

उनकी राय भी उनको उपलब्ध हो सकेगी ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जी हां, यह बात है कि बहुत से खानगी क्षेत्रों से प्राईवेट सेक्टर से बहुत से प्रपोजल्स आये हैं और हमारा इरादा है कि एक दफा तीनों प्रोजेक्ट्स के दरमियान एक मर्यादा तय की जाये और उस के बाद जो जो खानगी क्षेत्र के प्रपोजल्स हों और उन में भी बनाने की गुंजाइश हो तो उनको भी देखा जाय और उनको मंजूर करने की कोशिश की जाये ।

Shri Morarka: The hon. Minister said just now that the Soviet Plant is going to cost Rs. 50 crores and the Czech. plant Rs. 40 crores. May I know how the final cost is going to be determined—about the imported equipment? Would there be global tenders or would it be by a committee of experts? How are they going to determine the cost of the equipment?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As the House is aware, these are all tied-up credits. But that does not mean that we do not have comparative studies of capital goods and equipment from different countries. We have acquired enough experience to have a broad comparison. Even though we have to buy some of the equipment from those countries which offer the credit, those have very reliable comparative ideas of cost of all these capital goods.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know whether there was any request from the Kerala State to locate this in that State since it is industrially most backward? Will that be considered?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have told already that every State has requested us for all the projects. We consider the claims of every State properly.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The policy of the Government of India is to locate these plants in backward

areas. May I know how a backward area is officially defined?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I said, backward areas preferably and to avoid industrially congested areas positively. These are well-known terms and it should not be difficult to pick out these areas.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: The Planning Commission has not been able to define officially what a backward area is. On what basis are areas regarded backward?

Mr. Speaker: They may not define; but they know what is backward.

Shri Ansar Harvani: May I know whether the machinery will be imported by the Government itself or will the services of established importers be utilised?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is a transaction between government to government; so the question of utilising the agency of established importers hardly arises. These are contractual obligations.

Raja Mahendra Pratap: Have Government considered whether it will be better to have these industries at Amritsar, Mathura, Buddha Gaya and Ajmer—pilgrim places?

Mr. Speaker: These are suggestions for action. The hon. Minister may note them.

Education for Safety in Mines

*9. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee on Safety Education and Propaganda has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the report;

(c) whether Government have examined the same; and

(d) when action is likely to be initiated for the formation of a National Mines Safety Council as recommended by the above Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee has recommended certain measures for the promotion of safety through education and propaganda and has suggested that these measures should be entrusted to a National Mine Safety Council constituted for the purpose.

(c) Yes.

(d) The views of the employers', workers' and Mines Managers' organisations, etc., are being ascertained in the first instance.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether this report of the committee was circulated to the workers' organisations?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It was recently circulated; and we expect their report within a month's time.

Shri Inderjit Gupta: May I know whether it is the report of the Chief Inspector of Mines that the accident rate in mines is going on increasing steadily and there are about over 400 cases of fatal accidents on an average every year? If so, what does Government propose to do to deal with this matter, apart from setting up this National Mines Safety Council?

Shri L. N. Mishra: I could not follow the question.

Mr. Speaker: He says that there are as many as 400 accidents or so. Apart from setting up this National Safety Council, are there any special steps being taken to avoid such accidents? Is that the question.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Yes, Sir.

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): This was one of the many steps which had been considered and decided upon—and some of them adopted as a result of the conference on 'Safety' which was set up a year and a half ago. So, this is not the only step.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There were many incidents recently and within 2 or 3 years and there were many enquiries. But apart from this, what positive steps have been taken to prosecute the employers who did not actually conform to the Safety Rules? Has any prosecution been launched recently?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. Prosecutions are certainly launched wherever there are violations of the rules and prosecutions can be launched.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Steel, Mines and Fuel Ministry has sent its comment on the recommendations of this Committee and whether it will take any part in forming these safety councils?

Shri L. N. Mishra: We have sent the report to them also.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Pamba-Kakki Project

*10. **Shri Kunhan:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 366 on the 12th August, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Pamba-Kakki project in Kerala has been processed by the Planning Commission and Ministry of Finance;

(b) whether any decision has been taken in regard to the commencement of the work; and

(c) if so, what is the nature of the decision?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A copy of the letter issued to the Kerala Government is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 3].