

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The entire question boils down to this, whether they will agree to come to some decision through negotiation. I do not know why we are going in for this negotiation because the terms and conditions are so inimical to the interests of the State that negotiations will not do much good. I want to know what is standing in the way of Government from turning this loan into equity capital.

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: That decision has not been taken.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Why?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: Government has taken the decision to recover the amount. As I said earlier in September and November, we are only taking steps to recover the loan. I am aware that Parliament has given the Government the power to convert the loan into equity shares. Government has not taken the decision to convert it into equity capital. Government is taking steps only to recover the amount. (Interruptions).

श्री हलजीत सिंह : क्या यह सब है कि पिछले वर्ष नैगोशियेशन के लिए एक समिति बनाई गई थी, यदि हां तो उस समिति का निर्णय क्या हुआ है ?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: There is no committee as such. The Finance Minister is talking to them and within the coming eight or ten days he will take a decision.

Coal Reserves in Kamptee Coalfields

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- *178. { **Shri E. G. Dubey:**
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Brajeshwar Prasad:
Shri Balkrishna Singh:
Shri Rajdeo Singh:
Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:
Shri Yashpal Singh:

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

(a) whether Indian Bureau of Mines has discovered vast reserves of coal

in Kamptee Coalfield near Nagpur;

(b) if so, the estimated amount of reserves; and

(c) the arrangements made for exploitation of the reserves?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Thimmalah): (a) and (b). Detailed exploratory operations in Kamptee Coalfield near Nagpur were undertaken by the Indian Bureau of Mines. The exploration was done in 3 contiguous sectors, namely, Chatrohan, Bina and Silewara. Portions of these sectors were explored in detail and a reserve of 226.49 million tonnes of coal was proved. Besides this reserve, an additional reserve of about 478.51 million tonnes of coal has been estimated down to a vertical depth of 650 metres, which brings the total of estimated reserves to 705 million tonnes of coal of grade II and inferior grades.

(c) The National Coal Development Corporation Ltd., have already opened a pilot mine which will be eventually projected to a capacity of 0.45 million tonnes of coal per annum to feed the adjoining Kaparkheda Power Station.

Shri E. G. Dubey: May I know whether this is a superior grade coal or an inferior grade coal and what is the ratio?

Shri Thimmalah: As I stated, it is of grade II and inferior grades.

Shri E. G. Dubey: May I know whether the Indian Bureau of Mines has discovered any other areas in the country where coal deposits could be tapped on a large scale?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): It is too wide a question. It cannot be answered in one supplementary.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: In view of the coal reserves discovered during the period of the current Plan, may I know whether in the next Five Year Plan the availability of coal will

increase for export and its price will decrease for the consumer in India?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: This does not arise out of this.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: On the one hand, a good reserve of coal is found out and on the other hand the Minister is forced to scale down the target, not once or twice but thrice in the Third Plan. How does the Government reconcile it? What will be the position of the Government when such a good reserve is found out and when the target is being lowered to excavate it?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: It all depends on the consumption. You must be able to sell the particular type of coal. Grade II coal is not marketable. There is surplus even now.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस काम को किसी फारेन कोलबोरेशन से करेगी या खुद अपने ही हाथ में लेगी, और कब तक यह काम पूरा हो जायेगा ।

Shri Thimmaiah: It is undertaken by the N.C.D.C.

Shri A. P. Sharma: Is the Government going to start any coal washery there?

Shri Thimmaiah: Not at present.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any export market could be found for this low-grade coal even after it has been processed?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: No, Sir. We are not able to find market for this inferior type of coal.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know whether at the time of formulating the Third Plan, these reserves were taken into consideration and according to which the drilling projects were also taken up and, if that be so, may I know to what extent it has been effected?

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: We find large deposits in the country everywhere.

But the question is that we begin to tap them when the consumption picks up.

श्री बड़े : क्या यह बात सच है कि एक्सपोर्ट्स का कहना है कि नागपुर के पास जो काम्पटी कोल फील्ड्स हैं उन में बेस्ट टाइप का कोयला भी निकलेगा । उन्होंने जो कोल फील्ड्स का सर्वे किया है क्या उस के बाद यह रिपोर्ट बेजोई है कि वहां पर तीन टाइप्स का कोल मिलेगा और उन में बेस्ट टाइप का कोल भी होगा ।

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: It has been looked into. The coal that has been found is not the best coal. It is grade II and inferior type of coal alone. This is the actual fact.

श्री फ० गो० सेन : गांवों में ग्राज गोबर जलाने के काम में लाया जाता है । इस संबंध में क्या किसी कार्यक्रम के तहती पर सरकार के पास कोई सुझाव है कि सेकेन्ड ग्रेड का कोल गांवों तक पहुंचाया जाये ताकि जो खाद है वह जलाने के काम में न लाई जाये बल्कि खाद के ही काम में लाई जाये । क्या इस दिशा में कोई कदम लिया गया है ।

Shri Sanjiva Reddy: We have informed the State Governments to supply coal in large quantities to any demand from any source. If the State Governments can supply to the villages, we will be very very happy. We will be able to meet the demand.

Shortage of Starch

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- { **Shri Vishram Prasad:**
 { **Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:**
 *179. { **Shri Bade:**
 { **Maharajkumar Vijaya Ananda:**
 { **Dr. Sarojini Mahishi:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Cotton Mills' Federation have written to Government about the shortage of starch and sizing materials;

(b) whether some mills producing starch and sizing materials have been