saying that the whole thing has degenerated into a cooperative of anti-national elements. As an ardent supporter of public sector, I have made this allegation and I request the Minister to enquire as to whether the second supplementary agreement with Oil India is a shady document or not? I hope the minister will give a specific reply to it. It is pertinent to note that the conduct of Mr. Bhambri is under enquiry by the Thakru Commission.

In the connection, it is interesting to

note that about 50 Members of Parliament sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister seeking that at least those officers who are under suspicion should be transferred from their concerned jurisdiction. In that list, Mr. Bhambri's name figured prominently. This memorandum was sent to the Petroleum Ministry by the Prime Ministry in October 1970 for necessary action. The Special Secretary, Shri Mangat Rai, the Joint Secretary Shri M. D. Rajwade, whose transfer had been demand in the memorandum, were allowed to deal with this matter. We have never heard of an instance where a person, against whom there are serious complaints, is allowed to deal with the memorandum submitted against him. What has been the result? The result was that Shri Mangat Rai in his note dated 4.11.70, which is in the official file, advised that a reply be sent to the Prime Minister that the Members of Parliament were subjective and some of the listed officers had nothing to do with the events of the pipeline muddle. He specifically mentioned, and I am quoting :

"Mr. M. V. Rajwade was not on the scene at all and so far as I am aware, they were not at all concerned with any of the noting or events e.g. Mr. S. D. Bhambri."

About Shri Kashyap, then Chairman, IOC, Shri Daulat Singh, Co-ordination Manager, IOC and Shri R. S. Gupta, Shri Mangat Rai stated in his note that he finds it "difficult to find any indication of their having acted *mala fide*".

Shri B. Mukherjee, Secretary of the Ministry, who was sufficiently familiar with all these matters, approved the note of 6.11.70 and then Minister was advised, misled, by the bureaucrats to send such a note to the Prime Minister. Unfortunately, we find today that by an order dated 15.4.72 the Pipeline Enquiry Commission served notices, among others, on Shri Gupta, Shri Bhambri, Shri Rajwade, Shri Kashyap and Shri Daulat Singh to clear their conduct before the Commission. The Enquiry Commission passed this order only after detailed and careful examination of the materials before it.

This is the sorry state of affairs in which the bureaucrats have put us. The

bureaucratic machinery has given wrong information to Members of Parliament by giving such a note. I hope that the hon. Minister will apply his independent mind to the whole matter, divorced from the advice of the bureaucratic machinery, and will try to give satisfactory answers to these specific allegations which I have placed before this House and more of which I am sure my friends would be raising here during the debate.

We find that Shri Manghat Rai has suddenly resigned from the ICS. It is unfortunate that the same Secretary is still there in the department, the same Secretary who has approved this note of Shri Manghat Rai on 6.11.70, Shri Indrajit Gupta has alleged that all the materials have not been placed before the Thakru Commission in the way they should have been placed. The Thakru Commission, which ought to have finished its inquiry by now, has failed to do so because of the non-cooperative attitude of the Petroleum Ministry. In fact, a summons by the Thakru Commission, asking for identifying files, has not been complied with by the Ministry so far. It is our demand that these officers, against whom suspicions are there, should be removed because if these officers are allowed to deal with the filed the entire inquiry would become a farce.

I will finish by referring to only two problems relating to my state, as I have no time. We are happy that a petro-chemical complex is coming in Bongaigaon. We thank the Petroleum Ministry for that. But we have come to know from the press reports that this Bongaigaon project will be under I.C.P.L. of Gujarat. We have got genuine feelings that if this falls under the India-Petroleum Chemicals of Gujarat, the aspirations of the local people particularly in matters of employment would be frustrated to a great deal. Therefore I would request the hon. Minister to separate the refinery from the petro-chemical complex at Bongaigaon and to run the refinery under the IOC.

The other aspect to which I would draw the attention of the Minister is the long-standing request from the Assam Government for increase in the royalty on the crude. Considering that Assam is a poor

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and backward state I am sure the Minister will look into it. In conclusion, may I request the Minister that while replying to the points, I will not get from him a parliamentary reply.

I will explain what I mean by parliamentary reply by referring to an anecdote which has come out in papers today. Mr. Lloyd George was moving with his Secretary one day in a car in Wales. And he was lost. He asked one of the pedestrians, "Where am I?". The pedestrian replied, "You are in a car." Mr. Lloyd George said, "This is a perfect parliamentary reply because it is short, it is to the point and it does not disclose anything." I hope, the hon. Minister will give a reply which will be brief and to the point but it will not be to that extent parliamentary that it will not disclose anything.

श्री आर० बी० बड़े (खारगोन) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, आज की मांगें पेट्रोलियम तथा कैमिकल्स से संबंधित हैं। इस में जो घनराशि मांगी गयी है उसमें 100 करोड़ रु० फर्टिलाइजर के बास्ते मांगा गया है, 850 करोड़ रु० आयल के बास्ते और 250 करोड़ रु० फार्मास्यूटिकल्स के बास्ते मांगा गया है। इस मंत्रालय में तीन विषयों पर ध्यान दिया जाता है, एक आयल और पेट्रोलियम, दूसरा फर्टिलाइजर और तीसरा फार्मास्यूटिकल्स।

पहले मैं फार्मास्यूटिकल्स के बारे में निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ, और वह यह कि 1962 में एक पेटेन्ट बिल हमारे सामने आया था लेकिन वह उस लोक सभा के जीवन काल में पारित नहीं हो सका, परिणाम यह हुआ कि 1967 में लोक सभा के समाप्त होते ही वह बिल भी लैप्स हो गया। फिर बीबी लोक सभा में वह बिल पेश किया गया और पास हुआ। लेकिन उस पेटेन्ट बिल का इम्प्लीमेंटेशन अभी तक नहीं हो गया है। कारण स्पष्ट है कि अमेरिकन और फारेन फर्मस उस के खिलाफ हैं। लेकिन अब जब वैश्वीकरण के साथ ट्रीटी हो चुकी है, और अमेरिका का ऐंटीट्रस्ट हमारे प्रति अच्छा नहीं है, तब इन

अमेरिकन फर्मस के विरुद्ध पेटेन्ट ऐक्ट लागू करने में कोई दिक्कत नहीं होनी चाहिये। उस कानून को अमल में लाना चाहिये। आप का देश काफी गरीब है, हर व्यक्ति को दवाई की जरूरत पड़ती है, उसके लिए आप ने ड्रग्स साइंस कंट्रोल ऐक्ट 1970 में लगाया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या उस कानून के बाद औषधियाँ गरीब लोगों को मिलती हैं? स्वयं माननीय गोखले साहब ने कहा है :

"As you all know, the pharmaceutical industry has taken rapid strides in recent years, but it has still a long way to go before it can cater adequately to the vastly expanding health and medical programmes of the nation. The *per capita* consumption of drugs is too low here, as compared to that in other developed countries, and today it is of the order of about Rs. 5 in India, as compared to 145 in Germany, Rs. 170 in Japan and Rs. 190 in U.S.A. This is at once indicative of the magnitude of the challenging task that lies ahead and of the measures that would have to be taken over a wide front in order that all the essential and other life-saving drugs become available to the different strata of our society, particularly in the rural areas and in adequate quantities....."

जब स्वयं मंत्री जी कहते हैं कि हमें पांच रु० पर कैपिटल खर्च करना पड़ता है, जो कि अन्य देशों की तुलना में नगण्य है, और अगर इस को 10 रु० प्रति व्यक्ति करें तो काफी प्रयास और खर्चा करना पड़ेगा और बहुत काम करना पड़ेगा।

17.20 hrs.

[SHRI N. K. P. SALVE in the Chair.]

हमारे देश की यह जो हालत है, जो इतना पिछड़ा हुआ है स्वतंत्रता के इतने दिनों के बाद भी, उस का कारण यह है कि आपके पास जो मेडिसिन्स हैं वे अमेरिकन फर्मस के हाथ में हैं, कम से कम 50,60 प्रतिशत फर्मस उन के हाथ में हैं जिस के कारण अत्यन्त महंगी दवाइयाँ बेची जाती हैं। एक जगह टिप्पणी आयी है :

"It has gone absolutely in the interest of foreign drug manufacturers in our country. Flagyl is being sold by May and Baker at 60 paise a tablet, whereas the Indian manufacturers of the same drug are not allowed to charge even 16 paise per tablet."

इंडियन मैनुफैक्चरर अगर टेबलेट बनाता है तो उस को कीमत 16 पैसे प्रति टेबलेट होती है, लेकिन उस को बनाने की इजाजत नहीं मिलती है, और मैं ऐंड बेकर उसी टेबलेट को 60 पैसे में बेचते हैं। तो इन अमरीका की कम्पनीज को क्यों छूट दी जाती है, समझ में नहीं आता। यहां पर जितनी अमरीकन फौज है वह और मैं समझता हूं कि यहां पर जितने फार्मास्युटिकल ब्रज बनाने वाले हैं, आई डी पी एल है, यह सब डाकू हैं। हमारे मध्य प्रदेश के डाकूओं से भी बढ़ कर डाकू हैं क्योंकि इन का तो हाल यह है कि प्राण च हरति, वित्त च हरति।

"The American drugs firms have got control over Indian drug industry. They are responsible for the huge losses to the IDPL and they want IDPL to die a natural death. M/s. John Wyth entered into a fishy deal with HAL for manufacturing Ampicillin, when Mr. T. R. Subramanyam was the Managing Director of HAL. He is now an employee of this firm at a very high salary and with other benefits."

उसी कम्पनी का पहले आफिशल था जिस को दूसरी कम्पनी का मैनेजिंग डाइरेक्टर बनाया और इस तरह से उस का आई डी पी एल बे सम्बन्ध शुरू हो गया और लूट शुरू हो गई। जिस कम्पनी को बिटेमिन सी तैयार करने के वास्ते लाइसेंस दिया गया था वह आज ऐन्टी बायोटेक्स तैयार करती है। उस ने कभी बिटेमिन सी का निर्माण ही नहीं किया। बिटेमिन सी तैयार करने के लिए उन्होंने सारा-भाई फर्म से कह दिया और उस को बिटेमिन सी तैयार करने का लाइसेंस भी दे दिया। इस प्रकार यहाँ पर लूट चल रही है।

मेरे दोस्तों है कि आई डी पी एल की जो

मशीनरी है वह सब वैसे की वैसे पड़ी है। मैंने एक नोट पढ़ा है उस में लिखा है :

"In the case of Tetracycline, Analgin, Chlorophenol, Folic Acid, IDPL is helping the American firms and the sufferer is the poor tax-payer of our country."

That is one criticism in one newspaper.

जो इस तरह की बातें चलती है उन की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिए। मैं पूछता हूं कि जो इस तरह की अमेरिकन फर्म हैं उनको आप बन्द क्यों नहीं करते? मुझे मालूम है कि बाहर से कच्चा माल नहीं आता है, दवायें ही आ जाती है। यहां पर सिर्फ उन का प्रोसेसिंग होता है। टेबलेट्स बनाई जाती है, कैप्सूल बनाई जाती है और लिख दिया जाता है "मेड इन इंडिया"। लेकिन वह मेड इन इंडिया नहीं होती। वह बाहर से आती हैं। इस की तरफ मंत्रालय को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात यह है कि आई डी पी एल की जितनी मशीनरी है वह बेकार पड़ी हुई है, जिस का कोई इस्तेमाल नहीं हो रहा है। इस प्रकार से आई डी पी एल और एच ए बी एल की लूट मार चल रही है। इस बात की ओर मैं आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। आप पार्क डेविस की बात को ही लीजिये :

"Park Davis have offered joint collaboration for capsule plant with IDPL. I am sure such a collaboration would be harmful and should not be allowed or even considered."

German Schering was amalgamated in German Remedies and BDH with Glaxo. Such amalgamations should not be allowed. It must go to Indian firms with less than 26% equity participation."

मेरा ऐसा कहना है कि इस प्रकार की जो फारेन फर्म हैं वह हमारे साथ कोलेबोरेशन करके फायदा उठाती हैं। रिजर्व बैंक की रिपोर्ट में था कि कितना पैसा इस तरह से बाहर जाता है।

[श्री भार० बी० बड़े]

इस की तरफ भी माननीय मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना चाहिए।

इस के बाद फटिलाइजर्स की बात आती है। जो खेती का प्रोडक्शन है वह खाद पर आधारित है। यहाँ की खेती सफल हो गई है, लेकिन फटिलाइजर अपने यहाँ उत्पन्न नहीं होती। हम को फटिलाइजर बाहर से मंगानी पड़ती है। यहाँ पर फटिलाइजर क्यों उत्पन्न नहीं होती? कारण यह है कि अभी यही नहीं तय हो पाया कि उस का बेस क्या होना चाहिए। किसी ने कहा कि खाद कोल-वेस्ट उत्पन्न होना चाहिये, किसी ने कहा कि पावर-वेस्ट होना चाहिए, फिर किसी ने कह दिया नेप्या-वेस्ट होना चाहिये। हमारे यहाँ कोई प्लैनिंग नहीं है कि किस तरह से काम होना चाहिए और फटिलाइजर का उत्पादन किस प्रकार होना चाहिए। एक व्यापारी आ गया उस से कह दिया कि चूंकि अमोनिया में पैसा ज्यादा लगता है इसलिये नेप्या से उस का उत्पादन होना चाहिये, जब वह शुरू हुआ तो किसी ने कह दिया कि पावर-वेस्ट होना चाहिये और उस से शुरू कर दिया फिर किसी ने कहने पर कोल-वेस्ट शुरू कर दिया। मैं कहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश में कोल वेस्ट भी हो सकता है और नेप्या वेस्ट भी हो सकता है। शायद यहाँ पर लोगों को पता नहीं है कि हमारे यहाँ नेप्या बेकार आता है, उसका उपयोग नहीं हो पाता है और फटिलाइजर का उत्पादन नहीं हो पाता। इस सब का कारण यही है कि कोई प्लैनिंग नहीं है कि किस पर वेस्ट प्रोडक्शन होना चाहिये। आप के सामने कोई साफ चीज नहीं है। हमारे मंत्री महोदय कानून जानने वाले हैं, मैं समझता हूँ कि वह देखेंगे इस संबंध में क्या क्या हो रहा है।

जो कानून बनाने वाले होते हैं, जो लोग कानून के एक्सपर्ट होते हैं, वे इस तरह की चीजों को बड़ी सरलता से समझ सकते हैं।

जब मैं आई ओ सी के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। बाकी मੈम्बरों के पास भी यह चीज गई होगी जोकि मेरे पास आई है। यह इतना लम्बा तार है। इतना लम्बा तार पढ़ते पढ़ते मैं थक गया। मैंने सोचा कि यह जन्म पत्री आई है। जैसे कुडली होती है उसी तरह से किसी ज्योतिषी ने इसको मुझ भेजा है। यह पूरी आई ओ सी की पत्रिका है। इसका कारण यह प्रतीत होता है कि आई ओ सी जो डीलरशिप देती है वह कोओपरेटिव सोसाइटीज को न दे कर मन मान ढग से देती है। आपगो तो मालूम ही होगा कि नीचे के जो अफसर होते हैं वे काफी कुछ कर सकते हैं। ऐसा मालूम होता है कि वे इनको देने में इंटेरेस्टिड नहीं हैं। आप तो हार्ड कोर्ट के जज रहें हैं। आपने देखा होगा कि जब कोई केस आता है तो देखा जाता है कि उस में कहां कहा वीकनेश है। इस तरह की चीजों को लोग देखते हैं। वे फार्म देखते हैं। जो वीकनेश होती है उसको हार्डलाइट करके जो उनको करना होता है कर देते हैं। एक पेपर भी निकला है आपके खिलाफ। इसका नाम है प्रेम प्रचारक। यह सिन्धी और अंग्रेजी में निकलता है। इस पेपर में यह छपा है :

"IOC favoured private shipping companies. They are not dealing with the Shipping Corporation of India because the Shipping Corporation is unable to satisfy their illegal demand. IOC also hired tankers from the private suppliers to transport the products. IOC officers get the percentage of 5 to 10 as commission from the private shipping companies. This secret commission of 5 to 10 percent is mostly kept in foreign banks. They are doing this transaction through or Mr. Ramkrishna who is arranging all these thing. Inquiry will reveal your goodself more facts."

Then he has said :

"Pali Oil 800—The price of Pali Oil at Barnuni Refinery is Rs. 850. IOC brings the same from Barauni to Calcutta and then the sale price is Rs. 950. The same product is sold by the IOC as a Pali Oil 800, actually it is not a Pali

Oil 800, but it is "Indrex Oil 75". The original cost of the indrex oil at refinery is Rs. 1060. IOC sold this product through the foreign agents names of which are given as under :"

And then, he has given so many names. The thing is this.

आपने कोओप्रेटिव सोसायटी को नहीं दिया। जो कुछ भी पत्रिका में निकला है वह सब आपके खिलाफ है और इस वास्ते निकला है कि आपने कोओप्रेटिव सोसायटी की झील बन्द कर दी है इसलिए उन्होंने काफी आपके बारे में दिया है। इसको आपको देखना चाहिए।

"The other dealers of the IOC have no other dealership of any other company except IOC but Dedhia is the dealer of the several companies in different names. This is an admitted fact. In other words, other dealers owe their loyalty to only one company and that is IOC and Shri Dedhia is connected with several companies and still he is being respected, honoured and loved by IOC much more than any other dealer. It comes to this..."

Then he has said so many things. He says:

"Do you support this sort of polyandry despite your own promises and the directions of the Ministry and the Board of Directors that such agents will not continue.

(b) The Government's policy in allotting petrol pumps has always been to rehabilitate unemployed graduates and encourage co-operative societies and genuine association. Shri Dedhia who was bankrupt in the trade at some time has been secretly helped to become agent of several foreign oil companies and is getting more and more encouragement from the IOC."

That is the criticism. Then he says :

"Import of 5 lakhs tonnes of crude oil from the Persian Gulf to Bangla Desh ;

We hope your goodself will look into the matter and do the needful for the interests of the nation..."

A gross irregularity and fraud has been committed in the matter of freight for transportation.

Following is the summary. Long before the tender for freight was issued in Bombay, IOC entered into a league with one shipping broker, Mr Reshimwala. In terms of this conspiracy, Shri Reshimwala flew to London and come to an understanding with some of the Greek ship-owners whose ships are to be used for transportation."

The consultation with the Director General of shipping was a farce and the Director General was bullied. He did not however give his consent nor the Chief Controller of Chartering had given his consent. It is understood that the unofficial commission earned by the Managing Director of IOC and its associates will be 20 per cent of Rs. 2½ crores."

अगर इस तरह के एलीमेंशन लगाये जाते हैं, तो सरकार को डिफेंशन का कैसे दायर करना चाहिए, वर्ना जनता में सरकार के प्रति बड़ा क्षोभ और अविश्वास पैदा होता है।

इस कंट्रोल के सम्बन्ध में कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की जा रही है। उन की प्राइसिज बढ़ती जा रही है। इन्दोर में कृषि म दवाइयाँ और इन्जेक्शन आदि बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में बेचे जाते हैं। जैसा कि मैंने कहा है, इस प्रकार की दवाइयाँ और इन्जेक्शन बेचने वाले प्राण भी हरते हैं और विन भी हरते हैं। देश में सस्ती दवाइयाँ उपलब्ध होनी चाहिए और उन्हें हिन्दुस्तान में ही बनाने की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए। पेटेन्ट्स एक्ट को लागू किया जाये और फारेन फार्म को बन्द किया जाए।

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal) : While supporting the Demands for Grants of this Ministry, I would like to make a few observations with regard to certain aspects of the working of certain institutions under its control.

[Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah]

Members who spoke before me highlighted certain points with regard to the working of the Indian Oil Corporation and also the working of the Ministry as a whole. With regard to the working of the Oil India I would like to point out, Government has got 50% participation. Oil India was a foreign-owned company. It had exclusive right of oil exploration in Assam and other areas. Government entered into participation with this company and certain agreements were made. Mr. Goswami referring to those agreements pointed out that with regard to second supplemental agreement, certain concessions were made by Government to this company which gave considerable advantage to the foreign oil company and to the disadvantage of the Government.

I would like to refer to the recommendations of the Estimates Committee which went thoroughly into the matter and pointed out glaring irregularities committed by the Ministry with regard to second supplemental agreement. They categorically recommended that the whole matter has to be gone through. This is what they said :—

"The Committee have considered these reasons. They feel that the original pricing formula laid down in cl.13 of the promotion agreement of 1958 was quite comprehensive and was advantageous to the Government as under that formula Government had option either to fix price of crude at the import parity or cost plus the reasonable commercial return. This gave adequate powers to Government to peg the profits of the company to any figure considered reasonable by them and therefore could well have been used by the Government. Under this formula, Government was also to examine the cost as well as to determine the quantum of cost and elements to be taken into account in calculating such cost in agreement with one Oil India Ltd. Moreover, Government had guaranteed neither any net return to the Oil India Ltd. nor assured off take of specific quantity of crude by the Barauni and Gauhati refineries from any specific area. There was, therefore, no question of any payment of subsidy on the terms of any agreement of 1958."

They further go on to say that by entering into this agreement, Government have had to pay heavy subsidies amounting to Rs. 18 crores, and they have categorically stated that a second look must be had at the second supplemental agreement, and the loopholes have to be plugged properly. With regard to payment of sales tax also, by this agreement, Government have to lose Rs. 3 crores every year. So, they have said that these matters have to be looked into.

Coming to the other exploratory activities of this company, by virtue of this agreement, they do not want to produce more crude oil lest they may lose their advantage. So, they have slowed down the exploration of crude oil in this sector, and the Barauni oil refinery has to get the crude still from foreign countries.

I would request the hon. Minister to get this matter thoroughly examined in the light of the recommendations made by the Estimates Committee.

With regard to the other exploration activities of the Indian Oil Corporation, I can only say that sufficient or significant progress has been made in this field, though it is not according to the expectation that we had. Of course, the ONGC is in the field and is making explorations wherever it is possible. I would only suggest in this connection that since it is a public sector undertaking, there should be a sort of promotional activity too because a thorough geological survey has to be made in order to find out where oil is available. At one time, it was found that there was oil that could be explored in the Cauvery and Godavari basins, but to what extent it is commercially feasible is a matter yet to be determined by Government. I would suggest that the activities have to be intensified, and if oil is found in these areas, Government should not shirk the responsibility of undertaking those activities.

Much criticism has been made about the marketing activities of the Indian Oil Corporation. My hon. friend Shri R V Badc has also referred to this matter. But I do not want to make wild allegations on the floor of the House without satisfying myself whether there is any truth in it. But I would only say that there has been persi-

stent criticism about the marketing activities of the Indian Oil Corporation. Many allegations have been made with regard to favouritism or irregularity in the matter of giving licences to the dealers in various places. At one time, a scheme was drawn up by this Ministry that unemployed educated graduates and engineers would be given first preference. Many complaints have been made, and some have been brought to my notice also, that though the scheme was put on paper, it was not implemented. There were many irregularities and many cases of favouritism. So I would suggest to the hon. Minister that there should be a thorough shake-up and the whole thing should come up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, the hon. member should conclude.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I have to conclude so soon?

MR. CHAIRMAN: 10 minutes is the time which a Congress Member can take. So, I am afraid that it is beyond my control, I can give the hon. Member one or two more minutes if he wants.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH: I am glad to hear that.

So, this matter also has to be taken into consideration.

Coming to the Fertiliser Corporation of India and the production of nitrogenous and other fertilisers in this country, I would only point out certain facts which have been mentioned in the report. With regard to the Nangal fertiliser plant, it has been said that there is acute scarcity of power. So the production has been tardied. In this field, there have been several bunglings made previously. With regard to our policy of having coal-based fertiliser plants, Korba and others, we have bungled. After two three, or four years, we have come back to the conclusion, we should have coal-based fertiliser plants. In pursuance of this, the Ramgundam fertiliser plant is going to be commissioned. They said Rs. 90 crores are going to be spent on it. I would only request that this be expedited because as we delay it, the cost will mount up and ultimately the per tonne cost of fertiliser will go up and we will be compelled to im-

port more fertilisers.

Another important thing is the non-availability of kerosene which we have still to import. When we set up these refineries, the petro-chemical complexes should keep pace with their working and petrol and petroleum products should be turned out as speedily as possible so that in the immediate future we may become self-sufficient not only in petrol and petroleum products but also in the matter of production of fertilisers which will accelerate food production, because fertiliser is the most important ingredient in food production. I hope Government would take the necessary steps.

I also hope Shri Gokhale will continue to hold charge of this portfolio. There has been change of hands in this Ministry so many times. I hope he will continue to hold it and will give a new look and orientation to it so that the basic needs of this country are fully met by these public sector undertakings.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patna): One of the objectives of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals is to plan development, control and assist industries connected with drugs and pharmaceuticals. I would confine my observations to drugs and pharmaceuticals.

Foreign collaborators and Indian firms are allowed by Government to manufacture basic drugs, the foreign collaborators giving their technical knowhow to their Indian counterparts so that this industry can be self-reliant. But what do we find? The foreign collaborators have acquired such a strangle hold as to that they have hampered the self-reliant growth of the Indian pharmaceutical industry. Government also have promoted the monopoly interests of the foreign firms at the cost of Indian manufacturers. Out of the total business in pharmaceuticals of Rs. 250 crores in the country, nearly Rs. 200 crores in the hands of foreign-dominated firms. They are nearly 15 firms. They do only the formulations and little of basic manufacture. They have invested nothing in research and development of drugs and pharmaceuticals in the country. Still out of Rs. 27 crores worth of imports, Rs. 20 crores are allowed to these foreign firms.

[Shri K. S. Chavda]

Sir, these foreign firms have multiplied their capital to the extent of Rs. 150 crores from their original investment of Rs. 5 crores only. That means they have made 3,000 per cent growth in their capital during a period of 15 years,

Kolynos, as everyone knows, with its actual initial capital of Rs. 1 lakh, is having a business of Rs. 1 crore per annum in formulations only. That means it has also made a growth of 10,000 per cent in its capital. No one can dispute that our industry has acquired enough technical knowhow in respect of tablets, capsules, liquias, injectables, etc.

In the last two decades, the progress allowed to be made in the Indian pharmaceutical industry is negligible, while the foreign firms are given preferential treatment. For example MSD has been given a licence to manufacture 144 kilogrammes of vitamin B-12 which is in excess of the total requirements of our country up to 1974. This appears to me to be a case of favouritism having been shown to this foreign firm.

There is another case. Messrs Abbott, the so-called small scale foreign firm, in comparison, has been given hard currency licences worth Rs. 85 lakhs in one year for the import of eight tonnes of erythromycin while the only Indian firm engaged in the same field on the same footing has not been given licences worth even Rs. 5 lakhs for erythromycin.

After one year's chasing by the Indian firm, the DGTD was convinced that the erythromycin import substitution could save foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 8 million in two years, but the high-power committee on prices diluted the proposal that the firm had no experience. I venture to observe that the hon. Minister had probably no experience of ministership when he joined the Cabinet last year, and yet he is piloting two Ministries at a time quite successfully.

MR. CHIARMAN: Very abov also.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA: There is yet

another case. Hoechst and MSD are allowed to import frusemide and indomethacin at Rs. 3,000 a kilogram, whereas the world prices for these drugs are much less than Rs. 300 a kilogram. Even then they have been given licences to import to the extent of Rs. 4 million each in one year from hard currency areas. Proposals by the Indian firm for the import of these drugs are kept pending for months together for processing.

The IDPL is not in a position to prosper or to break even, because 90 to 95 per cent of the total drug and pharmaceutical formulations are in the hands of foreign firms, and secondly because they manage to get licences in the name of 'new drugs' or life-saving drugs, etc. During the last one year and a half, they have got 44 regularisation/expansion/COB licences, whereas some of the applications of our Indian firms lie pending under one pretext or the other for over two years. The market of all profitable formulations is in the hands of those 15 foreign-controlled firms, and therefore, the IDPL has been put in a position that it cannot come out of the losses.

It has been observed that under the Drugs (Price Control) Order, 1970, the applications of new formulations by the foreign-dominated firms get the mark-ups as they desire, which give them more profits, while our Indian firms cannot get even the minimum mark-up and they get meagre profits, and thus indirectly the competition of Indian firms with foreign firms is being neutralised by the authorities concerned.

At the end, I would like to make two suggestions. A committee of Members of Parliament should be appointed to make a thorough study about these firms and submit their report to Parliament on the first day of the next session. Secondly, the minister must assure the House that from today no further expansion or regularisation or COB licences for tablets, granules, liquids or injectables should be issued to the foreign firms having more than 26 per cent equity participation.

Now a word about the pricing of RFO and gas sold by the ministry for power generation in Gujarat. States having natural resources like coal and water get the benefit

of power generation at a low cost. In the same way, Gujarat having the natural resources of oil and gas should have got the benefit of power generation at a low cost, but the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals have shown a step-motherly treatment to Gujarat in the case of selling gas and RFO for power generation in Gujarat. The Ministry sells gas at Rs. 106 per 1000 cubic metres in Gujarat while in Assam the same ministry sells the gas at Rs. 52.95 per 1000 cubic metres. In Assam the cost of production is much higher than in Gujarat. But the price of gas is much lower in Assam than in Gujarat. In spite of the recommendation of the Shantilal Shah Committee to fix the price of RFO at 45 per ton, the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals sells it at Rs. 138 per ton, in Gujarat. I know the Government of India has appointed a retired Chief Justice, Justice Hidayatullah, as Arbitrator for fixation of price of RFO. I hope Gujarat will get justice from the retired Chief Justice.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय (मुनेना) : सभापति महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN : The bell is being rung. The hon. Member may resume his seat.....Now there is quorum. He may continue his speech.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI (Lakhimpur) : Sir, the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals is responsible for many things. They have listed in the Report 7 items under petroleum and 18 items under chemicals. To put it precisely, I should say that the Ministry is responsible to see that wheels are moving, to make the earth more yielding and to make man fit if he is not man is physically fit to provide him drugs and, last but not the least to make the women more charming by providing cosmetics. Within the limited time, it is not possible to examine in all those aspects how the Ministry has discharged its responsibility. Therefore, I will confine my attention to only petroleum.

It is regrettable that there is no firm National policy on oil. Many things have been said on this subject on a number of budget debates since 1967. But up till now no national policy has been formed. There are public sector refineries and private

sector refineries owned by the foreigners. The refining capacity of the private sector refineries is gradually increasing when, as a matter of fact, there should have been a national policy that this should gradually decrease. Only the public sector refineries should be allowed to refine more and more crude oil.

Coming to the performance of the ONGC and Indian Oil Corporation, all the previous speakers irrespective of party affiliations have spoken against them. I do not know how long the Ministry will allow these bureaucrats to indulge in anti-national activities.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : सभापति महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

18 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The bell is being rung...now there is quorum.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Sir, I want to put it on record. We are here in sufficient strength. But it requires two parties to make a debate. If there is nobody present on the other side, I am addressing this particularly to members belonging to the Jana Sangh party, who raise the question of quorum, there cannot be any debate. On this side Members are present when there is lively interest in the debate. It is not the unilateral responsibility of one party to maintain the quorum howsoever big that party may be. There should be some persons on the other side who should keep the debate going. (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. I am on my legs. Please sit down. I made an informal request to Mr. Bado to prevail upon Mr. Kachwai not to stand on his right so far as the demand of quorum is concerned. However, if the Member wants to insist upon his right, all that I can do is to ring the bell and call for the quorum. That is all. Now, we continue with the debate. Shri B. N. Shastri may continue now.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Sir, you request Mr. Bado to prevail upon Mr.

[Shri K. S. Chavla]

Kachwai not to raise the question of quorum. But you should also request the party in power so that they can ask their Members to remain present in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is the end of the matter. I do not want to escalate this controversy any more. Already sufficient time has been wasted on this. Shri B. N. Shastri to continue his speech.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : Sir, what I was saying was that there is no national policy on oil. When will the country attain self-sufficiency in producing crude oil and when will the foreign companies which are operating in India not have their licence? I would request the hon. Minister to evolve a national policy on oil so that other programmes can be fixed up.

The O. N. G. C. has indulged in anti-national activities so far as it concerns the economy of this country. They have indulged in extravagant expenditure. Regarding O. N. G. C. in the Eastern region which is in Assam, they acquired property from the Assam Tea Company at an extra-ordinary price which is more than what the party demanded. This matter was raised in Parliament by me and the then Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals promised a C. B. I. inquiry. I do not know the result of that inquiry. I would request the hon. Minister to place the report of the C. B. I. inquiry on the Table of the House.

Again, regarding pipeline, this question was raised in this House, and a Commission of Inquiry was appointed. That Commission of Inquiry was appointed two years back, in August 1970. They were to submit their report within a period of six months, but we find that the time has been extended more than three times. What is the reason for this? Thereason. The hon. Minister should take the House into confidence and tell the House whether the ONGC or the Indian Oil Corporation or his Ministry is not cooperating with the Commission of Inquiry. Why has the time for submission of report been extended by about two years? It is a very serious matter. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to take the House into confidence and tell us about it.

Regarding the Indian Oil Corporation affairs, I would like to say that some bureaucrats at the top conspire together to deprive the nation of its due. Mr. Goswami and the other previous speakers had mentioned about it elaborately. Therefore, I do not want to repeat all those points. But I would like to point out one thing that, when a new agreement or a new deal comes up, the bureaucrats combine together to have personal benefits for themselves. I hope, the hon. Minister who is presiding over this Ministry will keep himself alive to this conspiracy.

In the Report regarding refining crude oil, there has been a mention about Barauni refinery and other refineries. But the Report is ominously silent about the expansion of the Nummati refinery. It was stated that the 0.75 million tonne capacity of Nummati refinery would be expanded to more than one million tonnes, but nothing has been mentioned in this Report. I do not know what is the reason, what prevents the Ministry from mentioning those things.

Regarding Bangaigaon refinery, it was mentioned here that it was under consideration or that it was in an advanced stage. It is not known when the refinery will start production.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The hon. Member may please conclude.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : I have only two points more.

One is regarding the royalty on crude oil. There is a demand from the Government of Assam for raising the royalty on crude oil. The Prime Minister was kind and generous enough to raise the royalty to some extent, but that is not sufficient; considering the poor condition of the State, I request that the royalty be raised from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 per tonne of crude oil.

The other point is about sales-tax. From Assam crude oil is pumped out to Barauni and other places. But the sales tax on crude oil is not received by the Government of Assam because it is said that it was transacted somewhere else. It is logical that, when the oil comes out from Assam, at the beginning stage, there should be sales-tax

and the sales tax should go to the Government of Assam

One more point regarding employment. It is a general grievance among the people of Assam that even for the low-paid employments, with a salary of Rs. 100 or 200, people are not recruited from Assam. I can give certain instances. Chowkidars, dafters and drivers are recruited from somewhere else. For instance, if there is a vacancy for such posts in the ONGC in the east in region they do not recruit from the local people there, they recruit from Duhia Dun or some other place. Why should the local people of Assam be deprived of such opportunities? I am not saying about high officers, they are selected on merit on an all India basis. I am only speaking about junior officers and clerk, dafters, chowkidars, drivers, etc.

There also they are not appointed from the local people.

Again one point only about the price of petroleum and gas and other related things. Assam produces crude oil but the price of petroleum is the highest in Assam in India. One litre of petrol is Rs. 1.50 in Assam but you inquire in Delhi, Bombay or elsewhere it is less than Rs. 1.40. Regarding LPG which is used for domestic consumption, the price of that gas is the highest in Assam. I do not know the reason for that. But I would request the hon. Minister to kindly look into it and fix a uniform price all over India.

With these words, I support the Demands.

श्री बरबारा सिंह सभापति महोदय, मझ थोड़ा सा अर्ज करना है यह माफ करने के लिए कि हम ने जहाँ पर ग्रीन रिवोल्यूशन की है और सार देश भर में अनाज का भंडार भरा है उसके साथ साथ हमारे जितने फर्टिलाइजर्स है वह इतने कम है और उनकी कीमत इतनी ज्यादा है कि उनके लिए मुझे ज्यादा कुछ कहने की जरूरत नहीं है। मैं आज सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो इन्स्टाल्ड कैपेसिटी है उसका 50 प्रतिशत उपयोग होता है और उसको हम 20 प्रतिशत और इन्कीज कर

सकते हैं जिससे कि हमें फर्टिलिजर ज्यादा मिल सके है। ग्रीन रिवोल्यूशन होते हुये भी फर्टिलाइजर्स की कीमत बढ़ी है और उस के साथ साथ प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ा है। लेकिन फर्टिलाइजर की कीमत जो बढ़ी है वह कम हो सकती है। वेशन निस्तर इन्फ्रामात उस के साथ साथ रिजर्व और 20 प्रतिशत उस की कैपेसिटी जो हम इन्कीज कर सके। कैपेसिटी आलरेडी है। लेकिन उस में प्रोडक्शन 20 प्रतिशत और कर सकते हैं। हमारे साथ साथ चार हमारे प्रोजेक्शन रमीशन होते वाट है और दो व लिए अभी नयागो हवा रही है।

फीट ग्रास एनाल्स के लिए मुझे यह अर्ज करना है कि उस में भी बेहारी लाई जा सकती है। पेट्रीसाइड्स और रन्मैकटीमाइड्स जिनने चाहिए उस में भी कमी है और उसकी कीमत कम करने की जरूरत है।

दूधारी अब मैं करना चाहता हूँ इम्पोर्ट्स के बारे में कि 20 करोड़ का हम इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं मिक्चर्ड और उरु के ग्लाइड प्राइवेट्स, जिनमें भी मिथिजिक फाउंडस है और डाउज और ट्रम्स दैरीज हम एक्सपोर्ट कर सकते हैं और उस की कीमत जो एक्सपोर्ट में मिली वह लगभग 400 करोड़ के हो सकती है। तो उस पर अद्विजनी भी कोर्ट शाटेज है वह पूरा करने का जरूरत है। इंडियन पेट्रो कैमिक्ल कार्पोरेशन लिमिटेड जो है उस ने अपने ज़िम्मे 8 प्रोजेक्ट लिए हैं। उस पर 160 करोड़ रुपया खर्च होने वाला है। कहा नव उसकी प्रोग्रेस हुई है यह भी सरकार को देखने की जरूरत है। पेट्रो कैमिक्ल फील्ड में बहुत कुछ गन्वाम करने की जरूरत है। इस के साथ साथ मिथिजिक प्रोमेसोर और इन्विपर्मिट तथा और दूधारी चीजें अभी चाहिए। उसमें खर्चा इस पर किया जाता है कि हम प्रोडक्शन कर रहे हैं। लेकिन उस के लिए मार्केट भी चाहिए। यू.एस.ए. और हमारे यूरोपियन कंट्रीज में उस पर 4 से 5 प्रतिशत खर्चा किया जाता है। उस के प्रोपेगंडे के लिए और यह बताने के लिए कि हम नहीं तब इस

[श्री दरबारा सिंह]

को कर पाए है। इस बारे में टेक्निकल नौ हाउ के लिए भी हम बहुत कम खर्च कर रहे हैं। गैस रिजर्व के लिए मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि रशिया ने तकरीबन 565 बिलियन क्यूबिक फीट गैस हासिल किया है और अमेरिका में जितना है उस से डबल प्रोडक्शन उन्होंने किया है। उन की जो टीम यहाँ आई थी, उन्होंने जो बनाया है, उस पर अमल किया जाय तो हमारे गैस ग्लोसेज बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ सकते हैं।

ट्रांसपोर्ट के बारे में यह जरूरी है कि पाइप लाइन को बढ़ाने की जरूरत है। पाइप लाइन के बारे में कुछ ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता, हमारे साथी बहुत कुछ उस के बारे में यहाँ पर कह चुके हैं, इसमें जो स्केड्यूलस बात है, वह देखने की चीज है, लेकिन जहाँ तक पाइपलाइन का सवाल है, वह आगे ले जाई जा सकती है या नहीं, यह एक बहसतलब बात है। लेकिन जितनी स्टोरेज कैपेसिटी की जरूरत है, उसके लिए जितनी पाइपलाइन की जरूरत है, इस तरफ ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

सी-ग्रोव के लिये भी काफी कुछ कोशिश करने की जरूरत है। उसके लिए जो टीम यू० एस० एस० आर० से आई है उसने बहुत कुछ इस पर बहस की है और हमें बताया है कि कहाँ कहाँ हमें मिल सकता है।

इस के साथ साथ एक अर्ज मैं यह करना चाहता हूँ जिसे पचास लाख रुपये की कॉम्परेमी कह सकते हैं—जो नजरिया टी एस्टेट है, उस का पचास लाख रुपया किस ढंग से उन्होंने खराब किया है, उस की एम्ब्रायरी होनी चाहिए। चेयरमैन की रिपोर्ट भी आई है, बहरहाल इस पर ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

मैं इतना ही अर्ज कर के आप का धुक्रिया बदा करता हूँ।

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI (Bombay—

North-East): The nation's oil policy is undergoing various stresses and strains since 1971. During the last decade from 1961 to 1970 Indian oil policy was mainly directed to develop its own indigenous resources for production of crude oil to a large extent as far as possible and creating the machinery which resulted in the formation of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission with an Act of Parliament in 1959. Our national oil policy was dependent upon creating its own machinery, refinery and marketing capacity, to increase their share in the marketing side of petroleum products and refinery products. So far as these limited objectives are concerned, our oil policy has no doubt succeeded. The success is due to our policy of depending less and less on foreign influences and foreign monopoly concerns. Today the IOC, along with its refining and marketing capacity, is controlling more than 50% of the consumption. In marketing its share is more than 50%. The production in respect of the refinery output is more than half

In 1971 the picture in the international oil world started changing and troubles and disturbances came up in our national policy. The point has come for consideration whether we are likely to become self-sufficient not only in products of petroleum and in refining capacity, but also in the production of crude. In 1971, was realised that the whole crux of our oil policy depended on an adequate supply of crude to our refineries, existing as well as projected. Is our indigenous production programme adequate enough to meet the demands of the country so as to make it self-sufficient in the matter of production of crude? But with the changes that have taken place in the international crude oil areas, especially in the Middle East countries, the Persian Gulf countries from where we import crude, it was found in 1971 that instead of becoming more and more self-sufficient, we were becoming more and more dependent on the Persian Gulf countries. Our import bill which in 1969-70 was Rs. 94 crores is expected to go up Rs 184 crores by 1974. In 1970-71 our requirement of crude oil for refining in all the refineries, private as well as public, both indigenous as well as imported crude put together, was about 1846 million metric tonnes. Out of this, hardly 7 or 8 million tonnes was indigenous and

the rest was being imported. By 1974 it is expected that our requirement of crude would be a little more than 26 million tonnes. That means that we shall have to import more than 17 to 18 million tonnes. Looking to the performance of the ONGC and looking to the resources as well as the exploration activities, we shall have to be more realistic. It appears that the ONGC as well as the Oil India both put together will not be able to cope up with the requirements by exploring oil, drilling wells, increasing the production of crude to meet the requirements of the country. So, it means that the country will have to spend more of foreign exchange during the next three or four years than we did during the last decade. If this is the situation, then what is going to be the main objective of our national oil policy during the seventies?

Apart from our efforts to increase our indigenous production, during the seventies, we shall have to find out alternative sources of commercial energy. The crude oil policy is ultimately linked up with the planning of a total national fuel policy as a whole. We shall have to rely on the development of alternative sources of energy in our own country like electricity etc. Coal is becoming outdated and costly, and the coal deposits are not increasing. Therefore, we cannot rely on coal for commercial energy and coal cannot contribute very much with an increasing share to the national fuel policy. Therefore, we shall have to depend, for instance, on the development of electrical energy, and there also, the electrical power has to come from the nuclear energy. Though we are told that the national fuel policy is being examined, we find that we do not have a coordinated plan.

So long as we do not have a proper plan, it is very difficult for this country to become self-sufficient in the coming decade in the production of crude to meet our oil requirements.

Another point which our national oil policy will have to tackle is the question of the relationship with the foreign companies. A demand has been made for their nationalisation. No doubt, this demand has a basis, looking to the performance of the oil companies in the past, including the political aspect. Political factor is also no doubt

one of the important factors because in times of political crisis we have to be careful to what extent we could depend on the foreign oil companies for the growing requirements of our country.

At the same time, we have to explore and find out what pattern of nationalisation is required. Government are trying to avoid taking a decision on the question of nationalisation of the three foreign oil companies in the country. If they have difficulties, if they have the problem at the International level in getting crude supplies at a cost cheaper than what the oil companies are demanding for payment to their international associates, Government have to explore the possibility of developing commercial relations with the Persian Gulf countries and enter into direct contacts with them on a Government to Government basis. In this, price will be a very important factor. They have also to find out whether the Arab countries which are producing a large quantity of oil from which we are getting the oil, will be in a position to continue to supply on a long term basis.

I will now come to the performance of ONGC. Last year the Ministry announced the appointment of a Committee to go into this question. We are told that till this date the Committee has not submitted its report. In the meanwhile, the PUC has made certain recommendations which need to be debated. There are a lot of controversial recommendations. I would say that whether it is the IOC or ONGC, a new outlook and approach is required on the structuring of the public sector undertakings dealing with the oil industry.

SHRI DHAMANKAR (Bhiwandi) : I rise to support the Demands of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. Enough has been said about the IOC's performance. But there are good points also in regard to the operation of public undertakings under this Ministry. I will cite the example of Lubrizol India Ltd. Its production went up from 5,500 metric tonnes to about 9,000 metric tonnes.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He may continue tomorrow.

18.30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, May 5, 1972/Vaisakha 15, 1894 (SAKA).