

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the number of cars imported from Dollar and soft currency areas in 1951 which were disposed of soon after their arrival?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would like to have notice.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, the reasons for the difference of rules in the import of cars from the soft and hard currency areas?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As I said, Sir, the position has now been equalised. There is no difference at all.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what is the total of cars imported so far.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice.

चोर-बाजारी

*१३२०. श्री जांगड़े : (क) बाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या केंद्रीय सरकार की प्रवर्तन शाखा (पुलिस) कपड़े, इस्पात, सीमेंट आदि की चोर बाजारी के ऐसे मामलों में स्वतः प्रारंभिक जांच करने में साधिकार है, जिन में राज्य सरकार जांच करवाने का यत्न नहीं करती या अपराध पकड़ने में असफल रहती है ?

(ख) क्या केंद्रीय सरकार को कभी ऐसे मामले पकड़ने का अवसर मिला है ?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). The Enforcement Directorate acts in co-ordination with State Government authorities and cases are investigated and conducted accordingly.

Shri Jangde: Is the Government contemplating to give legal protection to the persons who give the fullest information as to the anti-social crimes like blackmarketing?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am unable to answer that question.

Shri Jangde: Is the Government contemplating to make such amendment so that the houses of the merchants can be searched by the Police authority without search warrants?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I have no information.

Mr. Speaker: It is more or less a suggestion for action.

Shri Veeraswamy: May I know, Sir, the various types of punishment being meted out to blackmarketeers.

Mr. Speaker: He knows the law provides for it.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Have any investigations been conducted by the Central Government to find out whether individual Ministers and high State Officers in State Governments have been actively helping blackmarketeers?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether Government is aware that more than 50 per cent. of the cases brought by the Police Enforcement Branch are not being convicted for the reason that the rules of the Central Government do not permit them? Do Government propose to have alteration in the rules?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I can confirm the hon. Member's impression that all cases brought before a Magistrate by the Central Government Enforcement Directorate do not end in a conviction, but I am not aware of the fact that the rules framed by Government are a handicap in that respect.

COAL BOARD

*1321. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state :

(a) whether to secure a large increase in production of coal, a mechanical process of coal cutting is about to be adopted ;

(b) whether a Committee known as Coal Board has been formed ;

(c) if so, what are the functions of the Board ;

(d) what work it has done so far ;

(e) whether any progress has been made to have synthetic oil from coal ; and

(f) if so, whether it has been made available to the public?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) The Working Party for the Coal Industry recommended that mechanisation provides the only real means of securing quickly and on a planned basis the large increase in production of coal that may be found necessary in future, with the expansion of general industrialisation of the country, and that mechanisation should

be spread over a period to make adjustments easier and to proceed colliery by colliery. This recommendation has been accepted by Government and it is proposed that the Coal Board should investigate in due course the extent to which mechanisation can be introduced in the existing mines without any material unemployment resulting therefrom. It has also been decided that when permission for opening new mines is granted a condition will be imposed that all new developments should be planned and executed as far as practicable with the maximum possible use of machines for coal cutting and coal conveying.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Board's functions are to deal with problems relating to safety in coal mines and conservation of coal, and matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(d) The Board is continuing the work of the late Coal Mines Stowing Board in regard to stowing for safety. It is engaged in drafting the necessary rules under section 17 of the Coal Mines (Conservation and Safety) Act, 1952, regarding the measures to be taken for the purpose of maintenance of safety in coal mines and for the conservation of coal. It has set up an informal Technical Committee to undertake investigations into the working conditions of collieries producing metallurgical coal and to make recommendations regarding the output quota to be fixed in respect of each colliery, and has also investigated the possibility of pegging the production of metallurgical coal at a certain level.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

Shri N. P. Sinha: With regard to the hon. Minister's answer to (a), may I ask whether this system has affected employment?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The answer is already contained in the answer that I read out. If the mechanisation is proceeded with very quickly without taking into account the possibility of unemployment that may be caused, certainly there will be unemployment. That is why the Board has commended that so far as existing mines are concerned, we have to proceed with the work rather cautiously in order to prevent unemployment.

Shri N. P. Sinha: May I know, Sir, if, in view of the emphasis laid by the Planning Commission on strict enforcement of conservation measures, certain coal mines have been closed down?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir, I am not aware.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know, Sir, whether there is any wage cut and retrenchment in view of the introduction of mechanisation in coal-cutting in coal mines?

Shri K. C. Reddy: No, Sir, not of any appreciable magnitude.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if this mechanisation will reduce the cost of raising coal, or simply increase the production?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Both.

✓ **Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** May I know, Sir, in view of the fact that sufficient number of wagons have not been available to remove the coal from the colliery sites, what is the purpose of increasing the coal raising unless wagons are provided for them?

Shri K. C. Reddy: That raises a different question altogether.

Shri Punnoose: May I know, Sir, the interests represented on this Coal Board, and whether organised labour is given representation?

Shri K. C. Reddy: The Board consists of Mr. L. S. Corbet, Coal Commissioner, Chairman; Mr. Bakhley, Member; Mr. Guha, Chief Mining Engineer, Member, Railway Board—Dy. Coal Commissioner, Production; and Mr. I. S. Malik—Dy. Coal Commissioner, Distribution. There is no representative of labour as such on the Coal Board.

Shri Punnoose: Is it in the policy of the Government to consider giving representation to organised labour on this Board?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I think, Sir, the Board has been constituted in accordance with the terms of the Act. Anyway, I will have the question examined.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know the progress of mechanisation in Government collieries?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I require notice to answer that question.

EXPORT OF MICA AND SHELLAC

*1322. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the value of mica and shellac exported from India during the year 1951-52?

(b) Which countries import them from us and what are the articles manufactured from them?