

[ श्रीरामदास सिंह ]

अपने मुझे याद दिला दी है। तब इस विभाग में एक भी के० एस० चारी साहब सेक्रेटरी हुआ करते थे जो रिटायर हो गए हैं। तब इयनेश्वरम साहब चेयरमैन लिगनाइट हुआ करते थे। वहाँ पर मुझे फाइट करना पड़ गया था। एक व्यक्ति को तब उन्होंने इंटरव्यू के आधार पर सिलैक्ट कर लिया था जबकि उससे सीनियर और एक्जेंट प्राइमी की उमेदा कर दी गई थी। और जब मैंने इसके बारे में पूछा तो कहा गया कि यह डिसक्रीशन उनकी है और उन्होंने अपनी डिसक्रीशन एप्लाइ की है। इसको लेकर मैंने पांच बरस तक केस लड़ा था। समापति जी, आपको नामों की लिस्ट दी जाती है और अपनी डिसक्रीशन के हिसाब से आप चुकाते हैं। अगर मैं यह जानता कि देश के इतने बड़े न्यायालय में, सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में डिसक्रीशन को इस तरह से एप्लाइ किया जाता है तो शायद मैं तब सविश की कास्ट पर इतनी बड़ी लेबर मिनिस्ट्री से लड़ाई नहीं लड़ता। दो बार मैंने चेयरमैन को लिख कर दिया। आज भी दिया।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ जो हमारे लेबर मिनिस्टर हैं, उनको जनता पार्टी की सरकार के आने के बाद—

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Singh, you can continue your speech on the next day, i.e. on the 14th instant. The Half-an-Hour Discussion will start now.

18.00 hrs.

#### HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

##### DELAY IN COMPLETION OF KUDREMUKH IRON ORE PROJECT

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up the half-hour discussion. Shri Lakkappa.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur): I rise to initiate an half-hour discussion on the issue of the Kudremukh project which is under construction in

Karnataka State. This discussion is being initiated by me not on account of any political considerations, but to see that the project is implemented in time, as per schedule.

Kudremukh is the first project which is undertaken directly with oil money assistance from Iran. According to the agreement with Iran, the shipment of iron ore to Iran has to commence in August, 1980. The project is facing certain formidable construction problems which indicate that the targets may not be achieved.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): Why are you reading?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I would like to quote certain facts. I knew that the dynamic Minister would understand.....

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: There is no quorum.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Do not avoid this useful discussion by raising a technical objection.

When I raised the issue that there were no jobs for the local people when this proud project is in progress, he assured me that he would visit the project along with me, but he has not fulfilled it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: That is why you are raising this half-hour discussion?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I have no quarrel with that, but subsequently some important questions were raised by hon. Member regarding the delay in the implementation of the project.

There are certain reports which I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister in this connection. The *Business Standard* of the 27th February says that in the Kudremukh project deal with Iran, India may incur a loss. The hon. Minister has brushed it aside by saying that it is a hypothetical apprehension. Whatever it maybe, we want to see that

this project is implemented in letter and spirit according to the agreement.

Apart from the timely construction of the project, the question has to be examined whether the necessary infrastructures are being laid. The inside story of the project reveals lack of will, lack of projecting the scheme, construction difficulties and administrative bottlenecks which have to be gone into by the hon. Minister. In order to complete the project, there are certain processes which have to be followed.

According to the scheme, the construction and implementation of the project is based on the machinery that you have to put up. But even the projects like dams and others things have not been completed. You have envisaged about 12 big contractors involving more than a crore of rupees. But even the contractor's problems have not been solved. You are still negotiating with the contractors for the price of the machinery that you have to put up for the implementation of the project. These are the escalating clauses. These are the obstacles that these contractors are putting in the completion of the project and creating inordinate delay. You have to construct a deep slurry for the ore concentrate, according to this programme. How are you going to implement even the construction part of it within the stipulated time? This construction is also delayed because of paucity of power. Have you made organisational effects to see that there is no paucity of power so that the project is completed by August, 1980? I feel that no organisational effort has been made. Even the infrastructure has not been completed. Certain doubts are being created. These are not political doubts but these are administrative bottlenecks.

Your office is in Bangalore and still you have to go to the site by helicopters. They have promised at that time that they will construct an administrative office in either Chik-

magalure or in Mangalore which is not even more than 100 kms. from the site. Even that has not been done. They have constructed palatial buildings in Bangalore which is a beautiful city and they want to take advantage of that.

Even the strength of the Board of Directors has not been completed. You have included the Chief Secretary of the Karnataka Government in the Board. But you have not accepted the case of the Karnataka Government for inclusion of two persons though Karnataka and ultimately other southern States are going to be the big beneficiaries of this project.

For the timely construction of the project, berthing facilities at Mangalore port have to be speedily completed so that ships of 60,000 DWT carrying iron-ore could come. But the facilities have not been provided. I asked this question to the Shipping Ministry but there was no reply. How can you complete the project by August, 1980? What will happen to the first instalment of hundred million dollars? According to the specification of the contract, if you do not complete it within the stipulated time, there are stipulations and penalty clauses which will go to the advantage of the other country and unnecessarily, you will have to pay the penalty at the rate of their choice thus losing thousands of dollars. Instead of our benefiting, Iran will get the benefit. It has been stated that in case of failure to comply with the clause, Iran will be free to take this iron-ore from other countries and thus India will suffer. How much loss we are going to sustain by this? This is a small affair for you. Your Ministry has not applied its mind to find out as to what are the losses whether this delay really causes net loss so far as implementation of the project is concerned. Still there are not enough engineers employed for this project. A number of unemployed engineers are

(Shri K Lakkappa)

available Mechanical engineers are available in the State. But no organised effort is made to see that the project is completed within the stipulated time. As a consequence of that, we have to pay the price

What will happen? It has been stated

"The expansion of port and ship berthing facilities at Mangalore to accommodate ships upto 60,000 DWT which would carry the concentrates to Iran is under way"

Then there is another report which says

'The Kudremukh project being aided by Iran gets the largest share of Rs 200 crores of the total plan outlay of Rs 567 crores of the Department of Steel for next year (1978-79) "

All these conditions and administrative bottlenecks are to be removed. But the organising skill and the administrative ability of the people who are around the project are completely absent. Therefore, your effort of going there, visiting the place and coming back, and patting the officers will not do anything. Kindly see that the effort inside the project and by the Ministry is made

Apart from the purely construction of the project, the port and ship berthing facilities at Mangalore have to be provided immediately. The road that has been constructed is not in accordance with the specifications. The machinery that they have placed at their disposal to complete the project is still in the office. In Delhi, the officers are daily coming and going and spending a huge amount of money. They are at the mercy of the contractors. Many of the contractors are also blacklisted. These contractors are favour with the officers and making delay. What will happen is that in the world market the iron ore prices have already declined and further delay would

not only cause financial loss but will put the finances of this project in doldrums and, ultimately, it will ruin the national economy. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister to take it seriously and, if he has a mind to do it, he can take care of this baby in a proper manner.

Apart from that, there is a lot of dissatisfaction in the matter of appointment of local people. There are a large number of unemployed people in Karnataka, including my constituency of Tumkur. Whenever you want to go to the Kudremukh project you have to across my constituency. A large number of unemployed people are there diploma-holders and engineers and all these people could be drafted. Several thousands of people can be employed in that project. Why do you deny an opportunity to them? We have to absorb them for the construction work, for the earth work for the operation of machinery, for the construction of dams and all that. That is very necessary. It can be done immediately. There is no dearth of suitable and qualified persons there so far as the employment is concerned. The officers there are rejecting the people who are offering their services for such a prime project which will ultimately pave for the socio economic changes in the southern States, particularly, in Karnataka State.

I would like to pose a question as to whether the hon. Minister is going to think of creating an atmosphere of confidence, in the matter of structural changes in administration, in order to achieve the speedy implementation of the project ahead of schedule in accordance with the agreement.

What are your plans to see that our country will not suffer any losses because of the changes in the atmosphere of the world market regarding these price tariffs in accordance with the agreement, that is the penal clause will not operate on such changes in the project? Therefore, I would like

to ask the Minister what are the assurances that he would give to remove bottlenecks which are coming in your way of administration of implementation of the project. Then there is a question of arrival of machinery for the construction of dams and other things and augmenting the required power shortage to meet the situation and construction of vital item. According to the schedule, there are certain items which had to be completed by certain dates. According to the schedule, take for example, the Tailings item. It must be completed in 1978. I do not know at what stage it is pending; as far as Warehouse at Kudremukh is concerned, it must be completed in August, 1978; as far as slurry pipeline is concerned, it had to be completed in June 1979; as far as pre-production development of mine is concerned, it has to be completed in June 1979; as far as tailings handling and pump house is concerned, it has to be completed in July 1979; as far as crushers are concerned, they have to be completed in October/November 1979; as far as slurry storage and dewatering plant at Bangalore is concerned, it has to be completed in November 1979; as far as shiploading facilities are concerned, they have to be provided by November 1979 and as far as concentrator is concerned, it has to be completed in December 1979. Only four or five months have passed. Within this period, what is the progress.

As far as these contractors are concerned, this is a big headache. They do not allow even other contractors to work for small construction of roads. They want big contractors and global contractors to work. Why should they need such big contractors? You know about the U.S.A. Company who is operating there. There are many controversies. I do not want to raise it here.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK:** Raise it.

**SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** There may be some efforts to cause this delay by these contractors; there is an apprehension to cause this delay regarding

the construction of this project. What are your guidelines and what are your plans to see that such kind of things are stopped, as far as construction of projects is concerned, that have been stipulated above, by these contractors? I would like to know what are the schemes or guidelines that you have got about them?

In view of all these things, I want a categorical answer for all the questions that I have put which were not covered by the answer given by the hon. Minister and also the various questions put by various Members of parliament. He has stated; no delay. In one word, he has finished all the questions. But I want a detailed answer from the hon. Minister. If there is anything from our side to do, we will support the Ministry to see that everything is streamlined in a proper manner and see that the project is implemented in letter and spirit in accordance with the agreement. You will get a good name and reputation for that.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Dr. Henry Austin.

**DR. HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam):** Mr. Chairman, Sir....

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** It is better if the Minister replies at the same time. Otherwise, you will have no chance to clarify your points.

**PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar):** The rule provides that after the Member who has raised the discussion and who asks a number of questions, finishes his speech then the Minister replies to those questions and thereafter other Members who have given their names can ask questions. That principle is being followed. That is why, if the Minister now replies, then some of the questions which we have to ask will be eliminated.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK:** There are hardly five minutes left.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The hon. Minister may reply.

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK)** I do not know what is the grievance. There was a Starred Question No 325 dated the 16th March, 1978. My hon friend Mr Lakkappa whom I lovingly call Lakdawalla has raised this discussion. The Starred Question No 325 was

"(a) whether it is a fact that the prestigious Kudremukh Iron Ore Project which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1979 may take another two years for completion and

(b) if so the reasons therefor. My answer was

(a) No Sir. My answer was that it is not a fact that the prestigious Kudremukh Iron Ore Project which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1979 may take another two years for completion. Therefore to part (b) I said Does not arise.

To all his arguments saying that this is the problem or that is the problem my answer is still the same my answer is No Sir it does not arise.

**SHRI K LAKKAPPA** Sir are you satisfied with the answer? I have put specific questions. I have mentioned about power shortage and asked as to what are their plans. I have said that the machineries are not moving and asked as to what are the reasons. I have pointed out that there are administrative bottlenecks and asked as to what are the reasons for the same. He has not replied to my questions at all. To all my questions he says 'Do not arise. Is this the reply in the Half Hour Discussion?'

**MR CHAIRMAN** It may not be satisfactory to you. But he has replied.

**SHRI K LAKKAPPA** He has to answer to my specific questions.

**SHRI BIJU PATNAIK** To his specific questions that there are some bottlenecks, delays, administrative inefficiency, and all that which will delay

the project my answer is still the same, my answer is 'No, Sir'.

**DR HENRY AUSTIN (Ernakulam)**—When the Agreement on the Kudremukh Iron Ore Project was executed with Iran on 4th November, 1975, by the Steel Authority of India, great hopes were raised all over the country particularly in those who wanted speedy development of our country. But when this Starred Question was put in the Lok Sabha on 23rd March 1978 the hon Minister's reply was not at all meeting the point on which Members wanted elucidation. In fact Mrs Parvathi Krishnan characterised the Minister's reply as 'flippant'. I shall read out a portion from her supplementary. She was referring to the article in the *Business Standard* which gave out the impression that the project was bound to be delayed causing heavy losses for our exchequer and creating complications in our relations with Iran—which we are considering to be a big thing in the context of the situation obtaining in South Asia. After hearing the Minister's reply Mrs Parvathi Krishnan said

I would like to point out that the article referred to in the question is of a serious nature, but the answer is of a flippant nature."

I have been an associate of the hon Minister, Shri Biju Patnaik for the last 20 years. I know his capabilities. If only he was aware of the great expectations roused by this new project particularly in the southern part of our country—I should not be parochial, I would say in the whole country he would not have answered that question then in that manner and also now particularly when it is raised as a Half-an-Hour Discussion. It has been raised as a Half-an-Hour Discussion because people want further enlightenment on this subject. By no stretch of imagination could it be said that the project is progressing in a manner which reinforces confidence in the people who look forward to the completion of this project according to the schedule. This prestigious project is a

time-bound project as per the stipulations of the Agreement but I am afraid it is not likely to be completed according to the schedule. According to the project schedule it has to be completed I think by December 1979. Commercial production is to start with four months thereafter and shipment of concentrates to Iran should be begun by August 1980. My Constituency is not far from there and I have reports that in the various segments that are there, the progress that was looked forward to is not there: there is hardly any appreciable progress.

You have allotted eleven contracts involving a crore of rupees and above, to eleven contractors, most of whose antecedents are shady. Some of them have been black-listed and it has been known that contractors in this category have been on record for always asking for more time. They want the escalation of prices so that they can argue for more prices. Delay means, as you know, international complications as well and so people have begun to feel that, having employed these contractors who have been proved to indulge in this kind of dilatory tactics, this project is likely to suffer, with disastrous consequences to our nation and particularly to our economy.

Hardly a few months are left for completion and, in the field of construction of 292 residential quarters which is a pre-requisite for effective work, what is the view? We would like to know the progress that has been made—though this is not a basic or substantial aspect.

Now, in the piling work of silos the progress, according to our report, is negligible. This is a vital segment. You have said "I still stick to the reply that I given" but that is not illuminating enough. In Parliament, we Members of Parliament are duty bound to extract from you or to ask of you to give further information.

When we have reports, for instance, that in a vital sector of the project, the piling work progress has been practically nil or not at all commendable, you have the responsibility to enlighten us. In the Civil Engineering Works also the work is tardy: it has not been progressing. In the last six months there is considerable lack of progress: there is delay. Particularly, there is this lethargy or difficulty in the construction of the Lakya Dam which is a basic component of the whole scheme. The dam is affected by various factors. All these things have been detailed by Mr. Lakkappa—managerial or structural, or probably lack of co-ordination, proliferation, duplication or whatever may be the reason, whether managerial or administrative or due to many other factors like lack of coordination and a proper direction as well. Even in regard to the foundation for concentrates storage, it is said that Penambur is reported to be behind schedule. This is no small matter: this is a matter which is going to affect the nation vitally. For instance, he has said that he has given this contract to Messrs. Dorsel Private Ltd. for laying of iron-ore slurry pipeline. This is a most important thing. If it is not completed...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Austin, you have two questions. One question is whether the project will be completed in time: that is the main question. The second question is, how far the progress is going on. These are your two questions?

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: The manner in which he has answered is not satisfactory. Please direct him to give full details. Or, he may make a statement tomorrow: we have no objection, if he has not studied the problem properly. We should not be treated in a light manner.

MR. CHAIRMAN: These are your two important questions. Now the Minister.

DR HENRY AUSTIN I have not completed

MR CHAIRMAN There is no time (Interruptions)

SHRI K LAKKAPPA It is dereliction of duty on the part of the Minister We will take it very seriously He has no respect for Parliament

MR CHAIRMAN Mr Lakkappa has spoken everything in detail Now Dr Henry Austin has asked two questions, one whether this project will be completed in time two how far the progress is going on

DR HENRY AUSTIN The hon Minister has a background of stewardship of Orissa State and he has been very dynamic But in this project there is hardly any involvement of the people Those who have gone to Mangalore to study this project, they say that the people in the area do not know what is happening there It has become a completely bureaucratic and official arrangement How can a project of 600 million dollar investment be completed without the participation of the people? I am afraid even the State Government does not have a locus standi there The leaders of that area do not know about this The whole thing is being concentrated in Bangalore and Delhi among the officers The Janata Government is on record of saying and it has proclaimed from the house tops that they are going to involve the rural population but even for manual work they are not involving the people here and the project is nearing completion Nobody knows what is happening There is no people's participation

You are duty-bound to explain to the House how far the work has progressed in these eleven years Here you have invited these multinationals and some of them are those who have a shady background The hon Minister cannot say that every-

thing is progressing well You know, the things are not progressing satisfactorily All these projects are running at a snail's pace Kindly enlighten us, I do not want to put the questions formally

PROF P G MAVALANKAR Let three of us complete the questions and then the Minister can answer all together That has been the practice

MR CHAIRMAN Let the Minister answer this first

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK Sir, I do not want to go into all the details of the road, tunnel and things like that I will just take one item The hon Member said that the silos were highly complicated and sophisticated and that there was no sign of it I would like to tell for the information of the House that the first silo with a height of 36 meters and a diameter of 18 meters employing highly sophisticated technology for construction was already completed on the 7th April 1978 Therefore, the original report on which they are relying, the manner of their presentation and from wherever they have got this report are all totally at fault, they are faulty, there is no basis and in fact they are baseless My answer was categorical I could not be more categorical than that I do not think, on a project like this, the Government has been more categorical when I say there shall be no delay and the first ore shall be exported on 23rd August 1980 What more can I say?

PROF P G MAVALANKAR I shall be very brief, and I will tell you how I was prompted to participate in this half-an-hour discussion In January this year, I had occasion to go to Mangalore and it was my first visit to that beautiful part of our country I must say that not only I was impressed by the Mangalore port and its surroundings, but while I was going round the Karnataka area, I also happened to go through the

Kudramukh project areas. That is how, I got interested, and when I got the press reports about Kudramukh and read them later on in Delhi, I felt prompted to participate in this discussion.

I want to ask only two very brief questions. While I ask these questions, I want to go on record that I am in agreement with the Minister when he says that the Government have been going on schedule. In fact, my information is, and he may correct me if I am wrong, that in respect of some projects in some areas, they are even ahead of the schedule. The Minister himself has said so, and even the Chairman of the Project, Mr. K C. Khanna also said, that they will stick to the date and the first ship will go to Iran on the 23rd August, 1960. So far so good. We are proud of the fact that India's second generation of good promising, bright, technically well-qualified engineers are at this job, and they are doing such good work in time and it will lead to India's development, and it will be very good economically.

Now, my question is: first of all, does he not envisage— it is all right saying that there will be no delay in terms of targets—a certain additional cost in the process of going ahead? My question is: even though he may be able to reach the target, whether the 630 million dollars which Iran gave by way of credit will not go upto some more millions and if so, what is the additional expected cost involved? This is No. 1.

Secondly, with regard to the need for power, it is true that the months are still many. But you have to exclude the monsoon months because the rainfall in that part of the country is very heavy and it ranges between 200—250 inches and so you have to exclude the monsoon months of July—September when practically the work is almost stopped. This is one obstacle and if there is going to be an additional obstacle of inadequacy

of power, there will be perhaps some delay and I want to know whether the supply of power to the project operations is adequate or not and what steps are the government taking to see that power is also adequate? I hope he will answer these points.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): I am also interested in taking part in this short discussion because there are various press reports. The press reports are that India may incur big losses in this project. It also suggests that India will get lower prices than the comparable international prices and added to these as my esteemed friend has suggested there will be cost escalation also. If on the one hand, there is cost escalation due to various reasons which I do not want to mention as some of them have already been mentioned, one aspect of the thing is that there are possibilities of escalation costs. On the other side there is the press report that this project will not earn profits. Whether it will incur heavy losses should be clarified to this House. On these two points, whether there will be a heavy loss and whether there will be an escalation of costs, the House would like to be assured. He said that it will be completed according to schedule and there I have no quarrel with him.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The simple point is of escalation which was raised by Prof. Mavalankar. As the time goes on there is bound to be some marginal escalation as costs of many things go up. Power rates go up, customs duty is increased. These are accepted escalations. Import duty is one of them. Taxes have gone up. Power Rates have gone up. The Parliament has added 2 paise as duty. The excise has gone up from 2 to 5 per cent. These escalations are bound to take place. But that will not jeopardise the project. It will be only marginal to the extent of 7 to 8 per cent and it will not be of the order of olden days when a Rs. 20 crores project went up to Rs. 200 crores. This I can assure the



[Shri Biju Patnaik]

House categorically... (Interruptions)  
In your government's time it was happening. Nevertheless I do not want to enter into politics.

Second is the price. There are certain escalations and de-escalations and on the basis of world market prices certain base prices have been fixed which will help us. To-day if we have to fix the price on the depressed world market, it will not be helpful. So, certain base prices including the cost of transport from Mangalore to Iran and oil prices have been taken into account in fixing the price and to the extent that is regulated, it will not give us an enormous profit if there is a higher rise in price and it will also not give us an enormous loss if there is a depression in prices. So I think, by and large, the project will do well.

As far as power is concerned, the dams are left with the Karnataka Government and their work so far is likely to be delayed by one year. Their progress of work has not been satisfactory. But the government of Karnataka is bound by an agreement to supply from their sources 80 MW of power to the Kudremukh project so that the project is not hampered.

For example you talk of costs. Government of Karnataka has just doubled the power tariff in that State. I have written a letter in protest to the Chief Minister. If that comes there will be additional cost of Rs. 2 crores. Mr. Lakkappa and other friends from Karnataka will do well to take up with their Chief Minister not to raise the cost by this kind of arbitrary action. In no other State it has been done so far.

(Interruptions)

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: You have put only one Director. Why have you not put another Director?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: If it is going to bring power tariff down, I am prepared to appoint Mr. Lakkappa. If he may give me guarantee to bring power tariff down, I am prepared to

do that. That is not the question. But no State in the country has doubled the power rates.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Haryana.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Nobody has doubled the power rates. The extra rate is only on the Excise duty that has been levied by the Central Government. Over and above that they have doubled the rates. By this not only the Steel Works are being affected, all your plants consuming higher power too will be affected. All your mini steel plants will be closed very soon. This will have an additional cost of Rs. 2 crores in construction and running cost of about Rs. 500 lakhs every year; which will raise the cost of production.

So, my first action was that I have written to the Chief Minister. I am sure he will consider it in the interest of the State and the project in the South. I am sure you will have to convince him. There is some necessity.

You will take care of the project that is going on there. You do not want to kill that project. It may prove so expensive which is not provided in the original agreement-rates and tariff.

There is another question that has been asked by Shri Chitta Basu. I have already answered that question. I would like to convince him but I do not know how to convince the unconvinced. But I wish to say quite emphatically that the project is going on, on a sound basis. There have been bottlenecks which the Ministry have cleared. For example there was going to be considerable delay in building that road on the Western Ghat because it was, at that time, handed over to the PWD in Karnataka. They neither had the capacity, nor the machinery to do that. As soon as I took over, I asked the Army Border Road Organisation as well as the Railways to take up the bridges

and the roads on a very high priority footing. The road which was according to the Karnataka PWD to be completed next year has already been completed and the vehicles are running. This would in turn take heavy equipments from Mangalore Port to Kudramukh the heavy items like concentrators, etc.

He says about delay. Out of the tunnel of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  kilometre all that is left is only 200 metres.

I do not wish to use rough words—some correspondents writing something and somebody else writing something else and making hullabaloo Sensationalism, I do not believe in. You

must have noticed for the last whole year, since I have been in Government, I have not made one political statement. I do not believe in sensationalism. I have been authorised and asked by the Prime Minister to do a job and I am doing it to my own satisfaction and I may assure that it will be ended to the full satisfaction of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your reply.

18.43 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, April 14, 1977/Chaitra 24, 1900 (Saka).