

इंडस्ट्री है इस लिये न्यूजपेपर्स के दाम इस देश में अधिक न बढ़ सकें इस संबंध में जितनी रियायत दी जा सकी वह दी गई है।

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: In view of the impending elections and facilities being provided for candidates and parties, a number of applications have come to the Government for sanction of new newspapers. May I know if provision is there for newsprint to the papers that may be sanctioned for the coming years, particularly for the election period?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For the election period, already we have announced liberalisation of quota, specifically for that purpose. About new newspapers, in the Constitution the policy has been laid down clearly that all small newspapers are allowed to come. Whether it is a sizeable quantity which is required for the industry or the newspapers, we take a second look at it and whatever is possible, is being permitted.

Dr. Saradish Roy: It is stated in the statement that to render relief to the newspapers, 10 per cent surcharge is provided in government advertisement. In view of the fact that most of the papers, which do not share the views of the Government, are not provided with government advertisement, may I know what sort of relief is meant for them, i.e., for the newspapers which do not subscribe to the views of the Government?

Shri Manubhai Shah: To the extent that they do not get advertisement, we cannot help. To them import relief and other reliefs from surcharge and regulatory duties have been provided.

Dr. Saradish Roy: Because they do not subscribe to the views of the Government, they cannot get this relief. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. That will be a different question altogether.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know how far the efforts of the Government

to reduce the gap between indigenous manufacture and import of newsprint have been successful?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That does not arise out of this question because here the question is what relief we are giving since devaluation. The gap will be a continuous process.

Shri Maheswar Naik: I want to know this because we are spending so much of foreign exchange on import of newsprint.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

National Coal Development Corporation

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*515. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Shri P. C. Borooah:

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri Bhagwat Jha Anad:

Dr. M. M. Das:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Coal Development Corporation will be split up into four or five self-contained units to better its performance;

(b) if so, the number of such units to be created; and

(c) when this division will take place and where the Headquarters of each unit will be located?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Mines and Metals (Shri S. A. Mehdi): (a) The question of the re-organisation of the National Coal Development Corporation is under examination.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Shri Subodh Hansda: Since this is still under consideration, do I presume that the Government is satisfied with the working of this Corporation which was a losing concern for some time?

Shri S. A. Mehdi: Government is considering decentralisation of this

because of the expansion of the Corporation anticipated and the growth in the working of the Corporation. The working of the Corporation, of course, is constantly under examination.

Shri Subodh Hansda: I would like to know whether Government have also considered this aspect as to what would be the financial implications in splitting the Corporation into 4 or 5 units.

Shri S. A. Mehdi: It is expected that all these units will be expending something like Rs 40 to 50 crores in each area, if it is considered more viable to give them more powers and decentralise the thing.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that there are so many organisations in the Ministry which are dealing with development of coal? May I know whether, instead of decentralising, the organisations will be reduced to one organisation?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): The idea is that the National Coal Development Corporation at its headquarters will have primarily a planning and supervising organisation with the utmost devolution of authority to the constituent units which we are trying to create in zones—we are trying to create viable units for collieries in each of the zones.

श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी : जितने जोन्स बनाये जा रहे हैं या जोन्स यूनिट्स बनाये जा रहे हैं उन के अलग अलग हेडक्वार्टर होंगे । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ, काम के मुकाबले में नहीं बल्कि पांच या छः जगह जो अलग अलग हेडक्वार्टर बनाये जा रहे हैं उन की वजह से, कि वर्क में कितनी बढ़ि हो जायेगी ?

Shri S. K. Dey: The headquarters are already there. We have the area general managers. But what is happening now is that the authority is

vested at Ranchi which is the headquarters of the NCDC, and, therefore, there is very little initiative that can be exercised under the present system of the zonal units. What we want to do is to see that adequate powers are vested in the zonal units. It does not increase the operational expenses in any significant measure.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: He says that it does not increase the expenses in any significant manner. But my question is what the expenses are. It may be insignificant, but what is the increase?

Shri S. K. Dey: It has already been stated in the answer to the main question that the whole question is under examination. We have not yet effected the change that we have indicated there. The whole question is under review and we shall find out whether the return expected from this reorganisation will be commensurate with any additional expenditure that we may have to incur before we take a final decision.

Dr. M. M. Das: In the Third Five Year Plan, the target of the NCDC was 18 million tons per year. Now it appears that the organisation has not been able to reach near the target. Do Government think that as a result of the proposed reorganisation the organisation will be able to show a better performance?

Shri S. K. Dey: It was not the fault of the corporation that they did not reach the target. In fact, the biggest difficulty that has been faced by this corporation is that it had to cut down drastically its activities because the demand for coal did not grow as rapidly as was anticipated at the time the NCDC came into being at enormous cost.

Dr. M. M. Das: Is it an indirect admission that our planners were wrong?

श्री हुकम चन्द कडवाय : राष्ट्रीय कोयला विकास निगम को जो लाभ पहुंचा है या उस ने जो मुनाफा कमाया है तो कहीं

यह तो नहीं हुआ कि हजारों की संख्या में जो मजदूर काम करते हैं उनकी छंटनी कर के या उनकी तनख्वाहों कम करके काफी पैसा कमाया हो और जो स्थाई कर्मचारी थे उन का जगह पर टेम्पोररी लोग रख लिये गये हों।

श्री सै० प्र० मेहदी : जो कुछ माननीय सदस्य ने कहा मैं उस को नहीं मानता कि इस की वजह से कारपोरेशन मुनाफा कमा रहा है। जहाँ तक रिट्रैचमेंट वगैरह का सवाल है जिस के बारे में उन्होंने कहा है, यह बातें हर साल देखी जाती हैं और जसी जरूरतें होती हैं उनके हिसाब से किया जाता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं कि रिट्रैचमेंट इस तरह से किया गया ताकि मुनाफा ज्यादा दिखलाया जा सके।

श्री सै० प्र० मेहदी : ऐसी कोई बात नहीं है।

Shri R. S. Pandey : In regard to the modernisation of the collieries, may I know whether a team from the World Bank had visited this country some time back, and if so, the suggestions made by that team and whether it is true that some funds were also allotted for this purpose, and if so, the result thereof?

Shri S. A. Mehdi : About Rs. 13 crores were given by the World Bank for modernisation and they were utilised in the last Plan. There is no other loan expected now and we do not have any further scheme at present.

Shri P. R. Chakraverti : May I know whether Government have taken into account the fact that the NCDC undertook unit nature of deep mining and because it is a new venture it has had to surmount enormous difficulties,

and as such whether Government feel that reorganisation should not be mixed up with setting up the organisation but reorganisation should only mean rationalisation and not splitting up?

Shri S. K. Dey : Yes, the assumption made by the hon. Member is correct.

State Trading Corporation

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*516. **Dr. M. M. Das :**
Shri Bhagwat Jha Asad :
Shri M. L. Dwivedi :

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the main object, for which the State Trading Corporation was set up, has been changed from export promotion into import promotion;

(b) whether it is a fact that during the year ending the 31st March, 1966, the total export of the Corporation was Rs. 16.74 crores, whereas the total import was to the tune of Rs. 98.71 crores; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the decline in the exports by the Corporation during recent years?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) No, Sir.

(b) During the financial year 1965-66 the total exports of the Corporation amounted to Rs. 17.03 crores. Imports during the corresponding period were of the order of Rs. 80.19 crores.

(c) From 1.10.63, the trade of minerals was transferred to the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation newly formed for the purpose of handling the export/import of minerals and metals. The total value of exports by the S.T.C during the financial year 1963-64, when the bifurcation took place, was to the extent of Rs. 38.62