

[Translation]

SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in our area there is an institution of coal India named C.C.L. (Central Coalfields Ltd.) where 12 people died while doing earth work just four days before Dipawali. Crores of Rupees of Coal India Ltd. is being spent in the name of C.I.C.F. Coincidentally during that period I was in my constituency and when we demanded compensation from the management the General Manager told that there is no such system. In their area if people do such work, they should have been stopped then and there. Such incidences occur several times in a year but not a single person has been given compensation whereas the Government of India has given aid of crores of rupees in the name of sinking of land in B.C.C.L.

I would like to urge, through you, that steps should be taken to avoid recurrence of such incidents and action be taken against the management found guilty.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY (Asansol) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the production of Coal is increasing in the country but simultaneously accidents and deaths in the mines are also increasing. The reason is that the ministry of Coal, the ministry of Mines, Coals India Ltd. and B.C.C.L. do not obey security laws and rules-regulations etc. They even do not follow the recommendation of Court of Inquiry. Even they do not follow the recommendations of the bipartite consultative committee or Bipartite Standing Committee. They even do not follow the suggestions of these people. Due to these violations the reports and recommendations are not being implemented.

In the Mahavir Mines in Bengal 67 poor peoples their lives, in Kred in Bengal 55-56 people lost their lives, in Gehlot in Bihar 76 people last their lives in a single day. In spite of this, people are not paying attention to it and these incidents are taking place even now. I am giving you three-four examples in this regard. On 13.11.96 in Satgram Inclinen, due to lack of support a 35 ft. long, 20 ft. wide and 7 1/2 ft thick stone had fallen killing 4 persons. On 14th a person died in Dabar colliery. On 15th a person died in Sonpur Bazar and on 17th also another person died in Sonpur Bazar. Such incidents of death are increasing daily. I am giving details of such incident occurred during the period from 1990 to 1995. Details of fatal accidents took place. In C.I.L. from the year 1990 to 1995 are : 131 in 1990, 120 in 1991, 149 in 1992, 132 in 1993, 186 in 1994, 188 in 1995, the cases of serious injury were : 547 in 1990, 494 in 1991, 472 in 1992, 461 in 1993, 697 in 1994 and 531 in 1995, fatal accidents in S.C.C.L. were : 24 in 1990, 19 in 1991, 27 in 1992, 31 in 1993, 50 in 1994, 20 in 1995 and cases of serious injury were : 314 in 1990, 310 in 1991, 278 in 1992, 270 in 1993, 233 in 1994 and 191 in 1995.

Thus when people die, its court of enquiry is made under law and these people are not also serious about implementing the recommendations made by it.

13.00 hrs.

The Officer responsible for the death and injury to so many people is given promotion and is never punished. No one is concerned about the increasing number of accidents. My suggestion is that Hon'ble Speaker should appoint a committee to conduct an on-the-spot survey of these mines with a view to suggest measures to avoid recurrence of such incidents and to punish the officers found guilty.

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY (Ranchi) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is plant of HEC in my constituency, Ranchi where 15 thousand workers are employed and lakhs of people are earning their livelihood through this plant. Since 1991 there has been no pay revision in that plant as a result of which workers are agitating. There is a lot of resentment amount the employees against the Management. The situation is deteriorating day by day due to mismanagement. Many people have been suspended and cases have been filed in the court against many others. Pay scales of the employees in other such institutions have already been made in Ranchi except the employees of H.E.C.

Such a person is appointed Chairman who is due to retire after one or two years. Therefore, they resort to misappropriation of factory's funds for the period they serve there which is instrumental in ruining the industry. It is called the mother industry. It is causing loss both to workers as well as the factory. The workers of the industry are ready to work there if they get work orders. The old machines should be replaced by new machines which will help in increasing the production and solve the problem arising out day to day. My suggestion is that the person who has eight or ten years to serve, should be made Chairman so that he may execute his duties with responsibility and if he does not execute his duties properly, he should be removed from his post but steps should be taken to revive that industry by any way. This matter has been raised here again and again but attention is not being paid to it. Due to it, the situation is worsening. It is the question of livelihood of lakhs of people. All the officers and employees of the industry resorted to one day's token strike to attract the attention of the Government. Therefore, the Government should intervene into the matter immediately to solve the problem.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Dr. B.N. Reddy.

You have to take up the second issue and not the first one. The first issue has already been raised yesterday.

DR. B.N. REDDY (Miryalguda) : Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, this is regarding Srisailem Left Bank Canal which will irrigate about three lakh of acres in Nalgonda district. About three hundred to four hundred people from the district came here in Delhi and sat on *dharna* to protest against the indifferent attitude of the Government in completion of this Project. Both the SLBC and Telugu Ganga Projects were actually taken up during 1985.

Sir, of course, we are very happy that we are able to complete the Telugu Ganga Project in 10 years time and we are able to get some waters. But still the situation is not a happy one because of the heavy rains and floods.

But at the same time the SLBC Project was also taken up. Ten years are already over but so far nothing has been done in regard to completion of this Project. People are facing a lot of difficulties in getting the drinking water, as the water available at present contains fluoride. Due to that, several hundred people including *Lambadas* came from Nalgonda district and they have staged a *dharna* here in the streets of Delhi. This project would definitely help the people of Nalgonda and Miryalguda districts. There are two districts in my constituency - Nalgonda and Miryalguda - and people from these districts will be definitely benefited in respect of drinking water as well as water for irrigation purposes. Hence, this project should be taken up immediately as the successive Governments had not done it for the last ten years.

During the last Parliament, 480 people filed their nominations including several agricultural labourers, *Lambada* ladies and gentlemen only to show their protest that this project is not being taken up seriously either by the State Government or by the Central Government. So, I request the Government, through you, to take up this cause immediately and do their best.

[Translation]

SHRI R.L.P. VERMA (Kodarma) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Dugdha Coalwashery plant No.1 of BCCL under Coal India Limited was closed on October, 26. Neither the Trade Unions nor the authorities were made aware of rhyme and reason for the closure but the authorities of BCCL came and ordered to close down the plant No.1 all of a sudden. It is the only one Coalwashery for Bokaro Steel Plant and is very useful for it but the authorities, on the pretext of heavy contents of ash, closed it so that the decks can be cleared for import of washed coal. About 2000 workers were rendered jobless. The said coalwashery plant No.1 has the production capacity of 6000 tonnes per day and it had produced 5000 tonnes till 2 'o clock of the day when it was closed. If it has any defect or any flaw from security point of view then how it produced 5000 tonnes on that day? Secondly CITU, INTUC, BMS, HMS, and all other Unions had invited me to visit the factory and

I went there on November 13 and saw that the plant was fitted on strong iron pillars but the same was closed saying that that was useless. I do not know as to why the plant was closed on October 26 when the covering scheme of the revolving conveyer worth Rs. five crore was working from October 26 to November, 13. Therefore, some scam seems to be there behind it as it shows that it has been closed only to misappropriate the fund on the pretext of its modernisation. The steel plant will get a serious setback due to it. It is a corruption on large scale. Therefore, I demand the Government to conduct a high level C.B.I. enquiry in this regard because the officers of BCCL are there for a long time and the medium level officer reaches the rank of C.M.D. and they all resort to bungling. All the Top posts have been occupied by the corrupt officers who are likely to give a serious setback to Coal India Limited and cause a great loss to the Government of India. They have caused loss to the tune of Rs.56 crore, only on that belt. Therefore, I appeal the Government to get the case enquired by the CBI. Employees of the Plant are not guilty. The office bearers told that there was no defect in the plant and no question of security arises. Therefore, it should be reopened. It is nothing but a well thought conspiracy to render the workers jobless and obtain commission on the import of coal. Likewise, Rs.9 crore expected to be incurred on Damodar River and Railway Diversion (Dr. R.D. Project) scheme under Coal India. A plan was prepared for it but even after 16 years, the plan is still incomplete though Rs. 49 crore have been spent. I want the Government to get this case also enquired so that this country may be protected and steel plant may be run properly.

With these words I, through you, demand the Government by attracting its attention, to get this case enquired immediately. Shri Ram Vilas Paswan who is present in the House, should get this case enquired seriously.

SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH (Balia) (Bihar) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the entire country is facing the shortage of chemical fertiliser. Two fertiliser plants of Bihar namely—Barauni and Sindry are in a dilapidated condition for a long time. The previous Government had sanctioned Rs.126 crore for the revival of these plants but the present Government has not taken any step in this regard. Not only Uttar Pradesh and Bihar but the whole country is facing the crisis of fertiliser. The Government is importing the fertiliser on higher prices but it is not reviving the domestic plants like Barauni, Sindri and Durgapur. For the revival of Barauni plant, a committee of experts was constituted which presented its recommendations. The said recommendations were reviewed but all the proposals in this regard are pending in the Ministry of Fertiliser, Department of Planning and the Ministry of Finance. The farmers are facing shortage of all types of fertilisers be it DAP, Sufala, Urea or Calcium. Barauni is facing shortage of fertilizers in spite of working of a fertilizer