

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** May I know whether any detailed study has been made of the quantum of work that can be handled in a single management? If so, what are the details of the study? May I know whether this decision has been determined on the basis of the detailed study or it is only a guess work?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam):** It is based on experience.

**Dr. L. M. Singhvi:** Another name for guess work.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Apart from having a separate company for managing the three units of HEL at Hardwar, Hyderabad and Tiruchi has any definite policy about industrial relations been chalked out by the Government to see that the other plants also function efficiently?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** This question relates to the formation of a separate company.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** The Bhopal Heavy Electricals is a mighty project. When there are so many troubles in regard to its directorship and management you are going to form a separate company for the other units. Why is it not possible to have a single unit for manufacture in Hardwar, Hyderabad and Tiruchi apart from Bhopal?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I have given the answer why it has been bifurcated.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** सरकार ने अपनी मर्जी से भोपाल के हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्ज के कारखाने को बन्द किया। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस कारखाने के बन्द रहने से उत्पादन में कितना नुकसान हुआ।

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** That is a separate question, I think.

**Shri Daji:** I would like to know whether from experience it has been found that every plant once it started functioning under a single corporation it tends to become more efficient

than when it is under different corporations.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** It depends upon the size of the plant. If it is a huge plant involving production of various categories then perhaps a single unit management would be better.

**Shri Ranga:** So, they have no definite policy.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** May I know whether it is a fact that it is want of proper management on the part of Bhopal Heavy Electricals Limited that has necessitated the constitution of a separate company for Hardwar, Hyderabad and Tiruchi?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As I have already said, the management has to devote attention to the construction of the three plants and the running of this plant. This plant itself is a huge one. So, we thought that a separate management which will devote its sole attention to the various problems arising out of this would be more efficient.

**Mr. Speaker:** Does any hon. Member want any particular question to be taken up now?

**Shri Ranga:** While you were on Question No. 1165, we wanted to ask questions about the strike in Heavy Electricals, Bhopal. But, then, the hon. Minister said that another question on that subject would be coming up today. It is also in the Order Paper. Unfortunately the hon. Member who has given notice of it is absent and so it was not taken up. It is Question No. 1166—Strike in Heavy Electricals Ltd., Bhopal.

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, it might be answered.

#### Strike in Heavy Electricals Ltd., Bhopal

\*1166. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state the extent of loss sustained by the Heavy

Electricals Limited Bhopal as a result of the recent strike?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri P. C. Sethi):** As a result of the frequent stoppages of work from the 18th March to the 28th March, 1964 and the shut-down of the Bhopal Plant from the 30th March to the 17th April, 1964, the estimated loss of production is Rs. 100 lakhs approximately.

**Shri Nath Pai:** Is it a fact that according to the technical consultants appointed to this firm it has been estimated that even before this strike trouble started the factory or this complex was working only to 70 per cent of its rated capacity because of very many faults and weaknesses in the working of the management?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam):** I am not prepared to say that the management has been 100 per cent efficient, but the main trouble here has been the labour difficulty, the indiscipline there. That has caused us a good deal of difficulties in the working of this plant. That is why it could not be worked to the full capacity; but still, taking into account the detailed project reports and the targets of production fixed by the consultants, we are doing better. As a matter of fact, the consultants had laid down a very conservative target and we had to revise those targets.

**Shri Shinkre:** With regard to question No. 1160, I would like to know . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** About 1160? Shri S. M. Banerjee.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** According to the newspapers, the plant has started functioning; production has started. I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has considered the main demand of the workers on which the agitation had started, that is, dearness allowance according to the Central Pay Commission's Report. I would like to know his reaction and whether any orders have been issued or are likely to be issued?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Here the real difficulty was that the HEST Union which made this demand is not the representative union. It is only the representative union which can raise the demand regarding the entire labour conditions. But, apart from that, whether dearness allowance is being properly paid to the various employees there is under the consideration of the management.

**Shri Daji:** Is the Government aware, even now after the reopening and restarting of production, that over 100 employees are still in jail and over a 100 employees have been suspended and virtually a rule of terror prevails there? Will the Government take steps to normalise it so that normal production can be continued?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** When a person commits an offence the law will have to take its own course. Why they are in jail is a judicial matter and is going before the court. I suppose, the courts will decide it.

**Shri Daji:** The report is wrong. There is no case pending in the courts. This information is absolutely wrong. There is no case pending; therefore, the courts cannot do anything. They are detained under the DIR and section 151 IPC.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Only a few cases are under detention; the others are for offences committed under the Defence of India Rules. They are being prosecuted.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** माननीय मंत्री जी के व्यापार से जाहर हुआ है कि एक करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ है। मैं जानता चाहता हूँ कि इस नुकसान के लिए कौन जिम्मेदार ठहराया गया है और उसके खिलाफ क्या एक्शन लिया गया है?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** In an enterprise like this when there is a labour dispute, these are bound to happen and we have to live with these troubles.

**Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** May I know whether it is a fact that still

some loyal workers are being intimidated by the leaders of the other rival organisation which was responsible for this strike; if that is so, what safety has been provided to these workers?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** There were charges of intimidation also. It is for these charges that some persons have been arrested and that would be taken care of by the law.

**श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री :** क्या सरकार का ध्यान मध्य प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री के उस चक्रवृत्ति की ओर गया है जिसमें उन्होंने कहा है कि इस भारी नुकसान का मुख्य कारण यह है कि कम्प्युनिस्ट पार्टी का वह ग्रुप जो चीनी विचार धारा से प्रभावित है, उसने यह हड्डताल करवाई है और वही इस प्रकार की हड्डतालें सरकारी कारखानों में करवाता है। उसकी इस प्रकार की गतिविधियों को रोकने के लिए क्या किसी प्रकार की कोई कार्रवाई की जा रही है?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** In these matters only the State Governments which are on the spot will have better information and better intelligence. Their information is that some sections belonging to the Peking Group of the Communist Party are responsible for the trouble there. I suppose, their assessment is correct.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shrimati Renu Chakravarty.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I wanted to ask another question.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Ranga.

**Shri Nath Pai rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** I have already allowed Shri Nath Pai.

**Shri Nath Pai:** We take some interest in this matter.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Ranga.

**Shri Ranga:** In the light of the experience gained, are the Government trying to evolve, as was suggested by several of us, in the House, a labour

policy by which they could ensure a greater cooperation and more constructive relationship between the employing authority and the labour concerned and would they also institute an inquiry into the causes and also the manner in which this strike and these disturbances had taken place which resulted in the lock-out so that we would know who was more responsible and how they are to be looked at?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** As far as the reasons for the lock-out are concerned, they are very well known. That was mainly due to the indisciplinary acts of the labourers belonging to the HESTU. The lock-out was the direct result of that. With regard to the policy, first of all we have to find out whether the policy which is already in existence is wrong or the implementation of it; and of course better relationships will have to be built in each industrial unit.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Now that the hon. Minister is aware that there is the Peking group in this particular project, may I know how the Government proposes to deal with it here and elsewhere?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Many persons have been arrested by the Madhya Pradesh Government on the basis of the information they have. Perhaps they have arrested them on the basis of that information and many of them who are inside the prison belong to this group.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether it has been brought to the notice of the hon. Minister that three representatives of the HESTU came here and met some Members of Parliament to explain their position and they were arrested under D.I.R. the moment they went outside the Parliament House precincts and, if so, whether they were arrested because of the intervention of the Central Minister here or of the State Government.

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** I am sorry I have no information about that.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** My submission is . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** He says that he has no information. What can I do?

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** That is much more serious.

**Mr. Speaker:** I cannot do anything.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I tabled a Calling Attention Notice and that might have been misplaced somewhere.

**Mr. Speaker:** No. I refused it because that was concerning the law and order in the State. They were arrested on the warrant issued by the State Government.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I was not given the information.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next Question.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I request Q. 1160 may be taken up.

**Mr. Speaker:** All right.

#### Indian Bureau of Mines

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\*1169. { **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**  
          { **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coal Section of the Indian Bureau of Mines is being shifted from Nagpur to Ranchi;

(b) if so, whether this has adversely affected employment and service conditions of about 1,000 employees;

(c) the number of employees of the Indian Bureau of Mines served with notices of retrenchment so far; and

(d) whether any action is being taken to protect the employees interests?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) The coal prospecting work, which was hitherto being done by the Indian Bureau of Mines on behalf of the

National Coal Development Corporation has since been taken over by that Corporation with effect from 1st April, 1964.

(b) to (d). No regular employee of the Coal Scheme of the Indian Bureau of Mines has been declared surplus.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** In view of the fact that there are a very large number of work-charged staff and casual labour who have been working in this prospecting field for the last 10 or 12 years, may I know whether it is not the policy of the Government to make these people permanent as there will be still large prospecting of coal going on in the N.C.D.C.?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam):** There are 1200 casual labourers. Out of them, 700 are skilled and semi-skilled and 500 unskilled labourers. It is our intention to absorb the 700 skilled and semi-skilled labourers. But nothing can be done regarding the unskilled labourers because they cannot be moved to any other place.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** In view of the fact that the N.C.D.C. is taking over the prospecting of coal in Madhya Pradesh and other areas, will it not be possible to keep these people who are the poorest of the poor, coming from Kerala and other parts of India and working for so many years, in the N.C.D.C.?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** To the extent possible, they will be absorbed. But I cannot give the assurance that all of them will be absorbed.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know whether it is a fact that these casual workers have put in more than one year's service or two years' service in certain cases, and in any case more than six months' service, whether they were not decasualised before termination of their service, and if so, the reasons for the same, and whether they will be included in the common pool of unskilled workers?