

not available it was held here; that was the only reason why it was held here. Normally it is held in the open space.

Mr. Speaker: All that he wants is this. He does not object to its being used. But he says that due notice may be given to the residents to avoid any misunderstanding on their part or their getting into a panic.

Sardar Majithia: That is a suggestion for action.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Bauxite Deposits at Katni

*1742. **Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bauxite deposits at Katni in Bhopal have of late been re-valued at a level higher than the figures estimated in 1948 by the Geological Survey of India;

(b) if so, to what extent they are higher;

(c) whether there is a scheme under the Third Five Year Plan for the exploitation of these deposits; and

(d) if so, what are the outlines of the scheme?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The Geological Survey of India had conducted a surface survey of the bauxite deposits at Katni in 1948 and estimated the reserves as 5 lac 20 thousand tons. Subsequently the Government of Madhya Pradesh had the deposits re-estimated by their Department of Geology and Mines who reported that the reserves had been estimated at 4.6 million tons. However, as this re-estimation by the State Government is based on visual examination and not on test drilling, the actual reserves will have to be proved before this figure can be accepted.

(c) and (d). No, Sir.

Shrimati Maimoona Sultan: In view of the fact that this area is so

rich in bauxite deposits, may I know if the Government propose to set up an aluminium plant there and, if so, when the scheme is likely to materialise?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No; the estimates have to be investigated in further details before any plan for exploitation can be decided upon.

Caltex (India)

*1743 **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total number of Indians with Caltex (India) Ltd., on whom "Quit" notices are served by the party concerned has been ascertained;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the notices thus served the word "retrenchment" is not used and, if so, what is the basic reason for serving these quit notices;

(c) whether it is also a fact that no basic principle is followed by Caltex (India) Ltd. in the matter of serving these notices; and

(d) whether Government propose to take any step in the matter?

The Minister for Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya) (a) According to the information obtained from the Company, they have a total number of 3808 employees, of which all the 37 non-Indians and 606 Indians are in supervisory and executive posts. Out of the Indians in such posts, the Company have dispensed with the services of 13 persons by giving them notice of pre-mature or early retirement.

(b) and (c). The word retrenchment was not used in the notices. The Company reports that, after a through staff survey to ensure efficiency and productivity, each of these particular employees was found to have repeatedly demonstrated his inability to carry out the duties of his position; nor could he be fitted into any other position which was vacant and to

which he could be transferred. The Company claim that this was the basic principle followed by them in giving notices to these particular employees.

(d) It is open to any of the aggrieved employees to seek redress under the procedures that already exist for settling differences between employees and employers.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether this unwarranted dismissal of the Indian personnel by Caltex can be connected in any way with the Government's pressure on the company to offer reduction of prices of petroleum products and, if so, whether it is not a retaliatory measure adopted by Caltex?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is a matter of opinion, and I can make no comment on what my hon. friend has said just now.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, may I draw your attention to the fact that on a previous occasion the hon. Minister was pleased to say that with the reduction in the prices of petroleum products they may feel that they can no longer retain these people. And that is why I put this question. I would like the hon. Minister to ascertain it from them, because it can be interpreted like that. And if one interprets it like that that it is a retaliatory measure, it is difficult to dislodge them.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: What further comments could I make on it when I have said something in the last answer? If it is the suggestion that I should make enquiries from the company, that is a suggestion.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the employment policy to be pursued by the foreign firms, particularly Caltex, constitutes a part of the agreement that we had with this company and, if so, what it is?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: If it is a part of the agreement, I do not know, because I have not got the details of the agreement with me just now. But the spirit of the understanding has

always been that there will be a progressive Indianisation of the staff. And there is no doubt that there has been a steady progress in the number of Indians employed by this company. So far as the lower grades of salaries are concerned, overwhelmingly very large numbers are Indians, but so far as grades of Rs. 1,000 and higher grades are concerned, the numbers have been brought down. The number of non-Indians have been brought down in the last three and a half years from 297 to 183. So I think progressive Indianisation is going on.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether our Government labour laws apply to the foreign firms, including Caltex; and, if so, whether these people have been told by Caltex that in order to increase productivity they have dispensed with the services of these people? I want to know whether it holds any water and what redress Government propose to give to these employees who are in difficulties?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I cannot say anything about what they have said, except that they are entitled to express an opinion. On this Government have not given any views of their own. The Labour Ministry must be giving their thought to this, that is to the arguments that have been produced by Caltex.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, on a point of order. It is the Steel, Mines and Fuel Ministry that has entered into the agreement with Caltex. So this is the function of the Steel, Mines and Fuel Ministry too. Now, like the epical impotent Pandu, they are trying to shelve the responsibility to another Ministry. It does not behove well...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Hem Barua: I would say this is the responsibility of the Steel, Mines and Fuel Ministry also.

Shri Raghunath Singh: What is the point of order?

Mr. Speaker: In the point of order the hon. Member is giving rise to an-

other point of order. The hon. Member always uses very strong expressions. It is unnecessary. He says "unwarranted dismissal". The hon. Minister said that according to the company they find those people absolutely incompetent. Therefore, he might have said "this dismissal". And subsequently he goes on to say "This does not behave" and so on and so forth. I do not know why a professor who is in charge of students should constantly be told that he should use moderate language. These don't break any bones. I would advise the hon. Member to use moderate language and elicit proper information from time to time.

So far as the point of order is concerned, is there an agreement to that effect which the hon. Minister in charge can enforce against Caltex?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have not got the agreement just now. But I do not think that the agreement between the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel and the particular company includes provisions about giving security and all that, because that is a special responsibility of the Labour Ministry. That is why I said that the Labour Ministry presumably must be looking into it.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, I shall look into the agreement and decide as to which Ministry will be responsible for this.

Shri Hem Barua: Sir, on a point of personal explanation. We have forgotten our epics, we, who belong to the modern age; and that is why I made a reference to the epical episode. If you ask a modern person for instance a modern girl in Connaught Place who Jarasanda is, she will say that it must be the name of some hot dog or hamburger.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that the companies are taking advantage of the recommendations made by the cost accountants that the cost of the operations are very high and therefore the cost of operations

should be cut down; and, if so, whether the hon. Minister is also aware that those who are being sent out of the companies have long experience on the marketing side and whether Government will consider the question of absorbing these experienced people in the Indian Oil company?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Government are taking some steps to see that the people discharged from other companies possibly may be employed by us, subject only to their being able to serve us.

Shri Joachim Alva: Has the Government the right to review the appointment of Indians to executive posts year by year, and has Government the right to scrutinise the character and the number of Indians appointed to these posts, especially in the public relations department of this company?

Mr. Speaker: He has said that he has to look into the agreement.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes; excepting for the fact that we have been taking steps to persuade the companies to Indianise the staff, I do not think that we have entered into any agreement to examine the individual merit of a person, so far as his capacity to serve them is concerned.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: With your permission, may I point out one thing? When you were pleased to give a ruling on the point of order, you made a remark that these people had been sent out by the company because of incompetence...

Mr. Speaker: That is not my view. Hon. Members do not seem to follow what is happening. A question was put, and the hon. Minister replied that the Caltex Co. claimed that they had tried these people time and again and ultimately found that they were not competent to hold the posts which they were holding, and, therefore, they sent them away. Then, the further question was put as to whether it was a retaliatory measure. The hon. Minister said that he could not say but this was the information that

he had. I only repeated the answer that was given by the hon. Minister. I have no views in this matter.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: What I was pointing out was this, namely that the hon. Minister also said that their applications for the Indian Oil Co. would be considered. My next question is this. Now, it goes on record that these people have been sent out because of incompetence. May I know whether the hon. Minister has enquired into the matter as to whether it was actually a case of incompetence, because we have got records to show that these people have been sent out as an economy measure, because Government have directed them to cut down the operation costs?

Mr. Speaker: Has the hon. Minister gone into these cases?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit that the hon. Minister was pleased to say on a previous occasion that it was as an economy measure that these people were sent out?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: When this question was put a few days back, I had not received any reports from the Caltex Co. At that time, I said what I presumed. I still have my own views about these matters. But now that I have received some reports from the Caltex Co., it is my duty to set them down and describe all these things as to what they say about it.

Shri Hem Barua: May we know what those views are?

श्री बजरज सिंह : क्या सरकार का ध्यान उन कर्मचारियों द्वारा भेजी गई कुछ ऐसी सूचनाओं की तरफ दिलाया गया है जिसमें कहा गया है कि यह कार्यक्षमता और दक्षता का प्रश्न नहीं है बल्कि सिर्फ बदले की भावना से उनके खिलाफ यह कार्यवाही की गई है। एकोनामी करने अर्थात् खर्च में कमी करने का भी कोई सवाल नहीं है क्योंकि एक अफसर को जितनी तनखाह मिलती है उतनी ३० कर्मचारियों को भी नहीं मिलती है। यदि ऐसा है तो सरकार

इस बात को देखने हुए कि कालटेक्स कंपनी का तेल वितरण हिन्दुस्तान में सरकार की मर्जी से हो रहा है, क्या सरकार इसमें दखल देगी और फिर से ऐसे लोगों को नौकरी दिलवायेगी ?

श्री के० दे० मालवीय : मैं माननीय सदस्य को कहना चाहूंगा कि हममें समझ लेने की बात है। जो ३७ आदमी निकाले गये हैं अलग किये गये हैं उन में से केवल हिन्दुस्तानी ही नहीं हैं बल्कि विदेशी भी हैं, कोई ३, ४ विदेशी हैं और ६ हिन्दुस्तानी हैं, ऐसा लगभग है। मेरा कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि इसमें हिन्दुस्तानी और गैर हिन्दुस्तानी दोनों ही हैं जिनको कि उनकी राय में नाकाबिल समझा गया और उनको नौकरी से निकाल दिया गया।

Shri Hem Barua: May I draw your attention to what you said on the previous occasion? What does it matter?

Mr. Speaker: How does it matter?

Shri Hem Barua: You were pleased to say on the previous occasion—and it was a very fine thing that you said—that:

“Every other country imposes an obligation on foreign companies which are operating in those countries from outside and insists upon their taking more of their nationals in the employment of these companies.”

So, this makes it binding on these companies that they do not dismiss them in a haphazard way according to their sweet will. It is they who have said that they are incompetent.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am afraid that hon. Members are pursuing this, notwithstanding the answer that has been given. If those people have said that they have retrenched these persons on account of economy or something else, then, we can find out why they have done so, and whether it is a retaliatory measure. The reasons that they have given are that these persons were incompetent. If the hon. Member

wants that the hon. Minister should look into the matter, then he is governed by the contract or agreement entered into, under the general powers, if any. If that is so, then, the hon. Minister will look into it; if he can spare a copy for me, I shall also look into it and find out whether it is his jurisdiction or the jurisdiction of the Labour Minister, or whether Government have no control over this, and they can do as they like.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: That is right. The only point is that the retrenchment orders given to these employees show that they have become surplus because of the economy measures. We are only surprised and sorry that this hon. Minister, after his experience, such a long experience, with the oil companies, should have tried to tell us what is given out by the companies....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I would not allow this question. Now, next question.

पंजाब में निर्वाचन व्यवस्था

१७४५. श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री : क्या विधि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १९६२ के मापान्य निर्वाचनों के लिए तथाकथित पंजाबी क्षेत्र में मतदान पत्र और निर्वाचक नामावलियां केवल पंजाबी भाषा (गुरुमुखी लिपि) में ही छपायी जायेंगी ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि निर्वाचन सम्बन्धी अन्य साहित्य भी उस क्षेत्र में केवल पंजाबी में ही छपाया जायेगा ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि निर्वाचन आयोग ने इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ निर्णय किया है और कुछ और निर्णय करने वाला है ;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस कारण पंजाबी क्षेत्र के बहुत से मतदाताओं को बहुत कठिनाई अनुभव होगी ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय करना चाहती है ?

विधि उपमंत्री (श्री हजरतबीस) :

(क) निर्वाचन आयोग ने हिदायत की है कि (चंडीगढ़ राजधानी क्षेत्र के सिवाय) पंजाबी क्षेत्र के सभी निर्वाचन-क्षेत्रों के लिए निर्वाचक नामावलियां पंजाबी में छपायी जायें और चंडीगढ़ राजधानी क्षेत्र के लिए निर्वाचक नामावलियां हिन्दी और पंजाबी दोनों भाषाओं में साथ साथ छपायी जायें ।

(ख) से (ङ) निर्वाचन आयोग ने ग्राम हिदायत दी है कि मतपत्र पर दी जाने वाली केफियत निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में या उसके बड़े भाग में प्रचलित प्रादेशिक भाषा में छपायी जायें । निर्वाचन क्षेत्र का नाम अंग्रेजी में छपाया जायेगा । जहां तक संसदीय और विधान-सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों का सम्बन्ध है, उम्मीदवार के लिये नियत प्रतीक भी मतपत्र पर छपाया जायेगा । इसलिए अगर पंजाबी क्षेत्र में मतपत्रों के विवरण केवल पंजाबी में छपाये जाते हैं तो उससे किसी भी पढ़े-लिखे वर्ग के मतदाता को किसी प्रकार की कठिनाई का अनुभव नहीं होगा ।

चाहे क्षेत्र में प्रचलित भाषा कोई भी हो फार्म और अन्य निर्वाचन सम्बन्धी पुस्तिकाएं जनता को पंजाबी और हिन्दी दोनों ही भाषाओं में उपलब्ध होंगी, चूँकि ये सभी पुस्तिकाएं और फार्म थोड़े मूल्य पर उपलब्ध होंगी, अतः कोई भी व्यक्ति किसी भी उस क्षेत्र में इन में से उस भाषा वाली प्रति खरीद सकेगा जिस भाषा वाली प्रति को वह खरीदना चाहता है ।

Some hon. Members: In English also.

Shri Hajarnavis: (a) The Election Commission has directed that the electoral rolls for all constituencies comprised in the Punjabi Region except Chandigarh Capital area should be printed in Punjabi and that the electoral rolls for the Chandigarh Capital area should be printed in diglot, that is, both Hindi and Punjabi.