

12.33 hrs.

*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1968-69
—contd.

Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals —contd.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals. We have already spent about 1 hour and 10 minutes on the Steel Ministry's Demands.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : Shri Chavan has also gone out.

MR. SPEAKER : Unfortunately, the Congress Members have almost exhausted their time. In a 4-hour debate the Congress gets only 2 hours and of the 2 hours they have already taken 40 minutes. The Minister wants another 40-45 minutes to reply to the debate. Yesterday I could allow a number of Congress Members because, fortunately for them, the independents were all absent.

SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU (Chittoor) : Today also they are absent.

MR. SPEAKER . Though I called a number of them, all of them were absent , therefore, I could allot that time to the Congress Benches. Anyway, today the party names are there and I am sure that those who have walked out will come back immediately ; I am sure, they will not stay out the whole day. So, the Congress Members must not grudge it ; they cannot help it. Except from Swatantra Party nobody has spoken yet and you must hear their point of view. Therefore one from each party must be allowed. Later on, one or two Congress Members also we will allow in the 10 minutes that we have —not that we will not allow—but one from each party must be allowed.

Then, I would like to have the Business Advisory Committee meeting today at 4 p.m.

Now, Shri Kiruttinan.

SHRI KIRUTTINAN (Sivaganga) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Volume of investment made in the public sector undertakings in

the corporate sector has increased enormously since independence. During the period of the Third Plan the investment in the shape of equity and loans in the undertakings of the Central Government rose from Rs. 953 crores to Rs. 2,415 crores. Thus, the share of the public sector in the total investment in the economy increased from 46.4 per cent during the First Plan period to 54.6 per cent during the Second Plan. At present the public sector is believed to account for roughly two-thirds of the national investment.

Among the public sector enterprises, Hindustan Steel Limited has absorbed a major share of the total public sector investment. As on 31st March, 1967, the Government investment in the public sector amounted to Rs. 2,841 crores of which Hindustan Steel Limited accounted for Rs. 1,028 crores or 36 per cent.

12.36 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

But the performance of the public sector, whether it is Hindustan Steel Limited, or the National Coal Development Corporation or the National Mineral Development Corporation or Heavy Electricals or anything, has caused serious and critical concern in Parliament and among the public.

As far as the three steel plants are concerned, according to the statement of the Minister concerned, Bhilai steel plant suffered a loss of Rs. 17.15 million, Rourkela of Rs. 19.38 million and Durgapur of Rs. 131.64 million. The Hindustan Steel Limited has sustained a cumulative loss since inception amounting to Rs. 82.32 crores. The prospects for 1967-68 are that Hindustan Steel Limited would incur a loss of about Rs. 40 crores. At the end of 1967-68, therefore, the cumulative loss of the company might be in the region of Rs. 120 crores. This is a heavy loss indeed.

We cannot expect that the working of Hindustan Steel Limited, the National Coal Development Corporation and the National Mineral Development Corporation will improve in the future. The

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

amount of loss and deterioration are increasing year by year. Although the turnover of Hindustan Steel Limited increased from Rs. 205 crores in 1964-65 to Rs. 239 crores in 1965-66, the net profit earned by the undertaking declined from Rs. 2.1 crores to Rs. 1.7 crores. According to the 1967-68 report, the loss incurred by Hindustan Steel Limited was Rs. 20.5 crores in 1966-67, but it would increase to Rs. 40 crores in 1967-68. The production and despatches have considerably declined during the last year. The production of the National Coal Development Corporation also has declined from 9.65 million tonnes in 1965-66 to 9.49 million tonnes in 1966-67. Despatches have also declined to some extent.

A recent study made by the Committee on Plan Projects states—I quote :—

“If the Development of public-sector undertakings is reviewed in detail, it becomes apparent that a large number of the projects are taking longer in construction and to reach full production than originally envisaged and at a cost much in excess of the original estimates.

Another problem that has been injuring the public sector is that of underutilised capacity. There are in the country today a number of projects which are not working at the capacity originally planned. Insufficient or poorly organised management of resources is a common reason behind this problem, but an important reason has been a poor analysis of the demand for the product.”

According to the Report of the Administrative Reforms Commission on public undertakings—I quote :

“we find that there have been other causes too which have contributed to the accumulation of losses to a substantial extent. Thus, over capitalisation is one of the main causes. In some cases, the implementation of expansion programmes before a project reached full production, as in the case of the Hindustan Steel.....”.

Further, neither in quality nor in price they have brought full satisfaction.

Many kinds of special steel have still

to be imported because the public sector steel plants.....

SHRI D. C. SHARMA (Gurdaspur) : On a point of order, Sir. Can an hon. Member read his speech, Sir ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is only referring to his notes.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA : Every word is written in those notes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Every one here is not a Professor who has long experience of cramming notes and repeating them before the House.

SHRI KIRUTTINAN : Many kinds of special steel have still to be imported because the public sector steel plants are yet to achieve the needed quality of manufacture. In the case of basic product like steel, it has not been possible to keep prices within the reasonable limits. With the recent increase in steel prices, the position now is that the price of steel in India, as compared to the domestic price prevailing on other countries, is higher by about 25 to 30 per cent.

Regarding the quality, the major portion of steel despatches is to the Government Departments and undertakings including the Railways and Defence. A sleeper plant was erected at Hindustan Steel Ltd.—Durgapur in 1961 to meet the requirements of broad gauge steel through sleepers. A total of 2.08 lakh tonnes of sleepers were supplied to the Railways from 1961-62 to 1966-67. The plan, lay out, equipment, etc., of the plant were finalised in consultation with the Ministry of Railways. However, the sleepers supplied by the steel plant contained defects and deviations from the permissible tolerance. The Ministry of Railways directed the Railway administrations in June 1966 to segregate the defective sleepers and hold up the payment therefor. The value of the segregated sleepers was Rs. 1.6 crores.

Thus, Sir, all the three existing steel plants are working under heavy loss. The Government is not in a position to get a single or two per cent return on the capital. In view of these facts, how is it justifiable

[Shri Kiruttinan]

for the Government to start a fourth steel plant at Bokaro at a formidable cost of Rs. 1000 crores? Is it reasonable, Sir?

We, the people from Tamil Nadu, as well as the Government in Tamil Nadu, the present and the past, are crying for Salem steel plant. The people and the Government from Andhra are agitating for Visakhapatnam steel plant. The same from Mysore to erect a small scale steel plant at Hospet. But the only ready-made reply from the Central Government is, 'No money'. From where has this Government got Rs. 1000 crores for Bokaro? Is it not from the Central Budget? Instead of pouring down this Rs. 1000 crores into a single gigantic scheme, they can invest this amount for three steel plants, one at Salem, second at Visakhapatnam and the third at Hospet.

The Central Government should stick upon justice, Sir. We should not create regional imbalance. So I request the hon. Minister through you, Sir, to consider the longstanding request of Tamil Nadu to take up the Salem steel plant at least in the Fourth Five year Plan.

श्री भोलानाथ (अलवर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो डिमान्ड चल रही है, मैं उस को रापोर्ट करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। हिन्दुस्तान में इस डिपार्टमेंट ने पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू की फारसाइटेडनेस की वजह से एक नया स्थान प्राप्त किया है। इंडस्ट्री को पनपाने के लिये इस्पात की सबसे बड़ी आवश्यकता है, और यह इस्पात का युग कहलाता है। इस युग में मैं इस्पात के बड़े कारखाने बनना हिन्दुस्तान के लिये एक शान की बात थी। बल्कि पंडितजी तो यह भी कहा करते थे कि पुराने जमाने के हरिद्वार, बनारस आदि जो बड़े-बड़े तीर्थ स्थान हैं उन का स्थान आज कल भिलाई, रूरकेला, दुर्गापुर, चित्तंजन के कारखानों और भास्करा-बांध को दिया जाना चाहिये।

इसलिये यदि इन में कहीं थोड़ी बहुत गलती भी रही है तो उस की वजह से इन तमाम कारखानों की इस तरह से आलोचना करना ठीक नहीं मालूम पड़ता है। किन्तु जो

रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने आई है, इस में शक नहीं कि उस से मालूम होता है कि सरकार की तरफ से थोड़ी बहुत गड़बड़ हुई है, लेकिन फिर भी भिलाई जैसे कारखाने ने बहुत तरक्की की। इस से साफ जाहिर होता है कि आइन्दा इस्पात के कारखाने, चाहे वह पब्लिक सेक्टर में हों या प्राइवेट सेक्टर में, काफी पनपेंगे।

मेरा एक निवेदन है कि पंडितजी ने जब यह कारखाने बनवाये थे तब शायद उन के सामने हिन्दुस्तान की हालात का दूसरा नक्शा नहीं था। वह सोचते थे कि हम अपनी इंडस्ट्रीज में भी आगे बढ़ें, और इसी लिये उन्होंने यह कारखाने कायम कराये और इंडस्ट्री को भी मद्दे नजर रक्खा और इस बात को भी सोचा कि कौन से मशीनरी के टूल्स बनाये जाने चाहिये। जब हमारे देश पर चीन का हमला हुआ या पाकिस्तान का हमला हुआ उस समय दूसरी बातों का भी ध्यान आया और इस बात पर विचार किया जाने लगा कि दूसरे सेक्टर की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये और अपने धन का एक बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा इस्पात कारखानों के डेवेलपमेंट की तरफ जाना चाहिये।

अभी आप ने देखा होगा कि हमारे सामने इस्पात कारखानों की जो रिपोर्ट है उस में लिखा गया है, खास कर अवेलेबिलिटी के बारे में, कि आज भी हमारे देहाती क्षेत्रों में टिन की गलवनाइज्ड शीट्स किसी प्रकार नहीं मिल रही हैं। हम बराबर यह चाहते हैं कि हमारे यहां हाउसिंग के लिये बड़ा भारी प्रोग्राम होना चाहिये, लेकिन गरीब आदिमियों के लिये पक्के मकान बनवाना बहुत मुश्किल बात है। यदि आप उन को टिन शेड दे कर बसा देते हैं तो वह खुश हो जायेंगे। हम राजस्थान में देखते हैं कि बहुत से थैचिंग के यानी घास फूस के मकान हैं। खास कर गर्मियों उन में बड़ी आग लगती है और पूरे के पूरे गांव में फैल जाती है। इस के लिये प्रान्तीय सरकार को काफी बड़ा अमां-उंट हर बार खर्च करना पड़ता है। उन की

सहायता करने के बाद फिर उन को वह टीन बांटने की कोशिश करते हैं, लेकिन पिछले दो सालों से आग लगने वाले मकानों को टिन मिलना मुश्किल हो गया है। बीच में काली टिन मिलने लगी थी लेकिन वह जल्दी ही बेकार हो जाती थी। गलवनाइज्ड शीट्स के लिये काफी जिक्र चाहिये। यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि जावेर माइन्स में जिक्र होने लगा है। हिन्दुस्तान में दूसरी चीजों की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये जिस की वजह से रिसेशन हो रहा है। आज इस जिक्र से दूसरी चीजें भी बन सकती हैं और इस तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

इस रिपोर्ट में आखीर में कहा गया है कि कौन सी चीज की डिमाण्ड है इस पर भी मिनस्ट्री विचार करेगी और इस के लिये एक कमेटी बैठायी गई है। यह बड़ी खुशी की बात है कि अब सरकार जावेर माइन्स को डेवेलप कर रही है। जावेर माइन्स का जो प्रोडक्शन होता है उस में इस तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये कि गाँव वालों की जरूरतें किस तरह से पूरी हो सकती हैं और उस को ध्यान में रखते हुए इंडस्ट्रीज का डेवेलपमेंट किया जाना चाहिये।

इस में कोई शक नहीं है कि हेवी इंडस्ट्रीज और बेसिक इंडस्ट्रीज की देश के लिये बड़ी जरूरत है, लेकिन देश का विकास भी जरूरी है, और बराबर हम चाहते हैं कि काश्तकारों के लिये पम्पिंग सेट भी लगें, कुएं भी खुदें ताकि किसान लोग वहां रहना पसन्द करें। अगर इस्पात का प्रोडक्शन होगा तो आप भले ही यैचिंग की जगह पर टिन की व्यवस्था न कर सकें, लेकिन वहां पर बड़ा कारखाना जरूर स्थापित कर सकते हैं। इस बात पर ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये। इसलिये आप वहां पर कोई बड़ा कारखाना जरूर स्थापित करें ताकि वहां पर जो आइडल कैपसिटी पड़ी है उस का किसी प्रकार से पूरा उपयोग हो सके।

दूसरी बात यह है कि लिग्नाइट का बहुत

बड़ा स्टॉक राजस्थान और बीकानेर में है। वहां पर जिप्सम और कोलमाइन्स हैं उन को राजस्थान सरकार डेवेलप नहीं कर रही है। नतीजा यह है कि मद्रास में तो उस की फ्रॉटलाइजर यूज हो रही है, लेकिन राजस्थान में वह यूज नहीं हो रही है। बोकानेर ऐसी जगह है जहां लिग्नाइट भी और जिप्सम भी है। यह दोनों चीजें मिनरल्स में आ गई हैं, लेकिन उन का कोई डेवेलपमेंट राजस्थान के अन्दर नहीं हो पा रहा है। इस की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

तीसरी बात कापर माइन्स के बारे में है। मेरी खुद की कास्टिट्यून्सी में दरिबा में बड़ा भारी डेवेलपमेंट हो रहा है, लेकिन उस की गति बहुत धीमी है। उस में जितनी तेजी से काम किया जाना चाहिये उतनी तेजी से नहीं हो रहा है।

नतीजा यह है कि कापर की वजह से आज जो बड़े भारी डेवेलपमेंट के काम हैं वे रुके हुए हैं। वायर न मिलने की वजह से न बिजली की लाइनें बिछाई जा रही हैं और न ही टेलीफोन की लाइनें। टेलीफोन के लिए जो एप्लेकेशंज हैं वे इसी तरह से पड़ी हुई हैं। जब मांग की जाती है तो संचार मन्त्री कह देते हैं कि टेलीफोन तो हमने मंजूर कर दिया है, चार पांच साल पहले कर दिया है लेकिन हमारे पास वायर नहीं है और वायर के बिना हम लाइन बिछा नहीं सकते हैं, इस वास्ते टेलीफोन नहीं मिल रहा है। हमारे पास इन्स्ट्रूमेंट्स पड़े हुए हैं, मशीनरी पड़ी हुई है लेकिन तार नहीं है। वायर की सब से बड़ी डिफिकल्टी है। वायर के लिए हमारे पास जिक्र नहीं है। लेकिन अब तो जावरा माइन्स भी डेवेलप हो गई हैं और अब तो जिक्र की कमी नहीं रहनी चाहिये। हेवी इंडस्ट्रीज को डेवेलप करना आपके दिमाग में रहा है क्योंकि यह एक बेस है जिस पर दूसरी इंडस्ट्रीज कायम हो सकती हैं। आपका खयाल रहा है कि यू एस ए से, जर्मनी से, यू एस एस आर से कम्पीटीशन

[श्री भोलानाथ]

किया जा सके इस वास्ते यह जरूरी है कि हैवी इंडस्ट्रीज़ पर जोर दिया जाए। चूंकि वहां से आप माल नहीं मंगाना चाहते और वहां का माल विदेशों को भेजना चाहते हैं इस वास्ते आपने यह जरूरी समझा कि हैवी इंडस्ट्रीज़ पर ज्यादा जोर दिया जाए। लेकिन इसके साथ-साथ देश में किस चीज़ की आवश्यकता है उस तरफ भी आपको ध्यान देना चाहिये। गैलवेनाइज़्ड शीट्स की मांग बहुत ज्यादा है और इसको ज्यादा से ज्यादा मात्रा में बनाया जाना चाहिये। अबर आपने ऐसा किया और गाँव वालों को इनको सप्लाय किया तो वे भी बहुसूच करेंगे कि आखिर हो आपके के बाद उनकी जो यह आवश्यकता है इतनी पूर्ण सरकार ने कर दी है। पहले इस धर्मस को पंचायतों के जरिये लोगों को दिया जाता था, उनके लिए कोटा रखा जाता था, लेकिन आज यह कोटा निल है। कहां यह गया कुछ पता नहीं। यह तो गायब ही हो गया है। किस कारखाने में अब इनका इस्तेमाल होने लग गया है इसका पता ही नहीं चल रहा है। इसका कोई विक्र ही नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जहां तक गैलवेनाइज़्ड शीट्स का सम्बन्ध है ज्यादा से ज्यादा इनको तैयार किया जाना चाहिये और उस में से साबुन लेबर बच बगलों का होना चाहिये। उनकी आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने की तरफ सब से पहले ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

कोल के बारे में भी कल यहाँ बिक्र हो रहा था। कोल फाल्सू पड़ा हुआ है। बीरे धीरे लोगों की आदतें भी बदलती जा रही हैं। आप गाँव वालों को वह कहते हैं कि वे गोबर न जलायें। अगर आप चाहते हैं कि वे गोबर न जलायें तो आप उनके लिये गोबर का कोई सबस्टीट्यूट मुहैया करें। शहरों में भी मुश्किल से कोल पहुँची पाता है और जलाने के काम में आता है। आप किसी प्रकार से ऐसी योजना बनायें ताकि जो कोल फाल्सू पड़ा हुआ है वह देहाती

तक पहुँचें और देहात वाले भी साफ्ट कोक को अपने काम में लायें। आप कहते हैं तो कि आप भुक्त का नया नक्शा बनाना चाहते हैं, जो इस वक्त नक्शा है उसको आप बदलना चाहते हैं लेकिन आप कोई उसका सबस्टीट्यूट तो दें, गोबर का कोई सबस्टीट्यूट तो उनको दें। लकड़ी के लिए जंगल नहीं आप देते हैं, गोबर आप कहते हैं कि वे न जलायें तो किस तरह से रोटी पका कर वे खा सकते हैं। किस तरह से वे जिंदा रह सकते हैं? अगर आप चाहते हैं कि गाँव में लोग गोबर न जलायें तो धीजना बनाकर आपको साफ्ट कोक ज्यादा से ज्यादा मात्रा में पहुँचाना होगा। जहाँ जहाँ बिजली का विस्तार होता जा रहा है वहाँ वहाँ कोयले की खपत भी कम होती जा रही है। इस प्रकार से जो कोयला बचता जा रहा है इसको देहातों में किस प्रकार पहुँचाया जाए इसकी धीजना आपको बनाना चाहिये।

मैं आशा करता हूँ कि अगले साल जो आप रिपोर्ट दें उस रिपोर्ट में हम दो तीन बातों के बारे में आपने क्या किया है, इसका ज़ोरा हमें आप अवश्य दें। खास तौर पर छतों के लिए गैलवेनाइज़्ड शीट्स मुहैया करने के लिए आप जो भी प्रयत्न करें उसकी जानकारी हमें दें। पहले तो इनकी ब्लैक चल्सी बी। अब तो हैं ही नहीं तो ब्लैक का भी सवाल पैदा नहीं होता है। अब तो ये जो स्टीन शीट्स हैं ये भीयब ही हो गई हैं। इनके छोटे छोटे बक्से बना दिव्य जाते हैं क्योंकि इस तरह से उनको ज्यादा कीमती हॉसिल होती है। यह ठीक है कि बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज़ हमें चाहियें ताकि हम हवाई अहाज बना सकें, टैंक बना सकें चितरंजन में इंजन बना सकें और उस सब के लिए हमें लौहे की आवश्यकता है। इसको देहात वाले भी समझते हैं। लेकिन उनकी जो प्राथमिक आवश्यकता है छत डालने के लिये टीन की उसकी भी तो पूर्ति होनी चाहिये। उनको भी तो पता चलना चाहिये कि हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर माइज और स्टील की

भी कोई मिनिस्ट्री है जो काम करती है और उन्हें हाथ से भी आम जनता को कुछ फायदा पहुँचा है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Opposition Benches are almost empty because they walked out in protest. But it appears some Members have returned. I think they are participating. Shri Brij Bhushan Lal.

श्री वृज भूषण लाल (बरेली) : इस मिनिस्ट्री के चार्ज में जो चीजें हैं उनमें कोल और स्टील का भी समावेश होता है और ये चीजें ऐसी हैं जिनकी आवश्यकता देश की गरजी और उन्नति के लिये निर्विवाद है। पहले मैं आपके सामने कोल की जो स्थिति है देश में, उसको पेश करना चाहता हूँ। सदन को यह जान कर खुशी होगी कि यह एस्टीमेट नयाया गया है कि हमारे यहां कोल का जो अंडर ग्राउंड भंडार है वह 125,000 मिलियन टन के करीब है। यह इतना विशाल भंडार है कि इससे देश की आवश्यकताएँ आने वाले 500-600 साल तक पूरी हो सकती हैं। लेकिन बहुत इस बात की है कि कोशिश करके ज्यादा से ज्यादा जितना भी हम आवंटन कर सकते हैं जमीन में से उसको आवंटन करने की कोशिश करें। लेकिन हमने कितनी आज तक इसके बारे में कोशिश की है, इसको आप देखें तीसरे प्लान में गवर्नमेंट ने एस्टीमेट रखा था कि 98 मिलियन टन निकालेंगे। चौथे प्लान में उसने कहा कि 125 मिलियन टन निकालेंगे। लेकिन अब उसने इसको घटा कर 1000 मिलियन टन कर दिया है। अब ऐसा मालूम हुआ है कि सरकार सौ मिलियन टन के टारगेट को भी घटा करके अस्सी मिलियन टन प्रोड्यूस करने की तजवीज कर रही है। इससे पता चलता है कि इकोनोमी के अन्दर एक रिसर्शन आ रहा है और हमको कोल की बहुत कम है। इसमें से एक तो यह बात निकलती है। दूसरी बात यह निकलती है कि प्रोडक्शन की जो कैपेसिटी है वह आइडल है, प्राइवेट सैक्टर में भी और पब्लिक सैक्टर में भी। ये दो बातें इससे साबित हो रही हैं।

जहाँ तक कोकिंग कोल का सम्बन्ध है यह एस्टीमेट किया गया है कि जो टोटल डिपॉजिट्स है वे चार हजार मिलियन टन हैं। इसमें से भी हम को ज्यादा से ज्यादा हासिल करने की कोशिश करनी चाहिये। हमने की भी है लेकिन उसके बावजूद भी बारह सौ मिलियन टन कैन बी आवॉन्टेड वाई दी गवर्नमेंट। इसकी वजह यह है कि बाकी हिस्सा जमीन के अन्दर रह जाता है। यह जब क्वांटिटी हासिल हो जाएगी तो आपकी जरूरतों के लिए यह पच्चीस साल तक काफी होगी। लेकिन यह तभी होगा जब इसका प्रापर यूटिलाइजेशन किया जायगा। इस वास्ते प्रापर यूटिलाइजेशन पर जोर दिया जाना चाहिए। इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि प्रोड्यूसर्स को मैक्सिमम क्वांटिटी निकालने के लिए काफी आसस्टेंस दी जाए। इसके बारे में मैं दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ।

पहली बात तो सब्सिडीज को है। सब्सिडी जो सैंड स्टोइंग के लिए दी जाती है उसको एक्सपेंडाइट किया जाय। उसकी पेमेंट इन टाइम नहीं होती है। इसकी वजह से जो काम है वह सफ़र करता है। टेरिफ़ कमिशन ने भी अपनी रिपोर्ट दी है और उसमें उसने यह रिकामेंड किया है :

Collection of cesses on coal should be placed at the disposal of the Coal Board directly, so that funds are available to the Coal Board for prompt payment.

दूसरी बात यह है कि जो क्वांटम है सब्सिडी का वह कम है। उसने कहा है :

Quantum of subsidy for sand stowing is inadequate at present. According to the Tariff Commission, producers are losing Rs. 2 to 3 per tonne on sand stowing ; it should be enhanced and it is in national interest.

इन दो चीजों पर तबज्जह देने से जो कोल प्रोड्यूसर्स हैं ये ज्यादा पैदा कर सकेंगे और उनको एनकरेजमेंट मिलेगा ऐसा करने के लिए।

इसी के सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने एक स्टडी ग्रुप भी बनाया था जून 1967 में लेकिन दुर्भाग्य

[श्री वृज भूषण लाल]

से उसने अभी तक कोई अपनी रिपोर्ट नहीं दी है। वह अपनी रिपोर्ट जल्दी दे ताकि उसकी जो सिफारिशें हैं उन पर अमल किया जा सके।

सबसे जवर्दस्त समस्या ट्रांसपोर्ट की है। कोल तो काफी पड़ा हुआ है लेकिन उसके ट्रांसपोर्ट में दिक्कत आ रही है। उसमें जांबजा परेशानियां पैदा हो जाती हैं। कोल नब्बे परसेंट रेलों द्वारा ट्रांसपोर्ट किया जाता है। ट्रकों वगैरह से ज्यादा यह नहीं जा पाता है। इस बात की शिकायतें आज हो रही हैं। कि कोला माइज पर स्टाक पड़ा हुआ है लेकिन उसको उठाया नहीं जा रहा है। उधर कंज्यूमर्ज यह शिकायत करते हैं कि हमें कोल नहीं मिलता है। ये दोनों कम्प्लेंट्स इस वास्ते हैं कि ट्रांसपोर्ट की कमी है। इसका रीसन यह है कि रेलवे और इस मिनिस्ट्री में कोओर्डिनेशन नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस और ध्यान दें और इस चीज को देखें। रेलवे की जो ट्रांसपोर्ट कैपेसिटी थी 1976-68 में वह 245 मिलियन टन की थी। लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से केवल 203 मिलियन टन ही उस कैपेसिटी का अवेल हो सका। यानी अठारह परसेंट कैपेसिटी आइडल रह गई—

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member may resume his speech after Lunch. The House stands adjourned till 2.00 P.M.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at five minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1968-69

—contd.

Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals—cont. i.

श्री बेबेन सैन (आसनसोल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, पुलिस के प्रति अपनाई गई सरकार

की दमन-नीति के प्रतिवाद में दिल्ली पुलिस कर्मचारी संघ के सभापति सदन के फाटक के सामने भूख-हड़त ल कर रहे हैं। करीब 900 आदमी मुअत्तिल कर दिये गये हैं और 500 आदमियों की सविसिद्ध को टर्मिनेट कर दिया गया है। 25 आदमी डिसमिस कर दिये गये हैं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : This is not the time to raise that matter.

श्री जार्ज फ़रनेन्डीज (बम्बई—दक्षिण) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप गृह मंत्री को इस बारे में ध्यान देने के लिए कहिये।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No.

Shri Brij Bhushan Lal may continue his speech.

श्री वृज भूषण लाल : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं कोल के बारे में बता रहा था कि गवर्नमेंट ने जुलाई, 1967 में कोल का डीकंट्रोल किया है लेकिन मूवमेंट के लिए उसने कुछ कोल मरचेंट्स नियुक्त किए, जिनके द्वारा कोल का मूवमेंट होता है। इससे डीकंट्रोल का परपञ्च डिफ्रीट हो रहा है और कोल की आर्टि-फिशल स्कोसिटी पैदा कर दी गई है। वे लोग अपने फ़ायदे के लिए ऐसा कर रहे हैं। मंत्री महोदय को बड़ी गम्भीरता के साथ इस प्रश्न पर विचार करना चाहिए।

जैसा कि मैं ने अभी अर्ज किया था, इस देश में नान-कोकिंग कोल बहुत काफ़ी है, जो कि 500-600 बरस तक हमारी ज़रूरत को पूरा कर सकता है। लेकिन हमारे फ़ारेस्ट रीसोसिज बहुत लिमिटेड है और इस वक्त फ़ारेस्ट एक्टिविटी को एक्सपेंड करने की आशा नहीं है। आज कल हम अपने डार्मैस्टिक फ़्युअल परपञ्चिज के लिए हर साल 115 मिलियन टन लकड़ी इस्तेमाल करते हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त हम हर साल 60 मिलियन टन ड्राई डंग इस्तेमाल करते हैं। मेरा सुभाव है कि मंत्री महोदय एक ऐसी स्कीम बनायें, जिस

के द्वारा हमारे टाउन्ज, विल्लेजिज और ग्रामों में कोल को पहुँचाया जाये, जिस की मिक्रदार हमारे देश में काफ़ी है। इससे एक तो हम अपनी कीमती लकड़ी को बचा सकेंगे और दूसरे, काऊ डंग को भी बचा कर, जो कि मैन्युर के लिए सबसे बेहतर चीज़ है, और उसको खेतों में पहुँचा कर अपने देश की फ़ूड शाट्रेज, अनाज की कमी, को भी कुछ हद तक पूरा कर सकेंगे।

हर शास्त्र जानता है कि किसी भी देश की तरक्की के लिए स्टील बहुत ज़रूरी चीज़ है। लोहे के वगैर कोई काम नहीं चल सकता है। इंडस्ट्रियल डेवेलपमेंट के लिए तो स्टील की खास तौर से ज़रूरत होती ही है। लेकिन कृषि के लिए भी उसकी ज़तनी ही ज़रूरत है। इम्प्लीमेंट्स के वगैर खेती नहीं की जा सकती है और इम्प्लीमेंट्स वगैर लोहे के नहीं बनाए जा सकते हैं।

अभी तक इस देश में स्टील की सप्लाई प्राइवेट सेक्टर द्वारा हो रही थी और टाटा की फ़र्म इस देश की ज़रूरियात के लिए काफ़ी स्टील सप्लाई कर रही थी। गवर्नमेंट ने 1957 से पब्लिक सेक्टर में, राउरकेला, भिलाई और दुर्गापुर में स्टील के तीन प्लांट शुरू किये। इन तीनों स्टील प्लांट्स की कैपैसिटी एक एक मिलियन टन की थी। इसमें जो रुपया लगाया गया है, जो गवर्नमेंट मनी लगा हुआ है, वह 1 हजार 28 करोड़ रुपया है और यह रुपया पब्लिक सेक्टर में लगे हुए रुपये का 36 परसेन्ट है। जब इतनी तादाद में यह रुपया लगा हुआ है, तो देखना यह है कि पब्लिक सेक्टर में ये जो तीन स्टील प्लांट लगे हुए हैं और जिनको 10 साल हो गये हैं इनकी हालत क्या है? मुझे अफ़सोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि आज 10 साल के बाद इन में 120 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हो गया है। इसमें एक विशेष बात यह है कि 1966-67 तक यह नुकसान 80 करोड़ 32 लाख रुपये का था, जिसमें केवल 1966-67

का नुकसान, 20 करोड़ 55 लाख रुपये था, लेकिन 1967-68 में जो नुकसान हुआ, एस्टीमेटेड नुकसान, वह 40 करोड़ रुपये का है। जब शुरू से नुकसान हो रहा था, तो बजाय इसके कि हम उस पर अब गौर करने, हमको चाहिए था कि हम शुरू से ही उसकी हालत को सम्भालते और उस सूरत में हमको कुछ इतमिनान और सन्तोष हो सकता था, लेकिन अफ़सोस यह है कि शुरू से ही इसकी हालत गिरती चली जा रही है 1966-67 में 20 करोड़ 55 लाख का नुकसान हुआ। 1967-68 में 40 करोड़ का नुकसान हो रहा है—यह हालत है हमारी इस पब्लिक अण्डरटैकिंग की, उस पैसे की जो हम जनता से टैक्स की शकल में वसूल करते हैं, जिसे काश्तकार ने अपने खून-पसीने से पैदा किया है। यहाँ पर बड़ी आसानी से बजट में उसके लिए रुपया प्रोवाइड कर दिया जाता है, यहाँ पर कह दिया जाता है कि उसकी पूर्ति के लिए टैक्स लगा दिया है और इस तरह से उसकी पूर्ति कर दी जाती है। लेकिन, उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मसला बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण है, इस पर सरकार को गम्भीरता के साथ विचार करना चाहिए। सरकार को देखना चाहिए कि यह नुकसान क्यों हो रहा है।

पब्लिक सेक्टर की मांग हमारे देश में बहुत दिनों से थी, क्योंकि प्राइवेट सेक्टर वाले मुनाफ़े को अपने पास रख लेते थे, लेकिन आज जब पब्लिक सेक्टर में तीन स्टील प्लांट लगे तो उन की यह दशा है, इस से पब्लिक के अन्दर पब्लिक अण्डरटैकिंग के बारे में कैसे कान्फिडेंस पैदा हो सकता है। इसकी कुछ वजूहात हैं, जिन पर हमको गौर करना होगा। सबसे पहली वजह तो यह है कि वहाँ पर मिसमैनेजमेन्ट है, वहाँ पर करप्शन है, लीकेंज है, जिसकी वजह से हम को इतना नुकसान उठाना पड़ रहा है। वहाँ पर कुछ ऐसे लोग हैं, जो इन्टरेस्टेड हैं, जो माल वहाँ से रवाना होता है। मान लीजिये कि 50 हजार टन मास रवाना हुआ, लेकिन दरअसल में वहाँ से 55 हजार टन माल रवाना होता है और इस तरह से जो पांच हजार टन माल

[श्री बृज भूषण लाल]

ज्यादा खाना हुआ, उसके बारे में इन्होंने पहले से तय किया होता है, उसको ये लोग आपस में बांट लेते हैं, जिससे यह नुकसान गर्वनमेंट को होता है।

जहाँ तक इस अण्डरटेकिंग के फॉर्मेशन का ताल्लुक है, हिन्दुस्तान स्टील लि० इन तीनों फर्मों को रन कर रही है। इस अण्डरटेकिंग का एक बोर्ड है, जिसके एक चेयरमैन हैं, डायरेक्टर्स साहब हैं। इन डायरेक्टर्स साहब की यह पोखीशन रही है। वह अपनी रेस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी को फील नहीं करते हैं और चेयरमैन साहब को यह शिकायत रही है 1964 में ये 11 मीटिंग्स कर सके, 1965 में सात मीटिंग्स कर सके, कोई मीटिंग को अटैण्ड करने ही नहीं आता है। डायरेक्टर साहबान की मीटिंग्स कहां होती हैं—कभी कलकत्ते में होती है, कभी दिल्ली में होती है, बजाय इसके कि मीटिंग्स प्लांट पर हों, अलग-अलग जगहों पर मीटिंग्स बुलाई जाती हैं। जो लोग रेस्पॉन्सिबिलिटी को फील नहीं करते, उनको डायरेक्टर बनाए रखने से क्या फायदा है, जो जिम्मेदारी को महसूस करे, उसको डायरेक्टर बनाया जाना चाहिये।

इन प्लान्ट्स के जो जनरल मैनेजर्स हैं, जो इनको रन करते हैं, उनको इतनी पावर्स दी हुई हैं, कि वे पोस्ट्स खुद क्रियेट कर लेते हैं, खुद रेक्यूट करते हैं, खुद प्रमोशन कर रहे हैं। नतीजा क्या हुआ है—यह एडमिटेड फ़ैक्ट है, जिसको सरकार ने पार्लियामेंट में माना है तीनों प्लांटों में ओवर-स्टाफिंग है, सरप्लस स्टाफ है, जिसकी वजह से खर्च बहुत ज्यादा हो रहा है इस पर आज तक गर्वनमेंट ने कोई तबज्जह नहीं दी है। हालांकि इतना जानते हैं कि ओवर-स्टाफ है लेकिन यह क्यों है जनरल मैनेजर्स अपनी मनमानी करते हैं, खुद पोस्टें क्रियेट कर लेते हैं, जिनका चाहते हैं एप्वाइन्ट कर लेते हैं, इस वजह से ओवर-स्टाफिंग चली आ रही है। मेरा सुझाव है कि यह चीज ट्रैड-ऑफिस

से कन्ट्रोल होनी चाहिए, जिससे कि जनरल मैनेजर्स अपनी मनमानी न कर सकें।

इन जनरल मैनेजर्स ने बहुत से मामलों में अपनी पावर्स को मिसयूज किया है, खास तौर से पब्लिक अण्डरटेकिंग कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट है, उसने ऐसे तीन-चार केसेज को प्वाइन्ट आउट किया है, जिसमें इन्होंने अपनी पावर्स को मिसयूज किया है। इन जनरल मैनेजर्स को लार्ज-स्केल परचेजेज के बारे में जो पावर्स हैं, उनको मिसयूज किया गया है। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि इन पावर्स को विवड़ा किया जाना चाहिये और जो भी एप्वाइन्टमेंट्स की जायं, वे यूनियन पब्लिक सर्विस कमीशन के द्वारा होनी चाहिए। जहाँ तक परचेजेज का ताल्लुक है, वह भी कन्ट्रोल होना चाहिये, इसके लिये एक बोर्ड बनना चाहिए या कोई एडवाइजरी कमेटी बनाये, जिस के द्वारा परचेजेज की जायं। इन प्लांट्स में जो नुकसान हो रहा है—जो हमारे राउरकेला, दुर्गापुर और भिलाई के प्लांट्स हैं—इन प्लांट्स के बारे में हमारी पब्लिक अण्डरटेकिंग कमेटी ने जो सुझाव दिये हैं, जो रिकमेंडेशन्स की हैं उन पर कोई अमल नहीं हो रहा है, मैं चाहता हूँ कि उन सुझावों पर अमल किया जाय।

एक खास चीज की तरफ भी मैं आपकी तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ इधर तो बोकारो प्लांट स्टार्ट किया जा रहा है, जिस पर कई हजार करोड़ रुपये लग जायेंगे, लेकिन साथ ही जो प्लांट्स मौजूद हैं, उनकी एक्सपैन्शन को आप ने रोक दिया है—ये दो बातें समझ में नहीं आती हैं। इसमें शक नहीं कि बोकारो प्लांट नेशनल इण्टरेस्ट में है और वह इस देश की जरूरत को पूरा कर सकता है, लेकिन जो प्लांट आलरेडी एक्जिस्ट करते हैं, उनकी एक्सपैन्शन को आपने क्यों रोक दिया है, उनमें आपका काम कम पैसे से चल सकता है—यह एक बड़ी एनामोलस बात है, जो समझ में नहीं आती है।

एक बात और कह कर मैं खत्म करना

चाहता हूँ। इन पब्लिक अण्डरटैकिंग में जो लास हो रहे हैं, उस पर गवर्नमेंट कोई ध्यान नहीं देती है। यह बात नहीं है कि आप कर नहीं सकते हैं—जब लासेज होते हैं तो यह तो जो आफिसर्स वहाँ पर मौजूद हैं, वे इनएफिशियेन्ट हैं या वे इनटेरेस्टेड परसन्स से माहूद होते हैं लेकिन गवर्नमेंट उनके खिलाफ कोई एक्शन नहीं लेती। आप उनको हटाइये, दूसरों को एम्प्लॉयमेंट कीजिये, जो लोग इन्टेरेस्टेड हैं, इन्फ्लूएन्स हैं किसी बिजनेसमैन से या किसी आदमी से, उनको चीक कीजिए। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर मंत्री महोदय इस तरफ ध्यान दें, तो यह प्राबलम साल्व हो सकती है। यह ऐसा मसला नहीं है कि जहाँ करोड़ों रुपये का नुकसान होता रहे, फिर भी कुछ न किया जाय। मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि जो सुभाव मैंने रखे हैं, आप उन पर ध्यान देकर उनको पूरा करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

SHRI RANE (Buldana) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to make some suggestions and also some comments while supporting the Demands of the Ministry. I feel that this Ministry is one of the most important Ministries as it deals with the production of iron and steel and coal which are the primary necessities for the industrial development of our country and I therefore think that this Ministry deserves more attention.

As my time is limited, I start with my suggestions. My first suggestion to the hon. Minister for his consideration is that the Ministry should undertake a big programme of manufacturing and producing corrugated iron-sheets for supply to the farmers. In my speech in 1956, while speaking on these Demands, I pressed this point, but I find that the position is not yet improved. The farmers during the last two or three years are not getting any single corrugated iron sheet; the price of one single piece of corrugated iron-sheet has gone up to Rs. 35 to 50, one sheet measuring 10ft x 2½ ft. You know, Sir, that the farmers are in very bad need of these corrugated iron-sheets; they require these sheets for their engine-houses, for the roofs of their houses, their cattle-sheds and godowns, etc. They

are not available, and therefore my submission is that the Minister should look into this problem.

I had a talk this morning with the Minister of State, Shri Sethi. He told me that IISCO and TISCO are manufacturing about 5,000 tonnes of corrugated iron-sheets per month; thus the whole production comes to more than a lakh of tonnes per annum. My estimate is that our annual requirements of corrugated iron-sheets may go up to five lakh tonnes every year because for years together the farmers have not been getting these iron-sheets. The industries are getting perhaps hundreds of tonnes for building their industries, but the farmers are not getting only single sheet for their huts, engine-houses, etc.

This question cannot be solved unless the ministry undertakes a big programme to manufacture this.

Secondly, I suggest that no more iron and steel plant should be established after Bokaro. In my speech on the budget, I said Bokaro should be postponed for 2 years. But it has started functioning now and it cannot be postponed. We find that the opposition members and several committees have criticised that these steel plants are not giving any profit, and their losses are increasing every year. Of course, I do not agree with this criticism, but we must see that these public undertakings do pay a good revenue to Government. As long as these public undertakings are not run on commercial lines and do not show profits, there should be no programme of expansion or setting up new steel plants either in Andhra or Tamilnad or anywhere. We must consolidate the existing plants and diversify our production.

Thirdly, about the training programme, from the report I find that the employees are given technical training. But it is inadequate. If the working of the steel plants is to be improved, more attention should be paid to the training of the employees.

Fourthly, I have a suggestion for stopping of export of scraps. I find from the report that about 5½ lakh tonnes of scrap are exported at present giving about Rs. 12 crores. Two or three years ago, the proprietor of a small re-rolling mill complained to me that they are not getting scraps. The Iron and Steel Controller told him to

[Shri Rane]

use new material. I submit that these scraps can be very well utilised for indigenous production. More attention should be given to this problem.

Fifthly, I find from the report that industrial relations are getting from bad to worse, and the working has been handicapped by the delay of the States in deciding which union should be recognised. Industrial relations are getting spoiled because of the delay and rivalry in unions. The minister should bring forward a new Bill before Parliament to deal with trade unions. This can be done under item 22 of the concurrent list which deals with trade unions, industrial and labour disputes. The States should be taken into confidence and a Bill should be brought here with their concurrence. From the report, I find that the recognition of unions in Bengal is pending from 1966. I do not know the present position. The report also speaks of strikes on filmly grounds, 95 gheraos in Durgapur plant, etc. To avoid all these things, the minister should introduce a new Bill here to avoid all these difficulties at least in the public sector.

Many hon. Members have criticised that the yearly losses are going up. I have no quarrel with them on that point. But I want to bring two or three factors to their notice which they should not forget while judging the performance of the steel plants. Firstly, if these steel plants would not have been there our country would have been required to spend about Rs. 500 crores a year for importing the requirements of our industrial development. Secondly, if these basic plants in the public sector would not have been there I think there would not have been so much industrial development in our country as it has been during the last ten years. Thirdly, if you look to the report you will find that in 1964-65 we were required to import goods worth about Rs. 100 crores and that figure has come down to Rs. 66 crores now. So even in the matter of imports we have saved more than Rs. 30 crores. As regards exports, in 1964-65 our exports of iron and steel were to the tune of about Rs. 3 crores whereas now we have increased exports to the extent of Rs. 47 crores. If we take the two together this Ministry

has saved about Rs. 75 crores at least this year. I personally submit that this is a great contribution by this Ministry. My point is that while criticising the working of the steel plants saying that there have been losses, these factors should not be forgotten.

Shri Patodia and some other hon. Members drew a very dismal and pessimistic picture about the performance of the Iron and Steel Ministry. I heard such criticism in this House in 1958-59. Then I made up my mind to visit the iron and steel plants. In September 1959 I visited all the three steel plants and I returned with the impression that we have done a very good job.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE
(Balrampur) : But this is 1968.

SHRI RANE : I know that. I am only saying that I do not share the view, share the pessimism of hon. Members over there. I am quite confident that in years to come we will do very well. These are only teething troubles. In years to come our steel plants will make profits. I think the Central Government and the Minister concerned have applied their mind to this point because even in the Budget Speech we find a mention that they expected some revenue from the public sector. But now it is not there. This happened even in Russia and other countries. In Russia also when they spent large amounts on the public sector they did not get profit in the beginning. But later on we know what happened and how much industrial development is there in Russia. Russia has grown to be a very big giant nation among the comity of nation. I am quite confident that our plants will also make profit. I do not say there is no room for improvement. A lot of improvement can be made and I welcome the suggestions made by hon. Members to improve the efficiency of the working of the steel plants. But that does not mean we would run down all our steel plants. As I said, I am quite confident that in years to come these steel plants will make up these losses and give us profits. Besides, it is not that they have wasted all this money. The Hindustan Steel and other bodies are to

return back the amounts to the Government. They are not in the form of grants. You will find from the report that they have to pay penalty for any delay in payments. Therefore, this talk of sinking money etc., is all wrong.

We must correct our ideas. These are not grants to the Ministry of Iron and Steel they are only loans which are to be recovered. I am quite confident that the Iron & Steel Ministry and the steel plants will do a good job and return the money. I have also no doubt that after some years they will make handsome profits and contribute to a great extent to the revenue of our nation.

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा (जयनगर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जहां तक इस विभाग का सवाल है। मुझे बहुत अफसोस के साथ इस सदन का और आपका ध्यान दिलाना पड़ता है जिनकी और ध्यान दिलाने की जरूरत आमतौर से अभी नहीं होनी चाहिए थी।

आज फिर यह सवाल उठाया जा रहा है कि इस्पात हमारे यहां फाजिल हो गया है, कोयला हमारे यहां फाजिल हो गया है। और नई खदानें न खोदी जायें और इस्पात के नये कारखाने न खोले जायं। बोकारो को बंद कर दिया जाय। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह आवाज पुरानी आवाज है। जब हम भारतवासी अंग्रेजों की गुलामी में थे तो अंग्रेज यह चाहते थे कि इस देश में कारखाने आदि न खुलें। लेकिन जमशेद जी टाटा ने कुछ हिम्मत की और लोहे का कारखाना खोला। उसे हम लोगों ने एक देशभक्ति का काम समझा था। लेकिन आज अमरीका ने कह दिया कि बोकारो नहीं चलना चाहिए। अमरीका की आवाज हुई की उनके यहां इस्पात फाजिल है और उसे आप ले लीजिये। दुर्भाग्य से वह अमरीकी भोंपू हमारे देश में सदन के बाहर और सदन के भीतर बोलना शुरू कर देता है कि बोकारो नहीं चलना चाहिए, इस्पात का नया कारखाना नहीं चलना चाहिए। अब स्थिति यह है कि सुरक्षा के लिए हमें इस्पात चाहिए। कृषि के विकास

के लिए हमें इस्पात चाहिए देश के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए हमें इस्पात चाहिए मगर अमरीका की मरजी नहीं है इसलिए इनके खोलने के विरुद्ध आवाज उठता है। हमारे इस्पात मंत्रालय को बुखार लग जाता है और वह हिचकते हुए और लुढ़कते हुए इस बात को रखते हैं कि हां, फंस गये एक योजना आ गयी इसलिए मजबूरन करना पड़ रहा है। जो हमारे देश की जरूरत है जो अभी और भी बढ़ने की सम्भावना है उन दोनों को ध्यान में रखते हुये और भी कारखानों की जरूरत है। जो कारखाने हैं उनकी क्षमता को बढ़ाने की जरूरत है और बोकारो ऐसे जो कारखाने स्थापित हो रहे हैं तेजी से उनके लक्ष्य को पूरा करने की जरूरत है। इसके रास्ते में बचाए हैं। एक तो बाजार की बाधा का सवाल आ गया है। जहां तक इस सरकार का सवाल है वह न तो बाजार भीतर खोज पाती है और न बाहर खोज पाती है। अभी एक मौका हमें मिला था। अरब मुल्कों ने तेल देना साम्राज्यवादी देशों को बंद कर दिया था। उनके लिए तेल के बाजार का संकट था। हमें तेल की जरूरत थी। वह तीनों विदेशी कम्पनियां हमें तबाह करती रहती हैं। वह अपनी शर्तों पर हमें भुकाती रहती हैं। अरब मुल्कों से तेल लेकर और आज इस्पात या मशीन के लिए वहां जरूरत थी तो उनके यहां देकर हम एक अपना बाजार इस्पात और मशीनरी के लिए निश्चित रूप से गारन्टी कर सकते थे, बदले में तेल निश्चित रूप से गारन्टी कर सकते थे और बदले में तेल भी पा सकते थे लेकिन शायद अमरीका नाराज हो जाय, शायद ब्रिटेन नाराज हो जाय इसलिए हमारी सरकार ने वह हिम्मत नहीं की और एक सुनहरा मौका खो दिया। अभी भी संजीदगी से उस बाजार को अपने हाथ में करने का प्रयास नहीं हो रहा है। देश के भीतर मंदी आ गई, सुस्ती आ गई, माल बिक नहीं रहा है लेकिन दाम बढ़ रहे हैं। इस्पात के दाम बढ़ रहे हैं कोयले के दाम बढ़ रहे हैं। यह संकट के समय से हम गुजर रहे हैं। खरी-

[श्री भोगेन्द्र भट्ट]

दार कम हैं और उत्पादन ज्यादा है सरकारी क्षेत्रों के मुताबिक लोकन उसकी कीमत बढ़ती जा रही है। कीमत बढ़ा कर बाजार बढ़ाएँ। लोगों की क्रयशक्ति के मुताबिक कीमत को रखें उसकी और न तो निजी क्षेत्र के मिल्मालिक, कारखानेदार व खानमालिक सोचते हैं और न यह सरकार सोचती है। इस में जो आलोचना है यह राजकीय क्षेत्र के संचालन के बारे में है। यह दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि इस क्षेत्र के संचालन का मुख्य कार्यक्रम उन लोगों के हाथ में है जिनको इस बात में विश्वास नहीं है। उसमें से ज्यादा लोग ऐसे हैं जो कि निजी क्षेत्र के साथ मिलेजुले हैं। जमरौका नहीं चाहता कि नया इस्पात का कारखाना हो, टाटाज नहीं चाहते कि नया इस्पात का कारखाना हो और इनके मेल के बहुत से लोग राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र के इस्पात कारखाने की लगाम हाथ में लिये बैठे हैं जिनका कि दिल उषर है, दिमाग उषर है, शरीर केवल राजकीय क्षेत्र के साथ है। उनमें कुछ हैं जो दुहरा मुसाहरा पाते हैं एक मुसाहरा दिखावटी सरकार से पाते हैं और दूसरा छिपा मुसाहरा बाहर से पाते हैं। राजकीय कोयला विकास निगम में और इस्पात में भी ऐसे लोग मौजूद हैं और इस के चलते हुए संकट होता है जिससे कि उत्पादन बढ़ने में रुकावट पड़ती है।

मैं कुछ मिसाल आप के सामने बेना चाहना हूँ। आप डी० बी० सी० को लें; बोकारो को लें उसके लिए कोयला एन० सी० डी० बी० से दिया गया लेकिन इन दोनों ने इंकार कर दिया कि कोयला घटिया किस्म का है इसलिए उसे नहीं लिया गया। वह कोयला कुछ दिन तक पड़ा रहा बाद में वह कोयला नीलाम कर दिया गया। ठेकेदार ने उसे ले लिया सस्ते दर पर और जब ठेकेदार वह कोयला लेकर जाता है तो बोकारो और डी० बी० सी० दोनों के अधिकारी उस कोयले को खरीद लेते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि

मंत्री महोदय हिम्मत करके उस पर एक जांच कमेटी बेंठाएँ कि सरकारी क्षेत्र का कोयला सरकार के जरिए सीधे नहीं नहीं लेंगे लेकिन नीलाम होकर ठेकेदार के जरिए वह उसे लेंगे।

मैं इस बारे में एक मिसाल दूँ। आज रेलवे वेंगंस सरकारी कोयले के लिए नहीं मिलते हैं, एन० सी० डी० बी० के कोयले के लिए नहीं मिलते हैं। गिरिडीह कोल माइंस बंद कर दी गई है और 6-7 और खानें बंद करनी पड़ी है। कोयला बहुत फाजिल है। बरोनी थरमल में कोयले की जरूरत है लेकिन वह रेलवे के वेंगंस बोक्स वेंगंस चलाने के लिए सुविधा नहीं दी गई। रेलवे ने बोक्स वेंगंस नहीं चलाये। उस के लिए हम लोग कलकत्ते दोड़े और यहां भी दोड़े लेकिन हालत यह है कि हमारा रेलवे मंत्रालय विदेह है और इसलिए उनके सामने राजकीय और निजी क्षेत्र में कोई फर्क नहीं है और दोनों के साथ वह समानता का व्यवहार करने का दावा करता है। इस का बुरा नतीजा हुआ। बिहार सरकार को बड़ी कठिनाई से लड़ना पड़ा। बरोनी के थरमल इंजीनियर ने कह दिया कि वह कोयला उनके लायक नहीं है लेकिन वहां के मजदूरों ने यह हिम्मत की कि हम लोग उसे जलायेंगे और वह कोयला ठीक से काम करेगा और तब बाद में वह वह कोयला जला रहे हैं। इंजीनियर ने घमकी की थी कि उससे वॉयलर सराब हो जायगा लेकिन थिक्के 6 महीने से उस कोयले पर काम हो रहा है और अभी तक तो वह वॉयलर सराब नहीं हो रहा है। सरकारी क्षेत्र के कोयले के लिए सरकारी क्षेत्र में प्राथमिकता दी जब यह सरकार हिम्मत नहीं करती है। उस को रेलवे वेंगंस मिलें इस के लिए सरकार उस को सुविधा देने को तैयार नहीं है। निजी क्षेत्र के लोग उसको खस देने के लिए खाने लाते हैं और वह एन० सी० डी० बी० का कोयला पड़ा रह जाता है और उसको खाने के लिए सुविधा नहीं मिल पाती है। जो निजी क्षेत्र

शुक्रवार होते हैं वह लाउडस्पीकर की तरह बने लगते हैं और प्रचार करने लगते हैं कि राजकीय क्षेत्र घाटे में चल रहा है। ऐसा पहलू यह निजी क्षेत्र द्वारा अपनाया जाता है। इस चीज के चलते यह राजकीय क्षेत्र तबाह हो रहा है। ऊपर से नीचे आमतौर पर राजकीय क्षेत्र के लोग निजी क्षेत्र वालों की गुलामी सी करते हैं, सबों की बात में नहीं कहना लेकिन अधिकांश अधिकारी प्रभो मेलकर नीचे तक के कर्मचारी ऐसे हैं जो कि राजकीय क्षेत्र का जिम्मा लिये हुए हैं लेकिन वह दरअसल निजी क्षेत्र की चाकरी करते हैं। इस तरीके से उसका संचालन हो रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि हर एक मामले में यह चीज चल रही है। बाजार के संकट का मामला है। हमारे यहां कागज की कमी है। चीनी मिर्चों में वह ऊख का बगाज जलाया जा रहा है आप वहां कोयला दें तो उस बगाज से कागज बनाया जा सकता है। इससे कोयले की खपत का मामला भी एक हद तक दूर हो सकता है। बहुत सी चीजों में यही बात है लेकिन उस को और सरकार का ध्यान नहीं जाता और आज इस तरह से किचवा माल कागज का बर्बाद हो रहा है। वह भट्टी में जा रहा है। वह कोयले के लिए बाजार का संकट पैदा है वह भी सरकार नहीं करती। ऐसी स्थिति में आज कुछ सवाल हमारे यहां और भी इस रूप में पेश हो गये हैं जिससे उत्पादन घटने पर कुछ लोगों को जोर देने की हिम्मत बढ़ रही है।

जहां तक कोयले का सवाल है, कोयले के लिए उत्पादन बढ़े यह सही है। परन्तु यंत्रिकरण द्वारा सरकार जो एक माने में इसे तेजी से करने जा रही है और कर रही है उस के लिए भेरा मुझवा यह है कि जिस तरह की घनो प्रावदी हमारे यहां हैं जिस तरीके से बेकारी की समस्या हमारे यहां है, वह जहां अनिवार्य हो वहीं इस यंत्रिकरण को बढ़ावा दिया जाय अन्यथा इस यंत्रिकरण से लाखों लोग बेकार हो जायें, कुछ ऐसे यंत्रों को आप लगा दें जिससे बेकारी फैले और साथ ही वह रूपया

फंसा रहे तो वैसा करना वांछनीय नहीं होगा। यंत्रिकरण जहां अनिवार्य हो वहीं आप उस को अमल में लायें। आमतौर से जो हमारे मजदूर काम कर रहे हैं उन के लिए सुविधाएं देने का प्रयास करें।

जहां तक श्रमनीति का सवाल है निजी क्षेत्र में और राजकीय क्षेत्र में फर्क करना काठिन हो रहा है। कुछ मामलों में यह बदतर है। स्थिति यह है कि अभी तक जो श्रम सम्बन्धों के बिगड़ने का जिक्र किया गया है सभी जानते हैं कि रूरकेला में राजकीय क्षेत्र के प्रबन्धकों ने यह उपद्रव वहां कराया और ऐसा इसलिए किया गया कि उन की दलाल यूनियन वहां के मजदूरों की प्रतिनिधि नहीं थी। अन्त में हम ने देखा कि कुछ दिनों के बाद उनको भुक्तान पड़ा और उस के बाद सब शान्ति है। वहां जमशेदपुर की निजी क्षेत्र की हालत भी हम जानते हैं। गोली चलायी गई। 4-4 दिन तक हड़ताल कराई गई और ऐसा इसलिए हुआ कि वहां पर मजदूरों की प्रतिनिधि उन की दलाल यूनियन रहे, वही दलाल यूनियन के प्रतिनिधि मजदूरों के जन्म भर के लिए नेता बने रहें और जमशेदपुर मजदूर यूनियन के लोग उनके नेता नहीं हो सकते हैं। वही हालत दुर्गापुर की है। जो इम्पलाईज असोसियेशन है जिसको मजदूर मानते हैं और जिसके लिए प्रबन्धक कहते हैं कि हम उस को नहीं मानेंगे तो और वहां इन के कुछ दलाल हैं जो इंटक का भंडा लिये हुए हैं और उन को यह मंत्री महोदय मजदूरों पर थोपे हुए हैं। इस तरह से आप मजदूरों की उत्पादन करने की क्षमता को घटाते हैं, उन के जोश को ठंडा करते हैं और उत्पादन में बाधक होते हैं। जहां यह स्थिति है, जिस का सरकार ने जिक्र किया है, वहां उस ने उस का बहुत हिचकते हुए जिक्र किया है। अभी भी सरकार इस बात को पूरी तौर से कबूल करने के लिये तैयार नहीं है कि प्रबन्धक परिषद अथवा बोर्ड आफ डायरेक्टर्स में मजदूरों के चुने हुए प्रतिनिधियों को सरकार लेगी या फिर वैसे ही जान साहब जैसे लोगों

[श्री भोगेन्द्र भा]

को लेगी। वैसे ही कारखानों में मैनेजमेंट बोर्ड का जहां तक सवाल है, उस में भी मजदूरों के चुने हुए प्रतिनिधि लिये जायेंगे, बहुमत के प्रतिनिधि लिये जायेंगे या जो उन के फर्जी नुमाइन्दे हैं वह लिये जायेंगे, यह एक महम सवाल है।

इसी तरह से मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि 80 प्रतिशत मजदूरों के बारे में जिन के आवास का उपाय कम से कम कोयले के क्षेत्र में नहीं हो पाया है, सरकार कुछ करने जा रही है या नहीं, क्योंकि वही वास्तविक उत्पादक हैं, वही दरअसल उत्पादन को बढ़ा सकते हैं और खर्च को घटा सकते हैं।

इसी प्रकार से मैं मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वह इस बात पर विचार करने के लिये तैयार हैं जो बहुत ज्यादा सख्त मांग यहां उठी है कि प्रबन्ध परिषदों को ज्यादा शक्ति दी जाये? मेरा आग्रह यह है कि वह शक्ति प्रबन्धकों को न दी जाय बल्कि उन की समिति को दी जाय जिस में मजदूरों के चुने हुए प्रतिनिधि काफी रहे जो कि उत्पादन बढ़ाने के मसले पर, खर्च घटाने के मसले पर, उत्पादन क्षमता बढ़ाने के मसले पर सही नीति निर्धारित करें और उस को अमल में ला सकें। अगर राजकीय क्षेत्र के कोयले, इस्पात और दूसरी खदानों के मामले में सरकार इस पर कड़ाई से पालन करे तो हम उत्पादन बढ़ाने की ओर अपना कदम आगे बढ़ा सकेंगे।

इस सिलसिले में मैं एक बात का जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ कि सरकारी अधिकारी कितने सतर्क होते हैं। करगली में आग लगी है। मजदूरों ने प्रबन्धकों का ध्यान दिलाया इस की तरफ लेकिन उस को अनसुना कर दिया गया। कई महीने बाद जब आग सम्भालने के बाहर हो गई तब उन्हें पता लगा उस का। यह करोड़ों का मसला है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार इस तरफ ध्यान दे कर उन अधिकारियों को सजा देने की बात सोचती है

जिन्होंने इस की ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया? पहले तो उन्होंने अपनी आंखों से उस को नहीं देखा, फिर मजदूरों के द्वारा सुभाये जाने पर भी उस की ओर ध्यान नहीं दिया।

दक्षिण बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश और उड़ीसा खदानों के भंडार हैं। बार बार कहा गया है कि सरकार इस का सर्वेक्षण करवा रही है, लेकिन पता नहीं वह सर्वेक्षण कब तक पूरा होगा। वहां पर बड़े-बड़े अनमोल रतन भरे हुए हैं जिन से हमारे उद्योगों को चलाने में बड़ी मदद मिलती है। इसलिए मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि इस काम में जल्दी की जाय। लेकिन एक चीज की चर्चा मैं जरूर करना चाहता हूँ जिस की ओर और भी माननीय सदस्य ध्यान दिला चुके हैं। जहां तक सर्वेक्षण का सवाल है सरकार को पता होना चाहिये कि वहां के लोगों की जिन्दगी, उन की अपनी खुशहाली उस इलाके की खुशहाली के साथ बन्धी हुई है। लेकिन वहां पर लोगों के लिये आगे बढ़ने का कोई रास्ता नहीं। यदि इस ओर सरकार ध्यान देगी तो शायद ज्यादा अच्छा आघार उन के लिये मिल सकता है।

जहां तक उत्पादन बढ़ने का सवाल है इस प्रतिवेदन से मालूम होता है कि भिलाई में तो उत्पादन बढ़ा है लेकिन और जगह उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ा है। हमें मालूम है कि रूरकेला में बार-बार जर्मनी से लोग आते हैं और उन के आने के कुछ महीनों बाद मालूम होता है कि बड़ी गड़बड़ी हो गई। मैं ठीक से नहीं कह सकता, लेकिन पता लगाने की जरूरत है कि जो विशेषज्ञ आते हैं वह हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ाना भी चाहते हैं या नहीं। यह उन की नियत का सवाल है, यह सिर्फ उन की क्षमता का सवाल है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस सवाल पर, खासकर रूरकेला और दुर्गापुर के सम्बन्ध में गहरे जाने की जरूरत है। इस पर भी हम को विचार करना चाहिये कि उन को वहां से लाने की जरूरत भी है या नहीं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी-अभी तार आया है कि भिलाई की जो राजहरा खदान है उस को ठेकेदार के हवाले कर दिया गया है। उस खदान में ठेकेदारी प्रथा को खत्म करने की जरूरत है। इस तार में यह भी है कि ढाई हजार मजदूरों को छांट दिया गया है। इस को मैं मन्त्री महोदय को देना चाहता हूँ।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please pass it on the Minister.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: He gave Call Attention notice also please request the Minister to make a statement on this.

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : मेरा आग्रह है कि इस सवाल पर विचार किया जाय। यह अभी का मामला है और ढाई हजार मजदूर छांटे जा रहे हैं।

SHRI HIMATSINGKA (Godda) : The attention of the hon. Minister has been drawn to a number of defects that exist in the projects under his Ministry. I am glad, he is applying his mind to remove them. A very large amount of capital has been invested in the public sector undertakings under this Ministry and if they are properly worked and properly managed, there is no reason why they should not be in a position to give a very good return and help in the advancement of the economy of the country.

14.46 hrs.

[SHRI S. M. JOSHI *in the Chair*]

The machinery that have been put up are very sophisticated and whatever is intended to be produced or is required by the country can, I have no doubt, be manufactured by the machinery that have been put up and, therefore, I think, attention should be diverted to see that the maximum utilisation is made of the existing machinery and we take steps to see that whatever is being imported is manufactured here and the import content is reduced as much as possible and as soon as possible. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind that, if proper attention is given by the management to study the market conditions to study the requirements of the market

and also to study the export possibilities, the existing capacity of the existing steel mills can be utilised to the maximum capacity, to the optimum capacity, and the present feeling that we are not utilising the capacity properly will not be there, and the loss that is being incurred on account of either less utilisation of the capacity or otherwise can be removed.

Therefore, what is needed is that proper personnel with proper qualifications should be placed in charge of these projects, and when such a person is placed in charge of it, he should have freedom of action and there should be no interference from civil servants or otherwise, if he goes on working within the policy laid down by the Board of directors or by the Government. Once a policy decision is made and is given to the person in charge of that project there should be freedom of action; there should be no interference and if the man wants to employ certain persons, he should be free to do so; if he finds that somebody is standing in the way of proper management, proper working, he should have the right to fire him, to dismiss him and send him away. Unless this kind of freedom of action is given to the person-in-charge, there will be difficulties and the industries cannot make any profit. Therefore, the first thing is that proper persons with proper qualifications should put in charge of the projects; then they should be given freedom of action and then let them work according to their capacity, according to their intelligence. If they do not act according to the policy laid down, then, of course, the Board of Directors will be in a position to pull them up and give the necessary directions.

At the present moment, a certain amount of steel items of different kinds are being imported. A suggestion was made by my hon. friend Mr. Rane, that corrugated sheets which are required by the people in countryside for their huts, for building their houses, should be made here.

There are number of items which are still being imported and there is no reason why with the machinery that we have or perhaps with certain additions or alterations, we should not be able to manufacture what is needed in the country.

When Bokaro Plant is set up, I think, it should be made a point that nothing should

[Shri Himatsingka]

be imported from Russia or any other country, if our existing undertakings are in a position to supply the same, and there is no reason why our existing machinery cannot do so. For instance, the Heavy Engineering Plant at Ranchi can produce anything that is needed, and if orders are placed on that factory, which is in need of orders, there should be no difficulty in that being in a position to supply the needs of Bokaro. And again there was some demerit by an Opposition Member that a steel mill should be put up at Vizag, another at Hospet and another at another place. I feel that small steel mills will never be in a position to be profitable. In fact, perhaps, legitimate criticism may be made even of the fourth mill. If the existing factories are expanded, the expenses will be much less and they will be in a position to produce same quantity of goods at much less expense and much less overhead expense also. But political decisions have to be taken and in a democracy Government has to yield sometimes. But if they yield less and if they yield as little as possible, I think it will be in the interests of the country.

One very big defect that is eating up the profit that would have been possible is the over-staffing of all the projects. I think if an assessment is made, it will appear that at least 7000 to 8000 men are in excess in each of the three steel mills and if you calculate the expenditure on 8000 people, it will come to crores of rupees in a year and therefore, if steps are taken to locate the surplus man-power and utilise them elsewhere and not to allow them to be burden on the existing steel mills, I feel a lot of criticism that can possibly be made against this Ministry and its projects will disappear. And it is absolutely necessary that steps are taken in that direction and taken immediately and that is absolutely necessary if you really want to make these institutions paying.

I understand that recently orders for a very big amount—about Rs. 50 lakhs—have been placed for cranes from Russia. I do not see why that should have been done because cranes are being manufactured in the country. Ranchi can manufacture cranes. In Calcutta two or three firms are manufacturing cranes and there is no reason why we should not place orders

in our country, especially when there is recession in the engineering industries and when they are in a position to manufacture anything that is needed. Therefore, it should always be kept in view that anything that can be possibly manufactured within the country is manufactured here and order is placed accordingly in the country.

The persons-in-charge, so far as the public undertakings are concerned, I have a feeling, do not go out in search of orders or in search of markets. But today it is a buyers' market, the sellers' market is gone: therefore, they must go in search of orders, they must search places where they can get orders and where they can supply things that are needed. Therefore, it is necessary that in that direction attention is given so that we can have more orders and these projects can have sufficient orders to utilise their optimum capacity.

NCDC has been criticised and there is a certain ground for criticism. I know of certain instances where there is a good deal of stealing going on. Quantity supplied is much less, but the bill is for much more. Things like that should be looked into. Certain other speakers also referred to the fact that there has been stealing of parts and big inventories being maintained. Attention must be given to this direction also.

There is an estimate that coal is not being consumed to the extent that it was expected to be spent. At present the estimate is that cow-dung to the extent of 22 million tonnes in terms of coal is being burnt in the country. If you take that in terms of fertilisers, it amounts to 9 lakh tonnes of nitrogen and 4,50,000 tonnes of phosphorous pentoxide and if utilised as manure, will give additional yield of 10 million tonnes of foodgrains from the same land. Therefore, if we can arrange to supply coal which is lying almost in places like Bengal and Bihar, to a large extent, even in small places in the interior of the districts and if we can arrange to have this coal supplied to the villagers in exchange for cow dung, I think the problem of the low consumption of coal will be solved and, at the same time, the villagers will be able to get the supply of fertilisers to a very large extent. I feel therefore that

some attention should be given in that direction also.

Then, I will say something about the non-ferrous metals. The Jawar mine is working very efficiently and there is scope for expansion. Our country needs about 90,000 tonnes, if I remember a right of zinc whereas only about 18,000 tonnes will be manufactured at the smelter. Therefore I want to know why cannot some steps be taken to expand the capacity of that mine. There is a lot of raw material, I am told, and that it will last for fifty or sixty years at the rate at which we are using them. Therefore steps should be taken to see that we are in a position to expand the capacity of the zinc smelter so that our country's needs may be met and imports to that extent may be reduced.

There is another thing to be remembered by the Minister, and it is this. This is regarding the total capital expenditure of any project. It is very unfortunate that when the project is decided upon a certain amount of cost is estimated, but it goes on increasing later without much control. Take the case of the Khetri copper project. The Khetri copper project was started with an estimated of Rs. 24 crores or a little less. It was decided upon in 1962 and we are now in the middle of 1968, and not one single ounce of copper has been produced. The cost is mounting up. It was about Rs. 48 crores sometime back; then it went up to about Rs. 74 crores. I had been there a few days back and I was told that the cost has gone up to Rs. 89 crores and I do not know if it will go up further. The original expectation was that it will go into production in 1970. But the officer in charge stated that one year should be added to the delay and there is no chance of any production before 1971. What I feel is that, if a project is decided upon that project should be completed as quickly as possible. That will save us lot of amount in respect of foreign exchange, for overhead charges, in capital, in interest charges and other charges. Instead of starting a number of projects at the same time and keeping them unfinished and unproductive it is up to us to make them work and it is absolutely necessary that anything that we take up is completed as quickly as possible and we take up smaller number of projects at one time, so that it begins to give a return and that return can also be

utilised for the putting up of other plants. There should be proper personnel in charge of these projects, and they should have freedom of action so long as they work within the broad policy laid down. If a person does not act properly the man in charge should have the right to dismiss him and to send him away. Necessary inquiries should be made as to the needs of the country as well as outside and thereby imports should be stopped by manufacturing the things that are needed in the country itself. The capital expenditure should be very thoroughly examined at the time the project is decided upon. It should be seen that it does not exceed unnecessarily. Attention should also be given to expand and increase the production of non-ferrous metals. Anything that can be produced in the country itself should not be imported.

15.00 hrs.

Personnel should also be trained. I understand that people who were employed in these steel factories at the time of the construction of the factories are still there. If they have to be kept there, then they should be given the necessary training so that they can be of use. Otherwise, they are a burden and they unnecessarily make the country spend on them without any production. If there are more men than needed, the result is that the work is less. If you have just the number of persons that you need, then each does his work all right; but if you have too many persons, then everybody thinks that the other fellow will work and nobody really works.

There is another small matter that I would like to suggest for the consideration of the hon. Members. At present, the directors are from the secretaries and other officers and even the sitting fee that is paid to them has to be credited to Government with the result that they do not take any interest. I do not see why Government should be so stingy and should not allow them that small sitting fee that they might be getting from these projects or from the directorships that they might be holding so that they can at least feel that they are getting something for the time that they spend in those meetings.

These are some of the suggestions that I would like to make and I hope the hon. Minister will consider them.

श्री जार्ज फ़रनेन्डीज़ (बम्बई-दक्षिण) : सभापति महोदय, वैसे तो इस्पात मन्त्री साहब अच्छे आदमी हैं, जिन के बारे में कुछ कट्टु शब्द कहना मुझे कभी भी अच्छा नहीं लगता है; वह स्वभाव से अच्छे हैं; उन की बोली मीठी है और काम भी कभी-कभी करते हैं, लेकिन आज सब से पहले मुझे उन के इस्तीफ़े की मांग करनी है।

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) : The translation is not coming. Instead we are only getting the voice 'Sound not coming, sound not coming'.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) : Simultaneous translation is not coming in English.

श्री जार्ज फ़रनेन्डीज़ : जब पब्लिक अंडरटेकिंग्स कमेटी की एन० सी० डी० सी० सम्बन्धी रपट को यहां पेश किया गया, तो मैं ने तभी मन्त्री महोदय के इस्तीफ़े की अपेक्षा की थी। सभापति महोदय, आप ने भी इस रपट को देखा होगा, जिस में पब्लिक अंडर-टेकिंग्स कमेटी ने यह कहा है :

"The performance of NCDC is a story of unmitigated inefficiency and mismanagement".

आगे चल कर रपट में कहा गया है :

"The Committee are of the opinion that the responsibility for mismanagement and inefficiency of the corporation lies on the shoulders of the top management of NCDC. The second line of management is equally to be blamed".

कमेटी की आखिरी सिफ़ारिश यह है :

"The Committee feel that the Ministry cannot also be absolved of the responsibility in regard to the affairs of NCDC. It is a pity that the Government, although aware of the distressing conditions prevailing in NCDC, did not take any effective action all these years to improve matters".

एन० सी० डी० सी० को ले कर इस सदन में हमेशा बहस चलती रहती है। मुझे तो

एक बार इसी सदन में एन० सी० डी० सी० का खिक चोरों का झड्डा कह कर करना पड़ा था, इसलिए कि जिस ढंग से सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के इस अंडरटेकिंग को चलाया जा रहा है, मेरे खयाल में इस सरकार के लिए उस से ज्यादा शर्म की और कोई बात नहीं हो सकती है। एन० सी० डी० सी० के काम को चलाने और अफसरों के बर्ताव के बारे में रपट के पन्ने 33, पैराग्राफ़ 100 में कहा गया है :

"The Committee are surprised to note that unskilled workers who are ostensibly employed by NCDC to work in the collieries are officially made to work as private servants of officers at various levels. The Committee strongly deprecate this practice. Whereas the undertaking bears the expenditure on these labourers, they are engaged in private work of officers and do no productive work for NCDC. It adds to the cost of production. The Committee recommend that this system of allotting unskilled labourers to officers should be stopped forthwith".

यह बात कमेटी के सामने कब आई ? - जब एन० सी० डी० सी० में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों की यूनियनों की ओर से पत्र लिखे गये। रपट में लिखा है :

"It was pointed out to the managing director during evidence that the trade unions in the collieries had represented to NCDC and other proprietors that a very large section of unskilled labour were employed in the houses of persons and they never worked in the pits".

इस रपट को पढ़ कर हम मन्त्री महोदय की 169 करोड़ रुपये की मांग को कैसे मन्ज़ूर करें, क्योंकि इस रकम में से 15.20 करोड़ रुपया इस साल सरकार की ओर से इस एन० सी० डी० सी० के लिए मांगा गया है।

इस में 8.10 करोड़ रुपया कर्ज के रूप में होगा, जिस से उसी गैर-जिम्मेदारी का काम किया जायेगा, जो कि कई वरसों से चली आ रही है और 7.10 करोड़ रुपया श्रेयर्स, पूंजी, के रूप

में होगा, जिस से अफसर लोग सरकारी और सार्वजनिक पैसे से अपने घरों में नौकरों को रखेंगे और अपने घरों का काम चलायेंगे। इसी लिए मैंने कहा है कि यह बात समझ में नहीं आती है कि यह जो 169 करोड़ रुपये की मांग की गई है, उस को हम कैसे मंजूर करें। नौकरशाही के बारे में और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्योग-धंधे नौकरशाहों के हाथ में देने से पैदा होने वाली परेशानियों के बारे में हम कई बार बोल चुके हैं। इस्पात मंत्रालय की मांगों के सम्बन्ध में इन नौकरशाहों के कारनामे ही सब से ज्यादा हमारी नजर के सामने आते हैं।

हिन्दुस्तान स्टील की स्थिति भी इस से भिन्न नहीं है उस की स्थिति भी करीब-करीब एन० सी० डी० सी० जैसी है। चाहे अफसरों के वर्ताव का प्रश्न हो, मजदूरों के साथ रिश्ते की बात हो, कारखाने की पैदावार का सम्बन्ध हो, निर्यात का मामला हो, चाहे किसी भी प्रश्न को ले लीजिये, इन दोनों कम्पनियों में कोई बुनियादी फर्क हमें दिखाई नहीं देता है।

काफ़ी झूठी बातों से ये लोग अपने काम को चलाते हैं। गये साल जब देश में यह बहस चली कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील का काम ठीक ढंग से नहीं चल रहा है, जो पैसा उस में लगाया जाता है, उस पैसे का जो फायदा होना चाहिए, वह नहीं होता है, तो इन लोगों ने क्या किया? इन नौकरशाहों ने अपनी आदत को सुधारने की कोशिश नहीं की, अपनी गलतियों को दुरुस्त नहीं किया, बल्कि लोगों के सामने कुछ गलत आंकड़े और मालूमात और झूठे बयान पेश करके यह ढाहिर करने की कोशिश की कि जैसे जेल में चौकीदार "भाल बेल" कहता है, वैसे ही हिन्दुस्तान स्टील में सब कुछ ठीक है। उस की ओर से 25 जून, 1967 को एक बड़ा भारी एडवर्टाइजमेंट बिया गया, जो देश के सभी छींटे बड़े अखबारों में प्रकाशित हुआ। उस एडवर्टाइजमेंट का शीर्षक था, "इसका इतना दिक्कत है कि हिन्दुस्तान

स्टील?—इतना दिक्कत है कि कनसिडर दि फेक्ट्स।" उस में कुछ तथा—कथित फेक्ट्स दिये गये, हकीकत बयान की गई। क्या फेक्ट्स दिये? फेक्ट यह दिया अघ्यक्ष महोदय, कि सात सालों में हम लोगों ने 900 करोड़ रुपये का इस्पात बनाया। 528 करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी लगी हुई है हिन्दुस्तान स्टील में, मगर सात सालों में हम लोगों ने 900 करोड़ रुपये का इस्पात बनाया। बीज आर बि फेक्ट्स। तबियत खुश हो गई इन लोगों की कि आखिर को हम लोगों ने भी कुछ कमाई की। मैं नहीं जानता कौन सी कम्पनी है इस मुल्क में या विदेश में जो इस तरह का हिसाब देने का काम करती कोई भी मालिक सारी पूंजी जो उसने लगाई है उस पूंजी पर कम्पनी बनने से आज तक उसने कितनी कमाई की इसका हिसाब देने का काम नहीं करता। मैं यह समझ सकता तथा कि अगर सौ करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी है और इस पूंजी पर इस सामान में हमने सौ करोड़ रुपये का माल बनाया, यह हिसाब तो लोग पेश करते हैं, मगर लोगों की आंखों में धूल छोंकने का काम करने के लिये, जो जनता सार्वजनिक—पैसों के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहती है, उनकी आंखों में अगर धूल भोंकने का काम करना था, कुछ उनको बेवकूफ बनाने का काम करना था, इसलिये कहा कि 528 करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी लगा कर हमने सात सालों में नौ सौ करोड़ रुपये का माल बनाया। 528 करोड़ रुपये जो लगे वह तो शेयर कैपिटल के रूप में लगे। इस के अलावा जो सरकार से कर्जा लेते हैं जैसे इस साल एन० सी० डी० सी० को 7 करोड़ 10 लाख रुपये जो आप शेयर कैपिटल के दे रहे हैं राष्ट्रपति के नाम से क्योंकि यह सारा सार्वजनिक क्षेत्रों में जो नाम बदनाम होता है वह भारत के राष्ट्रपति का होता है क्योंकि शेयर सब उन्हीं के नाम से रहते हैं, तो 7 करोड़ 10 लाख का शेयर खरीद रहे हैं और 8 करोड़ 10 लाख उनको कर्जा दे रहे हैं। और उस धन्धे में हिन्दुस्तान स्टील में गये साल तक जहां 528 करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी

[श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज]

लगाई थी वहाँ उनको 450 करोड़ रुपये कर्ज के रूप में भी दिये। तो कुल पैसा लगा था 960 करोड़ रुपये और इस वक्त तो हजार करोड़ रुपये से अधिक हो चुका है हिन्दुस्तान स्टील में लगा हुआ पैसा, और सात सालों में जो इस्पात इन लोगों ने बनाया, पूरी इनकी जो पैदावार रही वह रही 900 करोड़ रुपये की। और जो मन्त्री महोदय ने यह मांग करते हुए हम लोगों के सामने आकड़े रखे हैं उस में तो अध्यक्ष महोदय, वह यही बताते हैं कि गये साल का हिसाब यह है कि जहाँ 1966 में 288 करोड़ रुपये का कुल इन का व्यापार हुआ, खुद इन लोगों ने इतना इस्पात बेचा, वहाँ 1967 में 7 करोड़ रुपये कम हो गया। 231 करोड़ का ही व्यापार हुआ। मगर अखबारों में कुछ पैसा खर्च कर के बताया कि नहीं, सब कुछ हमारा ठीक है, असल में बहुत ही अच्छा है, तुम जो समझते हो, हम उतने नालायक नहीं हैं, हम तो बहुत अच्छे हैं। यह खुद को सर्टिफिकेट दे दिया और यह सर्टिफिकेट देते वक्त 1966 में जहाँ एक करोड़ 33 लाख रुपये का नुकसान हुआ था हिन्दुस्तान स्टील को वहाँ 1967 में 23 करोड़ 90 लाख का नुकसान का नुकसान उठा कर बैठ गए। लेकिन दुनिया के सामने जा कर बोले कि कब कुछ ठीक है और अब मन्त्री महोदय और पैसे की मांग कर रहे हैं, 170 करोड़ रुपये जो इन्हीं कामों में लगाने हैं, बरबादी के कामों में लगाने हैं। इसलिए मैंने कहा कि बहुत ही तकलीफ होती है इस पैसे को मंजूर करने में। यह पैसा हम मंजूर कर नहीं सकते हैं क्योंकि सरकार की ओर से, मन्त्री महोदय की ओर से और सरकारी क्षेत्र के उद्योग धर्मों को चलाने वाले जो नौकरशाह हैं इन की ओर से हालत को सुधारने का कोई भी तरीका मुझ को तो नहीं दिखाई देता है, कोई इच्छा इनकी मुझे इस मामले में तो नहीं दिखाई देती है।

एक और बात की ओर इस मांग के बारे में मैं ध्यान दिलाऊंगा। मुझे मन्त्री महोदय से एक प्रश्न पूछना है। मैंने इसमें देखा, कुछ पैसे असल

में इस साल भले ही न मांग रहे हों लेकिन एक सिविकम माइनिंग कारपोरेशन है इस मांग पत्र में जिसको 27 फरवरी, 1960 को सिविकम दरवार के एक प्रोक्लेमेशन के जरिये अस्तित्व में लाने का काम हुआ। हिन्दुस्तान की सरकार और सिविकम की सरकार दोनों ने मिलकर एक करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी इस पर लगाई है, कुछ बड़ी उम्मीदें मन में रखकर, कुछ बड़े संकल्प कागजों पर लिख कर इन लोगों ने यह सिविकम माइनिंग कारपोरेशन बनाया। मैंने मन्त्री महोदय की गये साल की रपट को बहुत ही खोज के साथ पढ़ा। इस कारपोरेशन के बारे में, इसके काम के बारे में, इस पर लगी पूंजी का क्या हुआ, वह कारपोरेशन कहाँ तक काम कर पाया, 8 साल हो गए कारपोरेशन को अस्तित्व में आये हुए, इस समय तक आप कुछ कर पाए हैं या नहीं, एन० सी० डी० सी० जैसी हालत है या उससे अच्छी है या और उससे बुरी है, इसके बारे में मालूमात नहीं आये हैं और मैं चाहूंगा कि जब मन्त्री महोदय पैसा मांगने के लिए सदन के सामने आते हैं तो जरूर वह मालूमात हम लोगों को देने का काम करें। नहीं तो मुल्क में तो नाम बदनाम हो ही रहा है, आज बाजू के जो देश हैं जो हम लोगों की तरफ देखते हैं, जैसे सिविकम है, भूटान है या और देश हैं जो हम लोगों के साथ मिलकर कुछ अपने देश का विकास करने का हवाब देख रहे हैं, उनको भी घोखा देने वाली बात हो जायेगी और यह बात हम नहीं होने देना चाहेंगे। मुझ को तो सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के तमाम उद्योग धर्मों के बारे में एक ठोस सुभाव मन्त्री महोदय को देना है। कई बार इस सुभाव को हम दे भी चुके हैं इस सदन में और इस सदन के बाहर कि आज जिस ढंग से नौकरशाह के हाथों में ये कारखाने चलाने का काम कर रहे हों, इस बात को अपने मन से निकाल दो और कुछ ऐसे लोगों के हाथ में इसे दे दो कि जिन्हें इन उद्योग धर्मों के बारे में कुछ ठोस जानकारी

हो जिसको कि हम अंग्रेजी में टेक्नोक्रेट्स कहते हैं। व्यूरोक्रेट्स को हटा दो और हिन्दुस्तान के जो टेक्नोक्रेट्स हैं, निजी क्षेत्र में और सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में भी हैं उनमें जोकि अच्छे लोग हैं, उनके हाथों में इन कारखानों को दे दो। हमने सुना है, पता नहीं सही है या गलत है कि राउरकेला के कारखाने में सात साल में सात जनरल मैनेजर्स आये और भिलाई और दुर्गापुर में भी परिस्थिति कुछ दूसरी नहीं रही है, वहां भी सात सालों में पांच या छः जनरल मैनेजर्स आये और गए। उनके लिए यह एक सीढ़ी है, साल भर वहां जावो और वहां से कोई और तरक्की की जगह पाने की कोशिश करो और उस दरमियान में जितना कमा सकते हो और जमा कर सकते हो उतना कमाने और जमा करने का कार्य करो। कई लोगों के मन में यह गलतफहमी है कि सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में कारखाने बन रहे हैं, इससे समाजवाद आ रहा है। कौन सा समाजवाद, कहां इसमें से समाजवाद आ रहा है? असल में निजी क्षेत्र की मैं वकालत नहीं कर रहा हूँ। आप तो जानते हैं कि मैं कितना कट्टर समाजवादी हूँ लेकिन कभी-कभी सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के नौकरशाहों को और नए किस्म के रियासतदारों को देखकर ऐसा गुस्सा आता है कि क्या इन लोगों का करें, कुछ समझ में नहीं आता है। मन्त्री महोदय ने जो मांग-पत्र रखा है उसके पंज 3 पर देखिए। तीन सैक्रेटरीज की तनख्वाह के लिए उनको मांग है एक लाख 6 हजार रुपए अगले साल के लिए। यह सिर्फ उनकी तनख्वाह है। इसके अलावा जो उनका टी० ए० डी० ए० वगैरह है, वह अलग हैं। विमान से यहां से रांची, रांची से दुर्गापुर, दुर्गापुर से कहीं और वहां से फिर दिल्ली, ज्यादातर वे हवा में ही रहते हैं, दिल्ली में बहुत कम रहते हैं। जब मन्त्री से बात करनी होती है तभी रहते हैं नहीं तो हवा में ही रहते हैं। उनके टी० ए०, डी० ए० और दूसरे भले और उनके बंगले, उनके बंगलों में जाने वाले और सरकारी खर्च पर काम करने

वाले सरकारी नौकर, इन सबका हिसाब अग्रर लगायें तो एक लाख 6 हजार इनकी तनख्वाह और 2 लाख 12 हजार उस पर इनकी यह दूसरी कमाई, तो तीन लाख 18 हजार तीन अफसरों पर एक साल में खर्च होगा। उसी पन्ने पर नीचे अग्रर आप देखें तो पता चलेगा कि 131 क्लास फोर इम्प्लाइज के इस्टैब्लिशमेंट वगैरह पर कुल खर्चा है एक लाख 4 हजार रुपया। उनको कोई टी० ए०, डी० ए० मिलने वाला नहीं है, उनको कोई बंगला भी नहीं मिलने वाला है, उनके लिये मकान भी नहीं बनने वाले हैं। असल में इन्हीं लोगों के घरों में चाकरी करने का काम वे करने वाले हैं। 131 कर्मचारियों के लिए एक लाख 4 हजार रुपया और तीन अफसरों के लिए तीन लाख 18 हजार रुपया यह है इनका समाजवाद का तरीका। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में जो यह फिजूलखर्ची चलती है उससे कई लोगों के मनमें यह गलतफहमी बैठी है कि हम इससे कुछ समाजवाद की ओर जा रहे हैं जबकि इसमें समाजवाद जैसी कोई चीज नहीं है। इसलिए मेरा सुभाव है मन्त्री महोदय को कि इन कारखानों को चलाने का जो उनका तरीका है उसको वह बुनियादी तौर पर बदलें और यह जो तीन बड़े कारखाने हैं दुर्गापुर, भिलाई और राउरकेला के, और एक बोकारो का जो होने जा रहा है, नौकरशाह के हाथ से इनको चलाना छोड़कर अलग-अलग लोगों के हाथ में इनको दिया जाये। अलग-अलग मालिकों का मतलब यह नहीं कि निजी क्षेत्र को दे दिया जाए, उसका अपना चैयरमैन हो, अपना जनरल मैनेजर हो, उसका अपना बोर्ड हो। ऐसे लोग न रहें, जो एक दिन दिल्ली सचिवालय में, दूसरे दिन रांची सचिवालय, वहाँ से दुर्गापुर, चौथे दिन कहीं और—इस तरह से घूमते रहें और आगे चल कर विदेशों में हिन्दुस्तान का राजदूत बनने का स्वाव देखने वाले हों। बल्कि ऐसे लोग हों जो यह समझें कि यह हमारा कारखाना है, मुझे इसको बनाना है, इसको चलाना है, इसी से बनूंगा या इसी

[श्री जार्ज फरनेन्डीज]

से गिरूंगा ऐसे समझ कर जो काम करनेवाले लोग हैं, उनके हाथ में ये कारखाने हों।

मैं जानता हूँ कि शायद मंत्री साहब हम को यह जवाब देंगे—जैसा उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में लिखा है—कि अब हम—

The General Manager of the plant would be the chairman of each Advisory Board.

एक एडवाइजरी बोर्ड बनाने जा रहे हैं—मैं जानता हूँ यह जवाब आप मुझे देने जा रहे हैं।

“which would have as members representatives of the State Governments concerned and of the employees of the as well as two or three prominent non-officials with experience of industry, commerce, etc.”

यह नकली बोर्ड है, मंत्री साहब। अगर इस बोर्ड के बनाने के बारे में आप हमारे सामने जवाब देने लड़े होंगे, तो मैं इतना ही कहूँगा कि यह नकली बोर्ड है। इस का काम क्या है—इसके बारे में आपने इसमें लिखा है—

The Board will be concerned with matters like rehabilitation and employment of displaced persons and other local people, utilisation of land acquired for the plant—

यानी सञ्जी लगाई जाय या नहीं, जो जगह खेकार पड़ी है, उस पर क्या लगाया जाए।

“development of ancillary industries”

यानी जो वहाँ पर नौकरी में काम करने वाले हैं, उनके लिए चाय की दुकान खोली जाय या नहीं। इस किस्म के मैनेजमेंट का मैं जिक्र नहीं कर रहा हूँ। चैयरमैन साहब, यह बहुत ही आवश्यक क्षेत्र हैं, एक जमाना था, 20-25 साल पहले जब चीन और हिन्दुस्तान इस बात के पैदावार में बराबरी के देश थे, आज चीन हम से चार-पाँच गुना आगे है और हम अभी भी पीछे हैं। अगर आप इस मुद्दे को बनाने के बारे में सोचते हो और चाहते हैं कि

कुछ बन जाय तो आपको यह काम शुरू करना चाहिए कि नौकरशाहों के हाथों से हटा कर अलग-अलग कारखाने का अलग-अलग मैनेजमेंट बोर्ड बनायें टैकनोक्रेट्स के हाथों में देकर इस को चलायें। इनमें से अष्टाचार को खत्म कर के, चाहे एन० सी० डी० सी० हो, हिन्दुस्तान स्टील हो या अन्य कम्पनियाँ हों, अष्टाचार को खत्म करके एक नई दिशा में काम करने का वायदा करें, उन तमाम अफसरों को जिनके बारे में पब्लिक अण्डर टेकिंग कमेटी ने कहा है कि अष्ट हैं, नालायक हैं, उनको हटा देने का हम से वायदा करें तब इन को इस पैसे को देने के बारे में मुझ जैसा आदमी सोचता, बरना हम एक पाई भी मन्सूर करने के लिए तैयार नहीं हैं।

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA (Kaliabor): Sir, so much of the nation's resources have been invested and rightly so for the development of steel, so much has been the commitment of the country and also of private enterprise, because private enterprise would have been unthinkable today without the steel production we have, it is but natural that this Parliament gives critical attention to the steel industry of the country. At the same time, any industry, whether under socialist dispensation or under free dispensation as the Americans would call it, would require certain initiative and it would be of great help to the country and the industry if we discriminate between losses due to honest mistakes or due to extraneous factors outside the control of the industry or the department, I would not say of the Government, and losses that are incurred directly out of the evil motives of certain individuals concerned. While we should try to punish the latter, we should exert our maximum to see that risk-taking is supported by us. If risk is not taken and if decisions that may be considered dangerous and may involve some loss in the first two or three times are taken and if this House does not support those decisions, a bureaucratic approach would set in.

Any man can become a bureaucrat

under an atmosphere of criticism of the freest type. That is why I would, first of all, like to assure the Government of our support to the expansion of the steel industry in the country because the expansion of steel industry is basic to our progress.

In the beginning, 15 years ago, when the first public sector project was sought to be created for the development of steel in the country the private sector said that there would be no demand. The same type of thing is being talked about today. But there is demand and there would be more demand. It is necessary that when we judge the public sector we must judge it not only in terms of the conservative approach of profit but also from the other angles. After all, private sector would not have gone into this type of industry, gone into the production of steel in these items. TISCO does not produce the items which Hindustan Steel produces. Hindustan Steel produces according to certain plan priorities, certain objectives laid down in the Plan for the benefit of so many industries.

It is another matter that we were overtaken by recession. It is another matter that the recession might have been caused by the failure to produce or continue to produce steel and other products or the failure of the Railway Ministry. I have several times raised this question in the House that they should place enough orders and continue to place orders with Hindustan Steel to support the economy. The entire recession might possibly have been the result of short fall in the production of steel.

This does not however justify the type of loss that is being incurred. Rs. 40 crores is the expected loss. Possibly for an industry having a long gestation period we will have to put up with it provided we see light beyond the tunnel. The whole point is whether we can take this industry into a stage where it is capable of making full utilisation of the capacity. The argument is that the industry is morose, it does not want to produce, it does not want even to exert itself to produce to the full capacity because there is no demand or there is not likely to be a demand for full capacity. But that is an argument which is a very dangerous one

because that demoralises the industry. That does not help to fulfil the objective that we have placed before ourselves.

Profit may not be the universal criterion. Possibly it is not. So far as steel is concerned we have to apply other criteria. We have also to go into the actual contribution by private sector. In the matter of steel possibly the public sector would come out to be much greater than what it looks on the face of it. Its inability to produce to the full capacity is something that would dog us. We have to take the whole thing in an integrated way. Not only the Steel Ministry but the entire Government will have to go into this question and see that no such repetition of failure of government demand on the steel industry comes again. It did come at the time of the recession two years ago. It did come last year. After all, the steel industry is committed to supply to State enterprises and other heavy industries. If that demand is not there it is useless to blame the bureaucrats who are in charge of it. I am not supporting the bureaucrats, whoever they may be. The ability of these bureaucrats and technocrats to take risk would depend upon the support that we give to these enterprises.

So far as risk-taking by the management is concerned, as the House knows very well, the management has not been up to the mark. Even the Russian experts recently had something to say about what we are doing in regard to our public enterprises. Apart from other strikingly interesting suggestions that they have made, they have also said that the management need to be improved, that it is not what it should have been. So, we should try to see that the entire personnel policy of the public enterprises—38 per cent of it constitutes steel and its percentage may be more very soon—is examined and changed so that we may ensure that the personnel we employ do the job for which they are appointed. Now we are paying them very high. In fact, Shri George Fernandez has consistently, rather excessively, brought this matter before the House about the high salary that we pay to the top brass in our public sector enterprises. But when we appoint them to these posts we have not only to see that they do the job but we have to make them responsible for their

[Shri Bedabrata Barua]

actions. In the Soviet Union and other countries they make the personnel responsible for the implementation of policies and if they fail they are made to suffer. Even in the private sector, there is a system in America of "firing" when a person fails to do his job. Here 'firing' means discharging him from work. But here in our country we have a system where a man may do anything, the industry may go to dogs, there may be losses but the punishment that he gets is a promotion. If this practice continues, if the promotion is not related to the record of the particular officer, if the officer is not punished when something goes wrong seriously, then God save our public enterprises, because nothing can save them.

Parliament itself has to be involved in the working of the public sector enterprises. Because it is the nation's property, so Parliament has to look after it. Members of Parliament must take interest in the working of these public enterprises. Government must also try to associate Members of Parliament with the working of these enterprises so that they may know the difficulties in the working of these enterprises and suggest remedies for them. I know that many committees have gone into the question of inventories, management and so on. But no follow-up action has been taken. The Committee on Public Undertakings has to consider how to improve the management. The progress of work of these enterprises has to be assessed and reviewed day after day, week after week. Then only we can improve their working. Otherwise, they will remain stagnant, where there are at present.

SHRI K. RAMANI (Coimbatore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Ministry is a very important Ministry because it is controlling the production of steel, coal and other metals and these are the basic necessities for the industrial development of this country. That is also why this Ministry deserve the strongest criticism and condemnation. Their performance prove it. The Third Plan target was 10 million tons of steel. Actual production was 4.1 million tons. At the same time, the installed capacity was more which shows that the capacity was not utilized to the full. Hon.

Members have already referred to under production and idle capacity.

The Ministry control the public sector enterprises through some organisations like Hindustan Steel, National Coal Development Corporation, MMTC and so on. We will have to take into account the functioning of these organisations to judge and decide how the plans and programmes of the Ministry are properly implemented or carried out.

They have made a very big loss. Hon. Members have pointed it out. In 1966-67 a loss of Rs. 20.5 crores has been made. In the first nine months of 1967-68 a loss of Rs. 22.3 crores has already been there and much more loss may be incurred. That is the position about the losses.

At the same time actually the private sector is having a profit. In 1966-67 TISCO's profit was Rs. 14.12 crores and IISCO's profit during the same period was Rs. 7.40 crores. That is why today the private sector capitalists and monopolists attack the public sector and say that the public sector is so inefficient and bureaucratic that they cannot run industry, that only the private sector can do that and they know how to run it. They are attacking the public sector more and more. They want to see that the Bokaro steel plant is not at all built up in India. They are coming forward in such a way.

At the same time Government is having a board of directors or managing board or such an organisation in which they are going to include a number of representatives of the private big monopoly sections who do not want that the Bokaro steel plant should be established and developed. If this is the policy of the Government, of trying more and more to include representatives of the big capitalists and monopolists and allowing them to undermine and smash the plans of Government, certainly more damages and losses may happen. Such things are also coming.

Then, what is the purpose of their producing more steel? It is to industrialise more and more our country. It is a basic and very key industry. What is the position of the price of steel? They imposed price control on certain varie-

ties in the year 1964. Afterwards they removed the entire control in the month of May, 1967. After that the prices have gone up. That is why small industries generally are suffering. They are generally the people who are suffering due to the high prices of steel. This thing has been discussed several times here in this House itself. Why is this kind of a price increase taking place? This also we will have to take into consideration.

Then, iron ore, the most important thing is supplied to these three big steel plants by the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation. As an agent it is supplying this ore. Its function has been criticized and condemned by the Committee on Public Undertakings. They have revealed the whole thing very clearly. I can quote one or two things from that (C.P.U. No. 76, page 49, paragraph 169) :—

"The meeting with mine-owners on the 19th May, 1966, as is clear from the minutes of the meeting, dealt with the issue of prices for HSL and for export supplies. The question of prices of ores for domestic and export consumption are so interlinked that one cannot be considered without the other. The plea put forward by Chairman MMTC that they did not consider it useful for the representatives of HSL to have attended the meeting as it considered matters relating to exports, is totally untenable. The Committee feel that the decision of MMTC to exclude HSL out of the negotiations with mine-owners was unfair and unhealthy. HSL were vitally interested in the matter and it would have been more advantageous both for MMTC and HSL to present a joint front to the mine-owners. The uncompromising attitude of MMTC in fact resulted in misunderstanding and distrust between the two undertakings".

This is an organisation set up and controlled by the Ministry that has dealt with one of the steel plants management like this. The MMTC Chairman convened a meeting of the mine-owners and a resolution was passed as under :—

"In future, the mine-owners will desist from making any direct approach to HSL for contracts for supply. It is the unanimous recommendation of the mine-owners that any mine-owner who

negotiates and/or concludes contract directly with HSL should be debarred from claiming any business through MMTC."

This is para 170. This is the position that has been taken by them.

Then, again the Committee criticises and gives its opinion in Para 171, which reads :

"The Committee feel that this decision was highly objectionable as it sought to pressurise HSL either to agree to the prices offered by MMTC or face closure of the steel plant. It is regrettable that one public undertaking, i.e., MMTC permitted the mine-owners to take such a decision against a sister public undertaking, i.e., HSL. It is all the more unfortunate that this decision was taken at a meeting convened by MMTC at which the Chairman, MMTC presided and a joint Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce was also present. It is surprising that neither the Chairman MMTC nor the Government representative made any effort to prevent the mine-owners from adopting such a resolution which was against the interest of another public undertaking. In fact, an impression is created that the mine-owners were encouraged to pass such a resolution in order to get even with another public undertaking which had not agreed to their terms."

These are the criticisms that have been levelled against the dealings of the MMTC. Like that, if we take into account the performance of the NCDC, it has created really a mess.

Then, further, the Committee on Public Undertakings in their Tenth Report on the NCDC, in Para 106, have given the figures of production capacity. In 1960-61, it was 111.31 lakh tons and it went down further, in 1962-63, to 61.70 lakh tons. Then, in Para 108, it has criticised and given its opinion as follows :—

"It has been pointed out in the Audit Report that the non-achievement of target production of 30.5 million tons by the end of 1965-66 resulted in machines, buildings and man power remaining idle to the extent of 68.2 per cent. The Committee deprecate the failure of the Management to take measures to implement the recommen-

[Shri K. Ramani]

dation of the Estimates Committee. The Committee hope that the Management would now bring the entire resources of men and material into full use."

They hope that the Management will rectify all these things.

Like that, the performance of the NCDC has also, in this way, come in. So, in the entire iron ore supply by private owners, those private owners are actually colluding with the Management and the high bureaucrats who are sitting in these organisations like NCDC and MMTC and they are making huge profits. The MMTC while not supplying enough ore to the steel plant like Rourkela were exporting and they were only concentrating their attention on the export trade. This is the way in which they have performed all these things. That is why the HSL is making a big loss and that loss is quoted by big monopoly companies in the private sector and they say that the Government is inefficient, it cannot run the public sector and that it is using a huge public money and making a big loss. I want to know whether the Government will take into consideration all these things. Are they capable of rectifying these mistakes in their doings?

Then, there is another important thing that I have to refer and that is about the labour relations. The antilabour policy of the Government does also come in the way of the reduction of production and all sorts of difficulties. In Bhilai, in the month of June, 1967, the security guards attacked the workers against the representation of their real grievances and a very big clash took place and, ultimately, the Ministry turned against the workers and they accused the workers of their unruly behaviour. But if we go through the report of the Committee on Public Undertakings, we can see how much of criticism is there. Like that, in Rourkela also, these workers' demands were there and their most represented Union was not recognised. In all these undertakings, including Durgapur, they try to bring the INTUC unions and discriminate against the other unions and they want to see that the labour's demands

are not properly met. In such a way, they are having a kind of labour policy. That also creates difficulties for more production and all those things.

I have to raise one more point and then I will finish. While the discussion was going on yesterday, the hon. Minister of State connected with this portfolio intervened and he compared and said, "In America, the production is falling down, in Germany the production is falling down, in Japan the production is falling down" and so on. I want to ask him one question. Is he prepared to compare our social development and industrial development with America, Britain, Japan, Germany and all those imperialist countries? They divided the entire world into spheres of influence and markets and colonies and they were exporting things—not only steel but also capital—and they were exploiting. Today there is a big crisis, economic crisis, there. American Dollar itself is suffering today. In such a condition, if in those countries production falls down, how can he compare that with the developing economy here? They say that we are in the 'take-off' position. Where are we taking off? To the American position or Japanese position. They profess day in and day out that they are having a socialist economy, socialist policy and all those things. Why do they not quote Soviet Union or Czechoslovakia or China or any other socialist country? They may not agree with their economic policy or the social set-up or their politics. But, really speaking, how the industry is developed there! There is no crisis, there is not this kind of capitalists attacking the government sector; the government making all sorts of confusion is not there. In such a position, they are comparing with America, Japan, Germany and other imperialist countries and they say that their production has gone down and here there is nothing wrong compared with those countries. I want to say that this is a very, very unhappy position. Twenty years have passed since our country achieved independence and this is the state of affairs. Our country has to build a number of industries—key industries, basic industries and industries like the steel industry; it has to serve a large number of people of this country. In such a

position, they are pursuing an anti-people policy and a pro-capitalist policy and pro-American policy. Such a policy will never get an expanded market in this country because they never take into consideration the people. That is why, they are suffering. Now, they want to find out export markets and other markets. Which market? Our steel will go to Japan or America or, you may say, Africa and other countries. Where are they going to find markets? We have markets here; 50 crores of people are here; they want industrial development, they want their daily necessities to be met...

15.50 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The hon. Member should conclude.

SHRI K. RAMANI. If they want to build industries, they have got their market here, but they are not having a proper policy. Such a policy will certainly have to be condemned and we cannot allow these Demands to be granted.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI (Kanara): Sir, I rise to oppose the Demands of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals. The demands include Rs. 140 crores on Capital Outlay, Rs. 11 crores for the Geological Survey and the rest Rs. 17 crores—Total Rs. 179 crores. What a small sum! I think this is one of the Ministries that spend very large sums. Out of that Rs. 110 crores is for Bokaro.

I would have certainly voted for these Demands if the Ministry had shown any efficiency all these years. Sir, this Ministry is a Ministry of mis-management and national losses. It is wrong to call it Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals. Instead of that, better call it, 'The Ministry of National Losses and Disappointments'. What is going to happen to Bokaro—I do not know. Are you going to run the Bokaro plant in the same way you are running the Hindustan Steel. Unless the Minister gives us an assurance that the Bokaro will be run efficiently, we cannot be a party to these Demands.

What a spectacle, what a sorry spectacle of Hindustan Steel we have witnessed all these years. The annual report of the

Ministry has said that they have incurred only an annual loss of Rs. 20 crores. It is a wrong calculation, it is not Rs. 20 crores, it is much more. The correct figures are not given in the Ministry's report at all. About the loss they are misleading this House by giving such figures. What do you mean by saying that it is a loss of only Rs. 20 crores? The real way of giving the losses and profits is that you must say how much was the capital involved in this and what was the return on that capital. Then only we can understand what the real loss is. What is the capital of Hindustan Steel? Let us say Rs. 900 or Rs. 1000 crores, near-about that. So, even at the rate of 5% return we must get Rs. 50 crores. Instead of getting Rs. 50 crores, you have given a loss of Rs. 20 crores. That means the annual loss is Rs. 70 crores at the minimum. Of course, Mr. Masani, the other day, said that we should expect 10%, but I am satisfied even with 5% because I know that you are not at all efficient. That is why I am even satisfied with 5% return on the capital and according to this calculation the total annual loss is Rs. 70 crores and this is going on for the last 7 years. This is the sole achievement of our Government in running these public undertakings. I am not against public undertakings. But what is the result of this? You have done this country a great harm in three respects. In the first place, the national loss is there for which the tax-payer has to pay. Secondly, you have completely discredited the idea of nationalisation—a great disservice our Government has done—and when you discredit the idea of nationalisation, you discredit the idea of socialism as well because nationalisation is an important factor in socialism and Government and the Congress Party have said that they believe in the socialistic pattern of society. Socialistic pattern of running these public undertaking in an inefficient manner—is that the socialism?

What are the reasons given in the Annual Report for these losses? First reason is recession. I cannot understand why there should be recession in this country if there is a planned economy. We have had three Five Year Plans for 15 years. There cannot be any recession in a planned economy because one of the objects of planned economy is that there will

[Shri Dinkar Desai]

be no recession, no economic crisis which only happens in a capitalist society. That is what the socialists say and everybody accepts that. I would like to know how there is a recession in the first place if there is a planned economy in the country. I would also like to know how the TATAS have made profits when there is recession. TATAS are in India, they are running a steel plant and they have not made any losses last year, I can assure you. Then how is it that in spite of the so called recession TATAS have made profits? Recession itself was wrong because in a planned economy there cannot be recession. That means that you have no really planned economy and all your planning is bogus. That is what is so clearly shown.

Then, Sir, the second point that I would like to make is this. This is about the labour troubles. There are more and more labour troubles in the public undertakings. If statistics are collected I can assure you that there are more labour troubles in the public undertakings than in the private undertakings. Take Steel for instance. Are there so many labour troubles in Tata's? No. It is because of Government's anti-labour policy, it is because they bring in politics in the trade union movement that such things are happening. They recognise the INTUC Unions although they have no following. That is what has happened. They have said in the annual report that the Rourkela Mazdoor Sabha was recognised in December after the Orissa Government had recommended that that is the real representative union. Why that labour union was not recognised before the Orissa Government recommended that? It was because there was a congress Government in Orissa. If the Congress Government had continued after the election in Orissa the Mazdoor Sabha would not have been recognised as a representative union. What should be done is that you should take the labour into confidence. I can tell you this. I have got experience of trade union movement. I have worked in trade union movement for thirty years. I can tell you that our workers are very reasonable, provided you take them into confidence. You never take them into confidence. You always look to the workers with suspicion.

Once you take them into confidence you will see that our workers are very reasonable. Even if you talk to them nicely without giving any increase in wage they will be so much satisfied. They are such good people. But what is happening is, our government does not know the psychology of the workers and they unnecessarily bring in politics into the trade union movement. That is one of the main reasons why there are so much of labour troubles in our public undertakings. The cost of production has gone up. The real reason is utter mismanagement.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your time is up. You rarely speak, I know. I am hard pressed for time.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : It is said that you are paying very high salaries to the Managers. I don't bother about that. You can pay high salaries. Tata's are paying high salaries. You may pay high salaries to the managers but that is not the real reason for the loss. The real reason is this. You are not running these undertakings with efficiency.

Regarding exports this is what has been said. It has been said that exports of our steel and iron products will be to the tune of Rs. 33 crores. It is not a big sum. It is stated that you expect more exports of these iron products and steel products. I doubt it. Unless the cost of production is brought down you cannot compete in the international market. They have not given at what cost they are exporting. I want to ask : are you exporting at a loss or at a profit? That they have not mentioned. They have not mentioned whether it is at cost price or what price. I want to know this from the hon. Minister. If they are exporting at a loss I do not think they are going to carry on for ever. They are doomed. There is no use merely saying about exports to the tune of Rs. 33 crores or so, but what they should tell us is whether our steel is produced at a competitive rate in the world market or not. Then only we will be in a position to export. I am sure, if the management is efficient, with Bokaro and all that, our steel production will be very high and in that case we can export and there is suffi-

cient export market in the world particularly in the African and Asian countries. I want to make one or two points. Mr. Deputy-Speaker, you have given me very little time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your party is given 7 minutes. I am handicapped. The party is given 7 minutes. I know you have some important suggestions to make, I entirely agree.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak) : This is his maiden speech. You may allow him two or three more minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has spoken already. He must try to conclude.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : I will conclude in a minute.

The same thing is happening with regard to the NCDC. They have made a loss of Rs. 2 crores in two years. The NMDC has made a loss of Rs. 5 crores in one year. This is how the losses are going on.

16 00 hrs.

SHRI UMANATH (Pudukkottai) : It must be a printing mistake.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : I do not know. The hon. Minister can correct the mistakes.

Lastly, I would like to make one suggestion. Hereafter we have to develop more of foreign trade, and we must export our iron ore to foreign countries, particularly to Japan. In that respect, the report has clearly stated that the loading facilities at our ports are not adequate and they are not even modern. If we want to export more iron ore to Japan and to other countries, we must have proper harbour and railway facilities. Our Government are spending Rs. 40 crores on the development of the Paradip port at Orissa by taking a railway line there. I would suggest a similar project from Hubli to Karwar in Mysore State. That is very necessary for the export of the rich iron ore in the Bellary-Hospet area. Karwar is the nearest port for that rich iron ore. Because there is no railway facility between Hubli and Karwar which is a distance of only 100

miles, we are exporting from Karwar only about 3 to 4 lakhs tonnes, whereas according to the Government exports themselves we can export at least 25 to 30 lakhs of tonnes every year through that port. At present, the Bellary-Hospet iron ore is exported through such distant ports as Visakhapatnam, Madras or Marmagao. Karwar is one of the best harbours in the world and it is a natural harbour. This is what the experts say. It is about 100 miles from Hubli. At present the ore is taken to Hubli by train and then put into trucks. The process becomes very costly. There is no mechanisation. There are no modern port facilities also at Karwar.

That is why I would request the hon. Minister to take up this question with the Railway Ministry and also with the Ministry of Transport and Shipping and see that Karwar is developed into a modern port and also see that the rich iron ore of the Bellary-Hospet area in Mysore State is exported cheaply and also speedily.

With these words, I oppose these Demands.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Dr. Channa Reddy.

SHRI P. K. GHOSH (Ranchi) : This is the third occasion when you have not called me, although my name has been included in the list given by the party. You have been frustrating our chances.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have already extended the time and I have accommodated four Members from the Congress side.

SHRI P. K. GHOSH : You have deprived me of my chance.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Not a minute more can be given to the Congress Benches now. The Speaker had already decided this morning that.....

SHRI P. K. GHOSH : You are not doing justice to us. We shall bring a no-confidence—motion against you. We shall bring a no-confidence—motion against the Deputy-Speaker if he does not give us time.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON (Lohardaga) : I think the hon. Minister is agreeable to giving us some time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : No. Dr. Channa Reddy.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY): I am very thankful to all the hon. Members who have participated in these discussions.

SHRI UMANATH : That is the usual thing.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : But I am saying it in an unusual way.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH (Pali) : Let them say it in earnestness. Why should they say like this ?

SHRI P. K. GHOSH : We shall bring a no-confidence-motion against the Deputy-Speaker because he has deprived us of the right to speak.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : During the short discussion of four hours, about 12 Members have participated in the debate, but I am afraid I shall not be able to deal with the large number of points that they have made out during this short time. I would only make it clear that I would certainly take note of them and see to what extent we can take them as our guidelines in shaping the policies and functioning of the Ministry and the various public sector undertakings that we have with us.

The main point that has attracted the attention of hon. Members is the losses incurred very heavily by HSL and also several aspects of its functioning. I should be pardoned if I take a little time to explain the details so that I can try to present the other side of the picture. I am not doing so either because the Ministry has a sense of complacency or because we feel that everything is all right.

But as a matter of fact, we should really try to place all the facts not only before this hon. House but through this House, before the people because ultimately the functioning of the public sector in this country is of crucial importance in our economic life. Hindustan Steel with about 36 per cent of the entire capital investments in the Central public sector plays a very important part and its success or

failure and proper or improper understanding of different aspects will go a long way in assessing the future economic shape of this country.

I say this because there is no question of there being a debate about the utility of the public sector ; there is no question of discussing the public sector and private sector in that fashion. In our country, the public sector has come to stay, and in whatever degree some hon. Members might choose to describe it in derogatory terms or saying they have no conviction about its utility, I would like to say with all the emphasis at my command that we have the greatest conviction in the place and future of public sector in our economic life, particularly in certain basic industries which have got to be taken up in the public sector on a large scale. Some friends have expressed some doubts or have criticised it by saying that we are unnecessarily getting into fields of economic activity which we should not have and that we should not have entered the field of steel at all. Some others say that if this is not profitable, why are we doing it ? Some others contend that the performance of the private sector units is much more successful, much more profitable and much more efficient. I would therefore, like to clarify some of these aspects.

It might look that I am repeating the arguments that are contained in the paper I have placed before hon. Members. I am glad many hon. Members have gone through it. Still they have chosen to look into only some of the points and not taken note of several others which really have an important bearing on our assessment and analysis of the efficiency of public sector functioning.

The basic fact to remember is that we have started the steel industry much later than the private sector units. Therefore, initially there is one big difficulty or hurdle that the gross block is of the order of Rs. 2,500 per tonne of saleable steel as against Rs. 1,176 per tonne adopted for the price structure based on the TISCO block. This has formed the basis for determining the price. The very fact that there is so much of difference while calculating the interest and depreciation charges straightway gives a disadvantage of about Rs. 170 per tonne of steel we pro-

duce in HSL. If we appreciate this, it should go a long way in explaining the position. Recently, after 1964, the depreciation rate has been raised from 5 to 7 per cent. This has added another Rs. 26 per tonne and to that extent our provision for capital related charges has gone up.

As for the cost of production, let me make it clear that from the commercial point of view, it is not the practice for any organisation to give details of it. But I could certainly place the details of what we call the works cost, the details on which that cost can be worked out and that will give an idea of the efficiency or otherwise of the unit. As far as the works cost of steel produced in HSL plants is concerned it is more or less in line with the works cost in the other main producers. In Hindustan Steel, it will be possible to reduce the gross block per tonne from Rs. 2,500 to Rs. 2,100—one hon. Member said that we had promised to reduce it to Rs. 2,100—when the in-built capacity at the Million Tonne is fully absorbed by the Expansion. Only then it will be possible to reduce it to that extent.

I would like to draw attention to the chart in annexure I, page 30 of the report I have placed before the House which will give a very clear idea of the different factors entering into the assessment of financial performance. We have given comparative figures not only amongst our units but also between the public sector, and private plants here and abroad. The foreign units brought in for comparison are the very famous Yawata works of Japan and Bethlehem of U.S.A.

The gross margin as a percentage of sales is 20.44 per cent in Yawata and 19.50 in Bethlehem, while in Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur, because of the heavy incidence of interest and depreciation charges, the figures are 34.31, 31.64 and 13.40 respectively. I am, however, happy to report that the direct expenditure on raw materials and other things that go into the production of steel as percentage of sales income works out to 68.4 in Bhilai, 65.7 for Rourkela, and 71.6% for HSL (three plants) as a whole, while for TISCO it is 72.19%.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : Then, why do you make losses ?

DR. CHANNA REDDY : The capital output ratio in HSL during 1964-65 was 1 : 0.32 while for TISCO and IISCO it was more. This is one of the factors which account for the losses that we are incurring.

The efficiency of Hindustan Steel is being questioned and it is asked why it is making losses. There are some other factors also to be taken into consideration before coming to conclusions, for instance the impact of the recession that we have suffered.....Some hon. Member was trying to say that we are only trying to make a pretext of it.

“हीला बना रहे हैं रिसेशन का”

I cannot understand how such a substantial and solid fact is missed and how it is stated to be only a pretext. We have worked our plants in a rather peculiar manner, tied down to railways and other projects. For example, 24% of railways' requirements of rails, sleepers etc. are met by HSL, while for TISCO it is only 11% and for IISCO only 13%. So, when suddenly the programme of the railways for various reasons came down, it was reflected in the underutilisation of this capacity. The heavy cancellation of orders on HSL details of which are found at page 16, Table 5 shows also the impact of recession. During April 1967 to February 1968 the cancellation of orders amounted to 848,000 tonnes of steel products for HSL as a whole. I do not want to go into details, but I may say that while our capacity for rails was increased from 1.5 to 5 lakh tonnes, rail orders actually came down from 3.5 to about 2 lakh tonnes.

These are the factors that had a terrible impact on the functioning of the steel plants, and that have resulted in heavy losses. There are several other factors.

Some hon. members have said that this Government is anti-labour and therefore losses have been incurred. So, I would like to clarify the difficulty that we are having labour organisations and how we have to deal with this problem.

We have been trying our best to apply our minds and find some solutions so that in the labour organisations in all the plants it will be our objective to see that there should be only one recognised union with whom the management can deal. But un-

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fortunately today what is happening is that there are more than a score of unions and a number of them are coming forward with demands. And once their demands are accepted and some arrangement are evolved, then quite a number of others disown the responsibility and do not accept agreement and we are having immense difficulties with such unions. As a result of the labour difficulties you will kindly see that there has been a loss during 1967-68, because of the labour disturbances to the tune of Rs. 6.35 crores. There are a number of instances as given in reply to questions on the floor of the Lok Sabha. In Rourkela, because of a strike for about two weeks we incurred a loss of Rs. 232 lakhs. Similarly, there are several other instances where this kind of thing is happening and it has been estimated that during 1967-68 these heavy losses have been incurred by labour trouble in the HSL plants.

Regarding this kind of problem, I might say that there seems to be an impression—and some Hon. Members seem to think—that this is a white elephant as if the whole public sector is a white elephant. I do not know if I make it a black elephant whether the hon. Members would take a liking to it. Let us understand one thing. As the concerned Minister of steel, I am equally interested in the welfare and the proper functioning of the private sector units like TISCO and IISCO, and if I make a comparison, if I give some comparative figures before this House, it is not with any objective of running down any private sector organisation, but to have a comprehensive background and to understand the position in the proper light. I would like to state the situation in the Tatas, when their profits declined in the twenties. Let me make it clear that, during this difficult period TISCO received continuous, large amount of assistance from time to time, and in that way, because it had been receiving the necessary support, it was able to sustain itself. I might give some details of the assistance that it got from time to time. I might state that in the period 1924 to 1927 about Rs. 250 lakhs were given as assistance which amounted annually to about 13% of their gross sales. In that way, even then, the Government had to give this kind of subsidy. That was one of the

important things which one should not forget while we are talking about steel.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : You are narrating ancient history.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : I think that it was a time when at least the hon. Member was very much born and he knows it and that ancient history will only show, as a matter of fact, the position as to how individual factors help us to say that while we take some time to stabilise the capacity, while we take some to work to an optimum level it is natural—and it has been so—that all steel plants took time and required assistance from time to time. Therefore, these facts are given only with that purpose in mind.

Let me again say that I do not want to run down TISCO or any other organisation, but I only want to state that it is but inherent in this industry that we cannot think in terms of the immediate profits and avoid losses completely. In addition, let me also make it clear that as far as the steel industry is concerned, in other countries where we have seen that they are very efficient, where they are doing a large amount of exports, where they have established the industry and the production is in huge quantities, over one hundred million tonnes, even there, the profitability of these things has come down considerably. Take for instance the United States. Again I am giving only an example. In the United States where the efficiency is of satisfactory order there also, the general profitability in steel is much less than in any other manufacturing industry. In the United Kingdom, the percentage of profitability in 1958 was 13.5 and by 1966 it had come down to just 3.7.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : What about Japan.

DR. CHANNA REDDY ; There also the profitability has been much less during the last few years.

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : But there are no losses in America and Japan.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : We are importing machinery and equipment at a

huge cost, paying heavy freight and customs duty. We have paid to the Central and State Governments in different forms of revenue about Rs. 532 crores.

The total value of sales by HSL of iron and steel produced in this country all these years after HSL was established is of the order of about Rs. 1,380 crores. Out of this if we exclude the amount of foreign exchange used for importing materials, etc consumed in manufacture, the value would come to about Rs. 950 crores which give the order of foreign exchange the country has saved by such production. I am only giving these figures to show that public sector is not that bad and we should not be frustrated and feel that there is no future for improving the steel plants.

Again, I do not mean to take any credit for myself, but I would place before the House figures to show how there has been a healthy trend of improvement in steel production programmes during the last few months. Even in the most unfortunate plant that has suffered heavily for various reasons— the Durgapur plant— there has been a clear trend of improvement in the last quarter of 1967-68. In March 1968 it had the distinction of attaining the highest monthly production in the main units during the last two financial years. Production of finishing units, viz., merchant mill, section mill and sleeper plant is also showing steady improvement; Production of wheel and axle plant is also coming up. In 1967-68, ingot production was of the order of 0.74 million tonnes but it improved to an annual rate of 0.9 million tonnes in March, 1968.

The production planned at Durgapur in 1968-69 is around 1.1 to 1.2 million tons.

From these figures, the House will appreciate that there has recently been a very healthy trend and things are improving at Durgapur.

I will give the figures about despatches from Durgapur. In April-June, 1967, the total value of despatches were worth Rs. 1024 lakhs. But in January-March, 1968, it has risen to Rs. 1380.99 lakhs. There is another important factor, viz., shortfall due to labour situation. I have tried to collect some figures to give an idea how month to month, depending upon various

circumstances other than circumstances within the plant itself, production has been affected. Take the steel ingot section, where, because of labour trouble efficiency was being affected to the extent of 33.5 per cent in April-September, 1967. In the October-December quarter, it came down to 9.8 per cent. In January, it came down to 8.75 per cent. In February and March, it is nil, because labour in this department had settled down. In West Bengal during the last one year, we have witnessed many political vicissitudes and they have been having their own impact on the functioning of the Durgapur plant. I can give figures about every section of the Durgapur plant to show how things have been improving, particularly during the last quarter of 1967-68.

In the same way, the production rate in January 1968, that is before lay-off in merchant mill was 240 tonnes per day and after lay-off it has come to, in March 1968, 539 tonnes per day. In April, 1968, a production rate of 647 tonnes has been maintained. This shows clearly how things are slowly picking up.

Regarding Bokaro many things have been said by very many Members. Some hon. Members were saying that it is a white elephant. The fact that it is planned in collaboration with the Russians has influenced their own analysis and their reaction to it. Some of the Members have been very enthusiastic about it. They wanted an assurance that these things would be run efficiently and that we would not hesitate in going ahead with it. I do not know how hon. Members who are supporting Bokaro could say that there was some hesitancy on the part of Government. We are going all out according to our plan and programme. We have made a schedule according to which in 1971 we want to go into production. In 1970 our blast furnace will be ready. From this point of view, as you have seen, we have provided during this year, with all our difficulties, even after having to resort to deficit financing to the extent of Rs. 300 crores, a sum of Rs. 110 crores. That should be a substantial proof, if that was necessary, of our conviction and belief in this project. We are going ahead and we will be able to go through with it. Let us be very clear about that.

A senior hon. Member of this House,

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whose book I read when I was a student—*Our India* written by Shri Masani—about whom I had a good impression and even now continue to have an impression that he is an authority, a master, and an expert on facts and figures, unfortunately, I do not know with what background, has talked about Bokaro during the general discussion in a rather unfortunate way. About Bokaro he had some colour complexes. He I think, wanted this to be white and I do not know whether through white he saw something red in it. I can tell him that it is neither red nor white, it is going to be Indian and it can be planned with our indigenous collaboration. He said that only workers' houses have been built and the factory has not been built. He also said that nothing would be lost if these houses are allowed to stand. We have spent Rs. 93 crores. I do not know how a great economist and the leader of one of the important parties can talk in this manner. How can he say that we have only built a few houses? As I said we have spent Rs. 93 crores. We have levelled the entire site. We have started construction. Orders for equipment have been placed not only outside the country but also inside our own country for those things which we can get here. We are trying to start fabrication of all the equipment we would require. Therefore, it would not be proper to say that we have only built some houses. In addition, we have provided this year, as I said, Rs. 110 crores. In fact, economists and others like him should say that more and more money should be spent on this. As one of the hon. Members pointed out, instead of taking up many projects, not providing the necessary funds and thus making the whole thing uneconomical, it would be better if we can try to take up one, provide the necessary funds and try to complete it within as short a period as possible.

There seems to be a very great misunderstanding in this country that when there is a glut in the market, when there is surplus production, when there is not enough demand for steel from other plants, we are going in for another Bokaro steel plant. Let me tell them that it is not a replica of the plants we already have. It is going to fill the gap of flat products

which we are importing. During the last four years we were importing from Rs. 36 crores to Rs. 40 crores worth of flat products. Even last year when we were in a very bad way from the point of view of foreign exchange and also our internal requirements, our imports were of the order of Rs. 24 crores worth of flat products.

It is estimated that during the next 3 or 4 years, by 1970-71, our demand for this category would go up to about 11 lakhs tons, which is a big gap, to fulfil which we may be obliged to import to the order of Rs. 90 crores. It is to fill up this gap that we are planning this Bokaro plant. So, I would like this hon. House to completely support and bless this Bokaro plant, because it is going to play a very important and vital role in our national economy. It will not only stop our imports but it will meet our necessary requirements to a very large extent. Then there will be no question of blackmarketing, no question of de-control difficulties in distribution. Let me mention here that after the de-control was introduced in May 1961—Sir, you as chairman of a Committee were greatly responsible for suggesting to government to take this decision—after taking that decision, I did not feel quite comfortable about the operation of de-control. Because even today, we have shortage of certain scarce categories and unless we are in a position to provide them in adequate quantities it will not be possible to effect complete de-control. Now some producers indulge in what is called package deals and I do not blame them for that. Under the package deal of scarce categories are asked for, other categories which are not asked for by the party is compulsorily given to the party. In order to check all this, the Ministry is very seriously considering a proposal under which we will get a little more of these scarce categories, by importing them to the tune of Rs. 40 crores so that we can have complete de-control in the real and full sense of the term. Otherwise, it is not possible. We are still considering that proposal. We have to take it up with the Finance Ministry and others. If it is not possible, then we want to have complete de-control, taking away the question of price and other things for the non-scarce categories. But for the scarce categories,

after the requirements of the Steel Priority Committee are met, the balance will be given through the stock yards in different States and then we will see to what extent we can organise distribution, if necessary by increasing the supplies.

While on this point, I am again reminded of a very genuine demand made by a large number of hon. Members with feeling and appreciation of the interests of the rural areas of this country. I am referring to the demand for zinc and galvanised sheets. I entirely agree with them and I endorse their feelings. I would like to inform the House that the Ministry is fully conscious of this problem. While the production earlier was of the order of 1 lakh tons, it has come down. Because, the production was in the hands of TISCO and ISCO. TISCO has a capacity of over 5,000 to 6,000 tons per month. It has brought its production down to only 1,000 tons. There again I do not blame them, because they had some practical difficulties—the difficulty of getting the necessary imported zinc and also the price was not commensurate with cost of production. Therefore, we have taken a decision and in May when we de-controlled we have increased the price by about Rs. 350. That has spurred the production and to day we are in a position, we are planning, every month both TISCO and ISCO together are able to produce about 12,000 tons per month. Rourkela steel plant will be able to go into production by August 1968 and in that way the capacity will go up to 2,00,000 tons per year—there will be 1,20,000 from both TISCO and ISCO and another 80,000 tons from Rourkela. In this way, it will be possible that during the current year April, 1968 to March 1969 that we will be able to provide a supply of about 200,000 tons.

I may also report to this House that during the last few months because of the unfortunate incident in Koyana in Maharashtra where there was a national calamity and disaster, we went forth to meet all their requirements, which were estimated to be of the order of 22,000 tons of galvanised sheets. They were immediately made available to the Maharashtra State Government and the State Government have been taking steps for providing the necessary amenities in that area.

The total production was just 30,000 tonnes all these years, I entirely agree

that no panchayat samiti or panchayati raj institution should be blamed, because there was no production. Now we will try to make these available and in the next one or two years it should be possible for us to go into production. Shri Rane was suggesting that it should be 5 lakh tonnes. It may not be possible to produce 5 lakh tonnes but I can straightaway give the assurance that not less than 3 lakh tonnes we will be able to provide in the country. That will go a long way. Already by our trying to do all this, the black market price has come down from Rs. 3,000 to Rs 2,400 a tonne. It will further go down and we are confident that this way we will be able to help them.

Hon. Members yesterday made certain points to which I may make a brief reference. The point raised by the hon. Member, Shri Patodia, was about spares and inventory. I will just give the comparative figures of spares inventory. In TISCO the consumption of stores and spares is of the order of Rs. 5,83,00,000 a year with a monthly consumption of Rs. 0.42 crores to Rs 0.49 crores. They have end stocks of the tune of Rs. 16.6 crores to Rs. 17.85 crores and in terms of number of months of consumption of 37 to 40 months. In Bhilai we had an annual consumption of stores and spares of the tune of Rs. 9.36 crores in 1964-65 which has gone up in 1966-67 to Rs. 16.15 crores. At various times, the plant held stock which will be sufficient for 25 to 39 months in terms of consumption. By any comparison the stocks that we have are much less than what they have in old and more efficient private organisation, TISCO. Similarly I could give the figures of others. They also compare favourably.

This is necessary because in this country we are not in a position to be sure of availability on time. Particularly, the foreign collaborators want to be very sure of the availability of these things in time so that the efficiency is not affected. They try to make it a point to see that large quantities are made available. In due course it will be seen that we reduce this. We have already appointed a committee to examine closely to see to what extent this can possibly be reduced. In that way we shall get over this difficulty.

Another point that Shri Patodia raised yesterday was regarding the Rourkela pipe

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plant. The impression he gave was that the Rourkela pipe plant was kept completely idle and was almost a waste and that during the last several years we have not been able to take advantage of it after setting it up at the cost of Rs. 4 crores. In this regard I would like to give certain factual information again. We have produced about 86,742 tonnes till March 1967 and out of this quantity 3,500 tonnes were exported to Kuwait which has earned foreign exchange. In this way we have earned foreign exchange of the order of Rs. 7.8 crores. The pipe plant has also despatched 73,319 tonnes of commercial quality pipes up to March 1967. Had these not been produced, the country would have imported at least a part of this quantity. The total earnings of the pipe plant to date amount to about Rs. 20 crores as against a capital expenditure of Rs. 3.73 crores made on it.

Even then I am not complacent about it. I am really anxious and I share the anxiety of hon. Members. We have now tried to secure more orders. I am very happy to report to this House that for the first time we got orders from New Zealand for pipes the C. I. F. value of which would be about Rs. 1.3 crores. This will keep our factory going. Similarly there are enquiries from Australia and other countries, with which we are negotiating to obtain orders so that this plant can keep going.

Hon. Member, Shrimati. Tarkeshwari Sinha, also raised certain points which I would like to clarify. She wanted to know how the estimate of Rs. 105.5 crores sanctioned for Rourkela steel plant expansion has suddenly gone up to Rs. 167.3 crores. I have all the factual data with me. There were some items not provided in the 1965 estimates. So, some more items have been added, like special steel plate plant of the order of Rs. 5.9 crores and naphtha reforming unit of the order of Rs. 3.6 crores. Of some items the prices have gone up.

She was also asking how we can bring down our capital block from 2,500 to 2,100.

She said, very aptly, yesterday, as usual, in her characteristic way :

सुर्खरू होता है इन्सर्त ठोकरें खाने के बाद

I only want to add, in her honour and befitting a lady Member, that

रंग लाती है हिना पत्थर पे बिस जाने के बाद ।
हम अभी पत्थर के घिसने के प्रोसेस में हैं ।

I would only urge the hon. Members to have some patience to see that with the experience we have gained, our steel plants are going to give a better account of themselves than what it is today. I must also say and confess that we have not been able to evolve a proper management—and it is not a very easy thing to do. Again, it might look, as if I am trying to run down some other organisation. Even a great organisation which has been established for the last 30 to 40 years like TISCO has not been able to develop the personnel to satisfaction. We have tried to get some people from them but we found it extremely difficult. The question is not that we are only fancied about the civil service and its domination. After all, if one should not have a fancy or fascination for civil service, I would like to submit that one should not also have an aversion for civil service. They have the capacity. The only thing is that in our procedures there is a lacuna. We transferred a person from one place to another without losing experience and also allow him to stay there constantly and take care of things. There are certain rules. An officer is promoted and, therefore, he is shifted instead of his post there being upgraded. Perhaps some of the hon. Members may not like it. But I can assure the House that we are now trying to stabilise the position and to see that the persons either coming from civil service or private sector are technocrats. As the hon. Members have laid emphasis on technocrats being given proper place, we are trying to do this and giving all the powers to the General Manager. Some hon. Members asked why the General Manager should be given all the powers and some others said that the General manager should not be interfered with. We have to strike a via media. We have to create a Task Force Committee. We have to see how best we can do it.

From whatever the practical experience in the steel industry that I have had during the last few months, I would like to say that it is not easy to come to certain conclusions and stand by them and have a dogmatic approach towards things and

issues. We have to be very flexible in our thinking, in our appreciation, in our understanding, in implementing these things. Therefore, we are trying to see how best we can create what we can call a Steel Service, give its members necessary incentives and also punish them when they are bad.

I would like to remind this honourable House that sometime ago when the Pandey Committee's Report was being discussed on the floor of the House, I said how three senior officers' services were dispensed with. One of them has gone to court but that is a different matter. We took action and removed them when it was established that they were responsible for bad functioning of the plant. We will not hesitate to do that, to give them both incentives and disincentives, not only at a certain level but at all levels. Therefore, I want to make it clear that there is no question of any vanity of the civil service nor anything against them also. I am very happy to say that one of the General Managers has been doing very good work. While he was about to be shifted to Delhi, we thought in the interest of the steel industry and the experience that he has gained, he must be retained there and we have retained him. He is now working as Deputy Chairman of HSL.

I must say a word about the labour also. My colleague Shri Hathi, the Labour Minister, has given me all the co-operation. There are a number of laws and Acts, both at the level of State Governments and the Central Government, and I do not like to go into them. I must acknowledge the cooperative attitude of the leaders of the labour organisations at the all-India level. I have invited them and have had discussions with them twice, particularly, the AITUC, the Secretary of which is a very senior hon. Member of this House but is unfortunately, not here today. He, however, seems to have some doubt about the method that we should adopt for recognition of the Unions. The recognition matters are referred to state Governments—the membership is very wide—and unfortunately, a number of times, it has taken months and months—a situation which I very much regret and feel unhappy about it. I would not like to involve myself into the cobwebs of the provisions of various laws and Acts. Therefore, I want to do

it with the active and willing cooperation of the labour leaders at all-India level because, I believe, the trade union movement is a very healthy movement and it should get the fullest support. It is immaterial which party or which individuals is playing an active part. As long as it remains in the trade union movement, I do not want to make any complaint. But I find the labour goes on strike and they do not see what happens to our blast furnace, how the temperature comes down and all that. This is a national property and it belongs as much to them as to anybody else.

These are the trends that we have. Therefore, what we have done is this : one labour union only should be able to enter into an agreement with the management and the other porters should accept that as binding on them. This is the approach. The only thing is verification. We offered to the labour leaders that they could have the recognition gone into, not by the State Government, not by the Central Government, not by any officer, but by a judicial authority.....

SHRI UMANATH : By ballot.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : I am coming to that. Ballot has been there which unfortunately is coming in the way of my hon. friends accepting the proposal. In ballot there is one danger which I may state. The non-members will have the same privilege as members. You are going to give a premium to non-members and discourage and discredit the movement. I am glad, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha and the INTUC have agreed on the point and I am hopeful—I am meeting again the representatives of the three organisations—that they will find their way to come to some kind of agreement. In this way, it will be possible to have one labour union for one plant. Let it not go to the State Governments because the State Governments have political aspects, the hon. members have political approach, we also can be accused of political approach. Therefore, let a judicial authority decide. Who it is, it is immaterial. The management will give their recognition and we will be able to deal with them. I want particularly to plead with this hon. House to give its stamp of approval and emphasis,

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so that it gets the support that it requires. It is in the interest of the labour organisation, it is in the interest of the trade union movement and it is in the interest of evolving a very good industrial relationship. It would be really bad and unfortunate if continuously we have to be told that we are faced with difficulties of industrial relationship. We should be the ideal employers and the labourers should be the ideal workers, and in that way, we can achieve our objective of public sector. It is no use blaming the others that they are interested in capitalists, they are influenced by capitalists. We need not bother about these things. Yet, we can find out a way and we will be able to achieve our objective.

Now about decontrol and distribution, as I have said, it will be our objective to see that, very soon, we take a decision, completely in the real sense of the term.

On export, I was surprised to find one of the hon. members complaining that if we are going to get a little less than what is really our cost of production, then we should not go in for exports. I am afraid, the hon. Member does not understand and appreciate the principles of export and import business. In every country, not only in this country but in every other country, domestic prices and export prices are entirely different and the Governments go in for subsidising. In our steel plants, the usual subsidy of 10 per cent is able to lead us.....(Interruptions).

SHRI DINKAR DESAI : You cannot compete in the international market because your cost of production is high and, therefore, exports suffer.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : We have not only competed but during the last 7 or 8 years, we have increased the exports by 15 times : from Rs. 3 crores, we have gone this year to Rs. 50 crores. This itself is a substantial proof to say that we are able to face the competition. After all, what did we do ? We have taken the support of 10% subsidy, nothing more or nothing less. It is a creditable achievement and I would like to make a very clear and emphatic statement that, unless we have an eye on export, unless we improve our

exports, the steel industry, for which we have been struggling so hard, will not justify its existence, and nor will it justify the support of the Parliament for this great venture. We must go in for more exports. Our next year's target is about Rs. 80 crores. I would like this hon. House to endorse this and give us the necessary support and encouragement, so that we can go in for more and more exports. A stage should come when I visualise that in the next 15 years, we should be able to achieve a target of 10 million tonnes.

During this year, Sir, there is one very heartening fact. Particularly, I have to express my gratefulness to friendly countries like Russia which have been very helpful in dealing with this problem. The Bhilai steel production they have been able to utilise in Russia where their own production is about 112 million tonnes. They have taken a part of our own steel production so that they could keep our steel plant running in an efficient manner. It is really a very good approach of a collaborator, a friendly collaborator, who would like to see that our plants function efficiently. Not only that, recently, on 14th of February this year, when the Foreign Trade Minister of Russia came here, he also signed an agreement to take 2 lakh tonnes of steel from our country. I had a discussion with him and suggested to him, "Why not accept half to one million tonnes of steel and also 3 to 5 lakh tonnes of pig iron ?" He readily agreed in principle and the matter is under consideration. If these should fructify, Sir, which I am personally quite hopeful, we would earn about Rs. 40 to 70 crores of rupees from one country every year for the next five years. In this way it will be our effort and it should be a very important thing in our economic programme to achieve this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please conclude.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : Now, Sir, there are many other points which have been raised and I would not go into them in detail for want of time and I do not like to give you the trouble of having to ring the bell again and again.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : It is a caution bell.

AN HON. MEMBER : The bell is made of steel.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : Yes, it is made of steel, it is an alloy.

Now, Sir, some other points have been raised on the floor of the House. Hon. Mr. Fernandes has paid me very handsome compliments—and asked me to resign. Well, it has been his method. I appreciate his fervour, I appreciate his great passion when he comes across anything that is wrong. I heartily congratulate him on this, but the only thing is : what is wrong and to what extent it is wrong is a matter which has to be discerned properly and carefully. Once this is done, Sir, I entirely agree with him and join with him, and for me particularly, it does not matter whether I sit here on these Benches or I resign. That does not make much of a difference to me. If it is in the interests of the nation, I would not hesitate to do it. I would only tell my hon. friend that the question of some officers employing some unskilled workers as some private servants is remarked upon in report of Committee on Public Undertakings on NCDC upto the period ending March 1966. But I am not trying to disown what has happened some time back and to imply that there is no continuity. Sir it is the preliminary etiquette on the part of the Government to maintain continuity and take responsibility for all actions. But in the sematters, the reports that have been submitted by the Public Undertakings Committee, we have already started examining them and I would only assure him with all the emphasis that I can command—unless Mr. Umanath says that is an usual thing, a stereo-typed thing—I would like to tell him that it will not be our effort or purpose, to try to shield any one or any action or anything done wrongly. There are many things, Sir, that have happened wrongly. I can tell him that in the Informal Consultative Committee and other places I would take the opportunity of his advice.

SHRI UMANATH : We are boycotting it.

DR. CHANNA REDDY : I am sorry, Sir, that unfortunately he is not a member

of that Committee, but I would extend my invitation to him and he can come any time so that we can sit together and discuss. There has been a suggestion in that Committee that some of the hon. Members form a Sub-Committee and go into various things. I would welcome that kind of suggestion. After all these Committees' and hon. Members' suggestions will go a long way to help us and I would like to tell him and assure him and others that we will try to take note of these things and try to see how best we can do it.

For the other points, I may kindly be excused as there is no time now.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I shall now put the cut motions to the vote of the House.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands No. 72 to 74 and 125 relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals,"

The motion was adopted

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha, are reproduced below—Ed.]

Demand No. 72—Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 33,16,000/- be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals.'"

Demand No. 73—Geological Survey.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 9,17,38,000/- be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Geological Survey'."

Demand No. 74—Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,49,05,000/- be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals'."

Demand No. 125—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,16,88,79,000/- be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals'."

16.55 hrs.

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 57 to 59 and 120 relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for which 3 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members present in the House who are desirous of moving their cut motions may send slips to the Table within 15 minutes indicating the serial numbers of the cut motions they would like to move.

Demand No. 57—Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 17,46,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the

31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

Demand No. 58.—Broadcasting.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,45,81,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Broadcasting'."

Demand No. 59—Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,05,12,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

Demand No. 120—Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,68,96,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1969, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

श्री P. N. सोलंकी.

Before I call upon the hon. Member to speak, there is one thing. The time is very limited. May I know how much time the hon. Minister would take ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. K. SEAH) : I will be satisfied with 45 minutes.