

## MINES (AMENDMENT) BILL

APPOINTMENT OF A MEMBER TO JOINT  
COMMITTEE

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

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

MR. SPEAKER: The question is.

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

*The motion was adopted.*

13.43 hrs.

RE-REPORTED POLICE FIRING ON  
TRIBALS IN WEST BENGAL

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

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

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

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Scheduled Tribes.

MR. SPEAKER:..I have allowed it.

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

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

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

14.45 hrs.

RE: REPORTED SHORTAGE OF  
DIESEL OIL, ETC. FOR AGRICUL-  
TURAL PURPOSES IN TAMIL NADU

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

man-Sheel are trying to make profit out of this misery. There is no proper distribution. Kerosene is not available Diesel is not available. In some cases, the peasants have to invade the bunkers and bring pressure on the bunk-owners to supply diesel oil to them. It is rumoured that the bunk-owners are keeping the supplies away and selling them in black market at very high prices.

This has created a very serious crisis for agriculture and small scale industry in Tamil Nadu. I request the hon Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals to examine this question and make a statement in the House.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI D. K. BOROOAH): There has been no shortage of supplies as such, but two factors have contributed to the difficulties. Owing to the heavy power-cut, the rate of loading has been affected and consequently despatches have been low. A request has been made to the Tamil Nadu Government to restore the power cut for the pumps and for loading oil products.

Secondly, a very large number of diesel generating sets have been pressed into service. It has created problems of distribution which are being overcome on the highest priority. The Madras Refinery is operating satisfactorily and can meet all the requirements of the region. But the new pressure on diesel oil has put a strain on supplies as well as on distribution. We are looking into that. I assure the hon. member that with the help of the Tamil Nadu Government; we hope to be able to sort out this problem as early as possible.

13.49 hrs.

INDIAN RAILWAYS (AMENDMENT)  
BILL\*

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): On behalf of Shri L. N. Mishra, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890.

MR SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Indian Railways Act, 1890."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: I introduce the Bill.

श्री मुकमल चन्द कठुवाल (मुरैना):  
मध्यम महोदय, मध्य प्रदेश में सूबा पड़ा हुआ है, प्रकाल की स्थिति है, राहत कार्यों के लिए मध्य प्रदेश को सहायता नहीं मिल रही है।

मध्यम महोदय : नोटिस देते नहीं हैं और उन्हें ही जाते हैं। एक दम यह कैसे हो जाता है।

14.50 hrs.

THE RAILWAY BUDGET 1973-74—  
GENERAL DISCUSSION—contd.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र (मोतीहारी) :  
कल मैं यह कह रहा था कि देश में जिसका मीटर गेज है और नैरोगेज है इस सब को ब्राडगेज में परिवर्तित कर दिया जाना चाहिये। ब्राड गेज होने से देश के एक भाग से दूसरे भाग में घाने जाने और सामान लाने ले जाने में सहूलियत होगी। उत्तर बिहार से जो सामान भेजा जाता है या कलकत्ते से जो सामान उत्तर बिहार में जाता है उसका बरेली में लोडिंग और अनलोडिंग होता है। इससे खर्च बढ़ जाता है और खोरी होने का खर्चा भी बढ़ता है। सामान