

**Shri M. C. Chagla:** This is a complete misapprehension which I want to clear. We have no monopoly of research. We welcome scientific research either in our laboratories or elsewhere; even in India today, apart from the laboratories under the CSIR there are many scientific institutions which are working on research, and we welcome more and more scientists working on research even outside the laboratories of the CSIR.

**Shri Kapur Singh:** But you are monopolising all the resources.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** In view of the fact that work of national importance is being done in these central laboratories, may I know why the cuts which were imposed at the time of the emergency have not been restored when the emergency is over?

**An hon. Member:** Is the emergency over?

**Shri M. C. Chagla:** I have already pointed out that we are facing a very grave, crucial financial stringency and we have all to submit to cuts, however reluctantly. Every Ministry feels that there should be no cut, and my Ministry also feels the same. But we are facing a situation where there is no alternative to submitting to these cuts.

**Shri Muthiah:** Is it a fact that the scientists in the national laboratories have a feeling that private industrialists are not making the best use of the results of the researches carried on there?

**Shri M. C. Chagla:** That is true; that is precisely the reason why we called for the first time this, what I may call, get-together between industrialists and scientific workers.

#### Accident in Dhori Colliery

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- \*299. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri Eswara Reddy:**  
**Shrimati Vimla Devi:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooah:**

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri Hukam Chand**  
**Kachhavaia:**

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**  
**Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri Madhu Limaye:**  
**Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:**  
**Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:**  
**Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:**  
**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:**  
**Shri Daji:**  
**Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:**  
**Shri Sarjoo Pandey:**  
**Shri Rajeshwar Patel:**  
**Shri R. S. Pandey:**  
**Shri R. Barua:**  
**Shri M. Rampur:**  
**Shri Indrajit Gupta:**

Will the Minister of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the Report of the Inquiry Commission constituted by Government to inquire into the causes of explosion in Dhori Colliery on the 28th May, 1965; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the light of the Commission's findings?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Rehabilitation (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Yes—the report of the Court of Inquiry has been examined.

(b) In the light of the Court's findings action is being taken to initiate legal action against the management for violations of the Coal Mines Regulations. The question of suspension of the certificate of the Manager for incompetence according to the prescribed procedure is being considered.

The various observations and recommendations of the Court are also being considered for suitable action.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** This catastrophic accident, unprecedented in the history of India, I think, took place so

many months ago. Even now, the question of the incompetence of the manager is being considered. May I know when the question of the incompetence of the manager will be decided, whether after the manager has retired or has resigned or died?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The hon. Member is aware that a court of inquiry had to be appointed and the report of that inquiry has been received. It naturally takes time for the court of inquiry to examine all the witnesses and all that. We are taking action as soon as possible.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know under what item as a result of the findings of the court of inquiry specific and concrete action has been taken and what are the items still being examined on which action will be taken afterwards?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The inquiry committee has made a number of suggestions. The most important of these are: Electric cap lamps should be provided to people working in the mines. That recommendation is being implemented. There was some difficulty in obtaining electric cap lamps because the manufacture of these lamps in this country is rather limited. Previously many of these were imported. But owing to the foreign-exchange difficulty, that is difficult now and we are trying to step up the manufacture of these lamps. Then they have referred to the necessity for follow-up action on coal-dust violations. I do not know if my hon. friend knows this....

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** I know it very well. I have been to the mines.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** In coal mines, specially in hot, dry conditions, a lot of coal dust accumulates. That is inflammable, and steps have to be taken to control that coal dust in the mines, that is by spraying and sprinkling water in the areas so that the coal dust settles down and the

number of such particles in the air is reduced or by mixing with in combustible dust like stone dust. That recommendation is being implemented. In fact, it is one of the prerequisites for running coal mines.

Then the third one is the determination of the . . .

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Let him lay a statement.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** There are a number of recommendations. If you want me to explain every one of them, I shall be very happy to explain. Or I can lay a statement.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** A statement may be laid on the Table of the House.

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** I shall lay it on the Table of the House.

**Shri A. P. Sharma:** The report of the enquiry committee should be laid on the Table of the House.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the Government will have to take the help of the Court to implement all the recommendations that have been made by the enquiry committee?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** No, Sir. On some we can take immediate action, and those actions are governed by the Indian Mines Act, and we can take action under this without referring the matter to the court, but I might inform my hon. friend that the Government has received notice from the management warning the Government that they intend to initiate legal action against the Government.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether the National Council for Safety in Mines had its first sitting recently, and if so, what are the recommendations of that Council and what is the Government's reaction thereto?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The meeting was held only a few days ago,

and those recommendations have yet to be received and examined in the Ministry. When they are received, we shall certainly examine all those and take whatever action is necessary. I might inform the hon. Member that our greatest difficulty in this matter has been the inadequate number of inspecting staff. We have been approaching the Union Public Service Commission to recruit the inspecting staff, but even they, in spite of their repeated attempts, have not been able to find sufficient number of inspectors and assistant inspectors. We are making *ad hoc* arrangement for recruitment of the staff.

**श्री भागवत झा आजाद :** इस दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण दुर्घटना के सम्बन्ध में जांच आयोग ने जो निश्चित सिफारिशें दी हैं, जैसे कि मैनेजर का लाइसेंस कैंसल करना, प्रोप्रायटर पर एक्शन लेना आदि, उन के बजाय सरकार इस बात को महत्व क्यों दे रही है कि उस ने लीगल नोटिस दे दी है। क्या इस का यह अर्थ नहीं है कि इस काम में विलम्ब हो रहा है और उन्हें समय मिल जायेगा कि वे लीगल नोटिस से बच सकें?

**श्री शाहनबाज खाँ :** मैं माननीय सदस्य को यकीन दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से इस में कोई कोत ही नहीं होगी। लेकिन जहाँ तक अदालत के बीच में आ जाने का ताल्लुक है अगर कहीं उस का नोटिस या स्टे आर्डर आ जाता है तो हमें उस का हुकम मानना पड़ता है।

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस एन्क्वायरी कमीशन के जो सदस्य थे उन के नाम क्या हैं और क्या इस एन्क्वायरी की रिपोर्ट सदन पटल पर रक्खी जायेगी ?

**श्री शाहनबाज खाँ :** इस एन्क्वायरी कमीशन के चेयरमैन श्री एस० के० दास, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के रिटायर्ड जज थे। इस वक्त मिनिस्ट्री इस की रिपोर्ट पर गौर कर रही है। उस के बाद इस को मेज पर रख दिया जायेगा।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस दुर्घटना के अन्दर कितने श्रमिक मरे हैं और क्या उन्हें अब तक पर्याप्त मात्रा में सहायता पहुंचाई गई है ? यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को कितना पैसा दिया गया है ? यह भी बतलाया जाये कि इस में कितने आदमी घायल हुए और कितने मरे हैं। यह जो रिपोर्ट आई है उस के आधार पर क्या मैनेजर और मालिक पर कोई कानूनी कार्यवाई की जायेगी या आर्थिक दंड दिया जायेगा ?

**श्री शाहनबाज खाँ :** अभी तक जो बात थीत हुई है वह इसी कार्यवाई के बारे में हुई है। इस हादसे में 268 मौतें हुई हैं और जो मैनेजर और माइन्स के मालिक हैं उन के खिलाफ कानूनी कार्यवाई की जायेगी। लेकिन जैसा मैंने अर्ज किया इस में मैनेजमेंट की तरफ से नोटिस वगैरह हो रही हैं फिर भी हम उन के खिलाफ लीगल एक्शन लेना चाहते हैं।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** मैंने पूछा था कि कितनी सहायता दी गई है। यह कितने महत्व का सवाल है लेकिन फिर भी इसका जवाब नहीं दिया जाता है। मरने वालों को कितनी सहायता दी गई है ?

**श्री शाहनबाज खाँ :** जैसा मैंने कहा 268 आदमी मर गये हैं। जो उन के परिवार हैं उन को सब जराय से लगभग साढ़े छः सौ रुपये फी फैमिली हम दे चुके हैं। बाकी जो उन का हक है वह एन्क्वायरी कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के बमूजिब दिया जायेगा।

**श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :** आदमियों के मरने की कीमत सिर्फ साढ़े छः सौ रुपये दी जाती है।

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय :** आप के प्रश्न का जवाब आ गया है।

**श्री शाहनबाज खाँ :** यह इंटरिम रिलीफ है।

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** In spite of the long replies, there is very little substance. I want to know the date when the enquiry commission submitted its report and how much time had been taken by the Government to take legal action against the proprietor and manager and why was so much time taken?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** The accident took place on 28th May 1965. The court of enquiry was constituted on 14th June, 1965. The court submitted its report on 26th November, 1965. After that the report had to be examined. The management had also served legal notice. I submit that there has been no undue delay.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Is it a fact that after the explosion there were attempts by the mine-owners jointly and individually to hush up the whole affairs by giving a report which could whitewash the whole affair and an attempt now on behalf of the mine-owner is made so that no prosecution could be launched; they are trying to delay the whole procedure by delaying the submission of various reports which had been asked for? I would like to know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Government and, if so, what steps have the Government taken to expedite the decision to prosecute the criminals who caused the death of 268 people.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** It is correct that an attempt was made to mislead the court of enquiry. It has been stated by the president of the court of enquiry that such an attempt was made but the court took no notice of it. Legal action for misleading and that sort of thing can be taken only if the court had been misled; we cannot take action now for their attempt to do so.

**श्री मधु लिमये :** कहा जाता है कि धोरी कोयला खान में बिहार जनता पार्टी के नेता कामाख्या नारायण सिंह जी का हिस्सा है और यह भी कहा जाता है कि चूँकि बिहार के

मुख्य मंत्री श्री कृष्ण बल्लभ सहाय और कामाख्या नारायण सिंह जी की दुश्मनी है—कई बार जनता पार्टी के नेता ने कृष्ण बल्लभ सहाय जी को हराया है—इसलिये उन को बदनाम करने के लिये बिहार सरकार के मजदूर विभाग ने इस के लिये कोई कोशिश की थी कि यह दुर्घटना घटे। क्या इस तरह की कोई बात जांच समिति के सामने आई है ?

**श्री शाहनवाज खाँ :** माननीय सदस्य ने जो इनसिन्पुशन किया है उस से इन्कार करता हूँ।

**श्री मधु लिमये :** मैंने नहीं किया है।  
मंत्री महोदय जवाब दें।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order; the reply is 'no'.

**Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:** The hon. Minister states that Government had been served with legal notice by the proprietors or managers. A legal notice by itself is not a bar to the Government for taking action under the recommendations of the court of enquiry. I want to be assured by the Minister on this particular point that the Government will not be inhibited or restricted in any way by this notice and that proceedings in the usual course according to the recommendations will be taken.

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** I can assure the hon. Member that Government will not be deterred by any such legal notices. We are determined to go ahead and punish the guilty.

**श्री सरजू पाण्डेय :** अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया है कि कोयला खान में काम करने वाले इतने आदमी इस में मारे गए तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि कोयला खानों की इस तरह की बुराइयों को देखते हुए, क्या सरकार उनको निकट भविष्य में नेशनलाइज करने का विचार कर रही है ? उन के राष्ट्रीयकरण का कोई विचार सरकार का है ?

श्री साहनबाज खाँ : जहाँ कोलियरी का काम बहुत ही खराब है वहाँ गवर्नमेंट को हक है कि वह आईर दे सकती है कि खान को बन्द कर दे या उसके चलाने की जिम्मेदारी गवर्नमेंट खुद अपने हाथ में ले ।

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : इस खान के बारे में क्या हो रहा है ?

श्री साहनबाज खाँ : विचार कर रहे हैं ।

**Liquid Fuel from Cambay Oil Field**

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- \*300. **Shri Vishram Prasad:**  
**Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri P. C. Borooh:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:**  
**Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Bagri:**  
**Shri Kishen Pattnayak:**  
**Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:**  
**Shri Uthya:**  
**Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cambay oil field has produced liquid fuel;

(b) whether it can be used as fuel in various industries; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to exploit it for commercial use?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals (Shri Iqbal Singh): (a) Yes, Sir, if by liquid fuel is meant condensates.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Adequate publicity, including wide advertisements, has been undertaken for sale of condensates. A certain amount of sales have taken place.

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : कैम्बे प्रायल फील्ड से जो यह फ्यूएल तैयार हो रहा है और जो वहाँ से गैस बनती है वह गैस वहाँ के इन्स्ट्रु-मन्ट्स को नहीं मिलती है और जो मिलती है वह बरौनी से मंहगी मिलती है तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस को किस रेट पर गवर्नमेंट वहाँ की इन्स्ट्रिज को देने जा रही है ?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : जहाँ तक इस कन्डेन्स्ट गैस का टाल्लुक है यह तो हम देते हैं 120 रुपये पर मीट्रिक टन ।

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : इस से कितनी इन्स्ट्री को वहाँ फायदा होगा ?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : यह तो अभी नया नया एक्सपैरीमेंट है । बाहर की दुनिया में तो इस को यूज भी नहीं करते । लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान में इन्स्टीट्यूट आफ पेट्रोलियम ने एडवाइस किया । उस के मुताबिक एक्सपैरीमेंट कर रहे हैं ?

श्री विश्वाम प्रसाद : हमारे यहाँ फर्नेस आयल और डिजल आयल की कमी क्या इस से दूर हो सकेगी ? यदि हाँ, तो कितनी ?

श्री इकबाल सिंह : डिजल आयल के लिए तो नहीं लेकिन यह इटनल कम्बर्श्चन इंजिन में या कुछ फर्नेस में इस्तेमाल होता है । तो उस में अभी तो यह नया नया एक्सपैरीमेंट है । 40-50 टन की तो रोजाना पैदावार हो है । तो इस से कितन फर्क पड़ता है ?

Shri P. C. Borooh: May I know whether it is a fact that these condensates can also be used as raw material for the manufacture of synthetic fibre and synthetic rubber and, if so, whether the Government have made any examination as to the comparative commercial advantage of using this liquid fuel in this manner and, if so, with what result?