

DESHMUKH: My question is similar to the question raised by Shri Vilas Gundewar whether any effort is being made to conduct any special audit in that case.

SHRI G. GENKAT SWAMY: The Government of India has no such right.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not like this. He is asking whether any audit will be conducted?

SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY: We shall definitely try to do so.

*(Interruptions)*

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: I am allowing Shri Satya Pal Singh.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Nirmal Kanti Chatterjee, I am also not allowing you. I have called Mr. Satya Pal Singh.

*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What is this ?

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir my question is that so far as I have the information, under the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana bricks roads are constructed in villages, houses are built for Harijans some works of social forestry are also undertaken, but construction of roads is not undertaken, but only some link roads are constructed. I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that bungalings of huge sum of allocated amount is being done in collusion with the Gram Pradhans and the district officers

because both of them take commission and bribe. The District Magistrate or the S.D.M. conducts the enquiry into these bungalings. The results is that the enquiry is conducted by those who themselves are corrupt and take commission and the real facts do not come out. Therefore, would the Government arrange to appoint an enquiry commission to ensure the proper use of the Central funds. Secondly, I would like to know whether the funds being given to Uttar Pradesh for 1992-93 are less or more in comparison with the last year's amount.

MR. SPEAKER: You should point out whether the Central funds given to Uttar Pradesh are less or more in comparison with the last year. If you have figures you should state, otherwise, communicate it later on.

SHRIG. VENKATSWAMY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall certainly communicate these figures after holding an enquiry.

[*English*]

### Loss to NLC

\*312. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any loss was caused to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation due to the recent flood and cyclone;

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) the precautionary measures proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMAGANDA): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT

(a) The estimated shortfall in income and extra expenditure on account of the flooding is about Rs. 47.91 crores.

(b) The details of the loss in production are given below:

- |       |                  |   |                       |
|-------|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| (i)   | Overburden       | - | 17.07 lakh Cu. Metres |
| (ii)  | Lignite          | - | 7.64 lakh tonnes      |
| (iii) | Power generation | - | 424 million units     |

The details of financial impact estimated, itemwise are given below:-

- |     |   |   |                |
|-----|---|---|----------------|
| (i) | Estimated shortfall in income on account of less production of raw lignite in Mine-II           | - | Rs. 23.25 Crs. |
| (2) | Estimated shortfall in income on account of less generation in TPS-II                           | - | Rs. 23.03 Crs. |
| (3) | Cost incurred for dewatering  | - | Rs. 00.39 Crs  |
| (4) | Expenditure incurred for salvaging, repair and restoration of equipment                         | - | Rs. 00.46 Crs. |
| (5) | Extra expenditure incurred for transportation of lignite from Mine-I to TPS-II (upto 29-2-1992) | - | Rs. 00.78 Crs  |

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Total		Rs.	47.91 Crs.
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(c) Neyveli Lignite Corporation was instructed to take all possible steps to restore the production of lignite from the Second Mine and to ensure generation of power from the Second TPS as early as possible. Besides, NLC Ltd. was instructed to draw up short-term action plans for strengthening the surface drainage arrangements and was advised to interact with the State Government Authorities for long-term measures.

Prompt actions were taken by NLC management to dewater the Mine-II. The dewatering of flood water was completed by the first week of January, 1992. Parallel actions were taken by the management for re-commissioning the overburden production systems after making necessary trieval operations. The overburden removal restarted from 19th November, 1991 and stabilised gradually. The lignite production was

recommenced on 2nd January, 1992 after strenuous cleaning operation of flood deposit silt and necessary maintenance works.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Sir, according to the statement given by the Minister, the total loss is about Rs. 47.91 crores. But according to the information received from the officials and experts of NLC, the total loss was Rs. 120 crores. The loss in production of lignite and production of electricity averaged about Rs. 120 crores. Machinery worth Rs. 1,500 crores was kept ideal during the flood time. The recent cyclonic storm damaged the mines and there was a very huge loss.

MR. SPEAKER: Please ask a question.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Two days before - well in advance - the weather

warning from the Meteorological Department was there. But still the concerned officials did not take proper action. And because of their negligence, there was a loss of about Rs. 120 crores.

Will the Hon. Minister explain why the NLC management, who are in charge of the mines, did not care about the weather warning given in advance by the Meteorological Department. What are the reasons?

MR. SPEAKER: You have to ask only one question.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Is there any inquiry conducted by the Ministry about this? If so, what action has been taken against the erring officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): Sir, the total loss incurred as a result of this flood is not Rs. 120 crores, as claimed by the hon. Member. The official figure given by the authorities, as total loss, is Rs. 47.91 crores. And this has been calculated on the basis of loss of production which was 7.64 lakh tonnes and the loss of power generation was also to the tune of 424 million units. So, all calculations have been done according to them. Therefore, the figure is Rs. 47.91 crores. So, this is as far as first part of his question is concerned.

As far as the second part of the question is concerned, namely, in spite of a weather warning which the management got 48 hours before, flood could not be prevented, it is true that there was a weather forecast 48 hours before it occurred. But the way the rainfall took place, it was actually beyond the control of the management. I would just mention that on the 15th November, the quantity of rainfall in that particular place was 183 mm which had never happened in the history of that area. Therefore, it was an unprecedented thing and though the management had taken some steps, it was impossible to control such a natural calamity.

DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Sir, my

second supplementary is that the mine is designed for 400 mm of rainfall for 24 hours. But the actual rainfall was 183 mm for 72 hours. There is a canal called Garland Canal which is mainly used for drainage of water from Mine II. Due to the poor maintenance of the Garland Canal and also the negligence of the officers, the mines were under flood. Every year, the management is spending more than Rs. 80 lakhs for the maintenance of the Garland Canal in paper only but not actually spending the amount. So, the answer given to the hon. Minister in the second part of the question is not proper. I would suggest the hon. Minister to instruct the officials to take severe action for strengthening the Garland canal in order to face the havoc properly.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: It is not correct to say that 183 mm of rainfall was during 72 hours. On the 15th November, there was 183 mm of rainfall within 24 hours. Regarding the second part of the question, Garland Canal has a limited capacity and the management started pumping water much earlier but by 11.12.91, they were able to pump out water to the tune of 1.18 lakh gallons per minute. Now, this was the maximum they could do because the capacity of the Canal was such that if more water would have been pumped out, then the neighbouring villages would have been flooded. That was the limitation and therefore, beyond a certain capacity, water could not be pumped out.

SHRI K. RAMAMURTHI TINDIVANAM: Sir, more than a natural calamity, it was the human failure that had caused damage in Neyveli. Sir, whatever has been said in defence of the management is not true. What had actually happened was that the management failed to take precautionary measures resulting in loss of crores of rupees. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the precautionary cyclone measures taken by the management to prevent flood in mine. Mine-II got flooded whereas Mine-I was safe. But the same Garland wall is used to prevent flood in both the mines. How was it that Mine-II got flooded while Mine-I was safe? This was because of

the failure of the management. The hon. Minister may please tell us as to how Mine I was not flooded and only Mine II was flooded when both the mines have garland walls. Why was not the buffer stock of coal maintained as per the requirement? I ask this because transportation of coal from Mine I to Mine II alone has resulted in a loss of Rs. 78 lakh.....

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question is lost in the words!

**SHRI K. RAMAMURTHEE TINDIVANAM:** I am completing it Sir. All this is due to the maximum corruption that is prevailing in Neyveli and the management is getting all the support from the Ministry. Ministry. May I know from the hon. Minister whether he will institute an inquiry to find out the reasons for the loss and damages as also the corruption that is prevailing there?

**SHRI P.A. SANGMA:** I would like to differ with the hon. Member. There was no human failure and it was a natural calamity. On the other hand, the management had done an excellent job in coping with this calamity. As regards the second part, I do agree that we must plan for the future also, after having had this experience. We have already identified the steps that need to be taken in future. Firstly, we have to widen the garland canals because we have to increase the capacity. We also have to strengthen the bunds and the State Government has devised a scheme called the Anti-disaster Programme. We have adopted it and we are going to take steps accordingly. His third question was as to why the lignite had to be transported from Mine I to TPS-II. This was done because TPS-II had to be made operational. Otherwise the Southern Region would have remained in dark. Therefore, though the lignite production in Mine II started only on 2nd of January this year, we were able to start generation of power in TPS on 6th of December last year itself and this was possible only because the lignite was transported from Mine I.

### **World Bank Assistance for Coal Production**

\*313. **SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:  
SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR  
SHARMA:**

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of World Bank assistance sought currently for improvement in productivity of the coal sector;

(b) whether the Mines have been identified for utilisation of the fund;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of fund earmarked for utilisation on indigenous machineries?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAM-AGANDA):** (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### **STATEMENT**

(a) to (d). A composite project for improvement in production, productivity and financial viability of 34 underground mines is one of the proposals referred to the World Bank for likely financing. According to the preliminary estimates indicated in the project profile submitted by Coal India Ltd. total additional investment on the project tentatively works out to Rs. 425.21 crores, out of which an amount of Rs. 115.10 crores was identified for World Bank assistance. Until the World Bank responds and carries out a detailed appraisal of the project and agrees to provide loan, no assessment can be made about the indigenous component of machinery required for this project. However, as per World Bank guidelines the indigenous manufacturers of equipment are also eligible to participate in the tenders.

**SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:** What has been stated in the reply is only regarding the underground mining. There are a number of