

MR. SPEAKER This is only a submission ; not a point of order.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : So, how can you allow only a few chosen members ; I would rather say a few members, and not 'chosen' members ?

MR. SPEAKER You are also chosen sometimes. As you are chosen They have given notice of it. There was no Calling Attention notice today and they gave notice of it this morning and I allowed them.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru)
Sir, I would request you to give us an opportunity discuss all the statements that have been laid on the Table of the House regarding land reforms. Not only the policy of land reforms but every income of an individual or an institution should be discussed. That is my contention. Only last week, the hon. Minister made a statement. As Shri Samar Guha also said, that statement may also be discussed. Though it is a State subject, the directions are being given by the Government of India also. They have appointed the Central Land Reforms Committee. They have not yet given any report. So, I would request you to give us full opportunity, may be one or two days, if possible, to discuss it.

श्री मुल्की राज सैनी (देहरादून) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह एक ऐसा सवाल है जिसमें हम देश में जनतांत्रिक तरीके से शांतिमय क्रांति लाना चाहते हैं और एक नयी व्यवस्था स्थापित करना चाहते हैं। इसमें छोटे किसानों का भी सवाल है और बड़े किसानों का भी सवाल है इसलिये इस पर पूरी बहस होनी चाहिए।

MR. SPEAKER. If the Business Advisory Committee decides to allot some time for it, I have no objection.

12.22 hrs.

DEMANDS* FOR GRANTS, 1972-73—Contd.

MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES—Contd

MR. SPEAKER : We will now take up

further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Steel and Mines. Shri Damodar Pandey was on his legs. He may continue now.

श्री दामोदर पांडे (हजारीबाग) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल मैं जैसा कह रहा था कि भविष्य के लिये इस सम्बन्ध में हमारी पालिसी स्पष्ट होनी चाहिए और उस दिशा में ठोस कदम उठाने चाहिए। राष्ट्र की प्रगति के लिये जरूरी है कि उद्योग प्रगति करे और उद्योग का चक्का सारे देश में चले। उस चक्के को चलाने के लिये शक्ति की आवश्यकता होती है। वह शक्ति कोयले और दूसरी वस्तुओं से मिलती है जो कि चक्के को चलाती है। कोयले का सब्स्टीट्यूट निकालने का जो अभी तक प्रयास किया गया वह बहुत सफल नहीं हुआ और नये तरीके से फिर हम कोयले के ऊपर आये हैं। देश में इसकी मात्रा बढ़ी है और इसकी आवश्यकता भी बढ़ी है। उस संदर्भ में मैं कह रहा था कि अपने देश में कोयले के जो भण्डार हैं उनके विकास के लिये नये सिरे से सबसे पहले यह जरूरी है कि खान की मिलियत समाप्त हो और पूरे कोल के भण्डार का राष्ट्रीयकरण एक साथ किया जाये और नये सिरे से सोचें कि किस तरह से विकास करना है।

हमारे देश में कोकिंग कोल की कमी है लेकिन नान-कोकिंग कोल के जो अक्षय भण्डार अपने यहाँ हैं उन भण्डार में हम काफी आगे की दिशा में सोचकर उपाय कर सकते हैं। अभी कोयले के उत्पादन की समस्या नहीं है। यदि कोयले के उत्पादन की समस्या होती तो उसे दूसरे ढंग से सोचा जा सकता था। कोयले के उत्पादन के साथ साथ कोयले का ट्रांसपोर्टेशन, कोयले को एक जगह से दूसरी जगह ले जान की व्यवस्था करना बहुत जरूरी चीज है। अभी कोयले के उद्योग के विकास की दिशा में जब हम बात करते हैं तो यह उवादा जरूरी हो जाता है कि उसे कम से कम दूरी तय करनी पड़े ऐसी

*Moved with the recommendation of the President

[श्री दामोदर पांडे]

व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। जल्द यह है कि जहाँ जहाँ बहुत नान-कोकिंग कोल के भण्डार हैं वहाँ लो टेम्प्रेचर कार्बोनाइजेशन प्लांट स्थापित किये जायें। उससे हम उद्योग के लिये भी गैस बढ़ा सकते हैं और शत्रुओं में जलाने के लिये भी गैस दे सकते हैं। उद्योग की स्थापना इस ढंग से की जाये कि कम से कम दूरी तय करके कोयला वहाँ आमानी से पहुँच सके। इसमें रेल मंत्रालय का भी बहुत बड़ा हाथ है, वे भी इस सम्बन्ध में बहुत बड़ा पार्ट अदा कर सकते हैं। तो इस दिशा में कदम उठाया जायेगा, ऐसा मेरा विश्वास है।

कोयला उद्योग में माइक्रोनाइजेशन, रिस्ट्रक्चर की बात जो कल मैंने कही थी उसका मतलब यह नहीं है, मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि उसके विकास के लिए मशीन न लगाई जाये। मशीन भी आवश्यक है क्योंकि हर स्तर पर सिर्फ आदमी ही काम नहीं कर सकता है। मशीनों की भी आवश्यकता पड़ती है। लेकिन केवल वही मशीनें लगाई जाये जिनका कि उपयोग हो सके। जिन मशीनों का उपयोग नहीं हो सकता और जिनमें पड़े पड़े जंग लग जाता है उनका आयात करने से देश को कोई फायदा नहीं होता है। तो मेरा ख्याल है भविष्य के लिए जो रिस्ट्रक्चरिंग की बात करते हैं कोल माइन्स की उसमें हमी चीज को ध्यान में रखा जाये कि कम से कम मशीनों का उपयोग किया जाये। लेबर इन्टेन्सिव जिसको कहते हैं उस ढंग से मोचा जाए। वैसे तो यह उद्योग लेबर इन्टेन्सिव है लेकिन उस दिशा में थोड़ा दूरे ढंग से काम हुआ है और आज मजदूरों की संख्या कम होनी जा रही है। जहाँ पहले चार लाख 8 हजार मजदूर काम करते थे आज मुश्किल से तीन लाख 80 हजार मजदूर काम करते हैं लेकिन प्रोडक्शन में बहुत बड़ी तब्दीली नहीं हुई है। तो हम तरह से जो बेरोजगारी की संख्या बढ़ती जा रही है उसके लिए मेरा ख्याल है मशीनों पर थोड़ा प्रतिबन्ध लगा करके, मजदूरों को अधिक से अधिक रोजगार मिले, बेकार लोगों

को रोजगार मिले इसकी व्यवस्था करने की दिशा में भी, जो लोग रिस्ट्रक्चरिंग की बात करते हैं, सोचना चाहिए।

विक्रम की दिशा में प्रगति करने के लिये वैसे तो सभी क्षेत्रों में जहाँ जहाँ नान-कोकिंग कोल का भण्डार है वहाँ उद्योग-खण्ड स्थापित करने चाहिए और बड़े बड़े जो पावर जेनरेटिंग यूनिट्स हैं अकबर ध्यान रखा गया है कि उन्हें नजदीक से खोला जाये लेकिन अभी भी बहुत कुछ किया जा सकता है क्योंकि पावर जेनरेशन के लिए हमें कोयले की आवश्यकता है और उसकी देश में कमी नहीं है। तो वैसे क्षेत्रों में जहाँ ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की सुविधा हो, जहाँ कम से कम दूरी तय करके पावर-जेनरेटिंग यूनिट भी स्थापना की जा सकती है उनकी स्थापना की जानी चाहिए। मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान हम और आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि एन० सी० डी० सी० ने एक अच्छा खामा प्लान बनाकर रखा है। उस पर कुछ पैसा भी खर्च किया है, रामगढ़ काम्प्लेक्स के नाम पर, उनमें लो टेम्प्रेचर कार्बोनाइजेशन प्लांट है, फाटिलाइजर प्लांट है और उसके बगल में बिहार गवर्नमेंट एक सुपर पावर हाउस खोलने का भी विचार रखती है जिसमें काफी कोयले की खपत होगी तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि उस पर अबिलम्ब ध्यान दिया जाये जिससे 15-20 हजार लोगों को तुरन्त काम मिल सके।

इसके अतिरिक्त वैसे क्षेत्रों में जहाँ आवा-गमन की सुविधा और कोयला उत्पादन के लिए ट्रांसपोर्टेशन की सुविधा उपलब्ध नहीं हो सकती है, मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि उस ओर अबिलम्ब ध्यान दें। हजारीबाग क्षेत्र में इसका बड़ा भारी भण्डार है लेकिन बहुत बड़े इलाके ऐसे भी हैं जहाँ रेल लाइन नहीं गई है तो कोल के खदान तो खोल दिये जायें और रेलवे लाइन न हो यह ताजुब की बात है। ऐसी स्थिति में कोयले का दुष्प्रयोग होता है। जो अच्छा कोल है उसको इतर

बनाने के काम में भेज दिया जाता है और ट्रक से डोमेस्टिक वजमशन के लिये भेज दिया जाता है और औद्योगिक उत्पादन के लिये जो उसकी जरूरत होती है उसके मुताबिक वहाँ पर कोयला पहुँच नहीं पाता है।

मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह मंत्रालय रेल मंत्रालय के साथ बैठ कर इस पर विचार करे कि इतना बड़ा जो भंडार है केडला हज़ारीबाग कोयला क्षेत्र का और दूसरे इलाक़ के जा कि यह फ़ायर करने जा रहे है, लेने जा रहा है, उन में रेल लाइस की व्यवस्था की जाय, माइडिंग बनाई जाय जिससे कि उस कोयले का सही उपयोग हो सके और उसे जल्दी स्थान पर पहुँचाया जा सके।

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wandiwash)
Sir, the production and consumption of steel is accepted as an indicator of the economic prosperity of a country. We produce about 6 million tonnes ingots of steel. Out of this finished steel is only about 4½ million tonnes. When compared to the total production of the world, I think we produce only 1% of the total production.

Regarding consumption, the per capita consumption, in other countries is USA—685 kg, USSR 428 kg, Sweden—628 kg, West Germany 579 kg, Japan 494 kg, whereas in our country, the per capita consumption is only 11 kg. This shows the position in which India stands as far as steel is concerned.

Since there is a continuous shortage of steel in our country, we are constrained to import steel from abroad to the tune of Rs. 200 crores per annum. How are you going to increase the production of steel and thereby the consumption is a question a big question posed before the Ministry.

The Hindustan Steel Ltd is the main producer of steel in our country in the public sector where we have invested more than Rs. 1050 crores. The three steel plants of Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela are under HSL and unfortunately, we have been incurring losses from year to year and I think till March 1971, the total losses are Rs. 178

crores. Of course, the report says that there are many reasons. Particularly, last year there was break down of the coke-oven batteries in Bhilai, the collapse of the roof in Rourkela and the very disturbed industrial relations in Durgapur which is as usual going on.

But, when seeing the total figure, how are we faring in the last 2-3 years? It is disturbing to note that from year to year our total production is going down. The production in the three steel plants put together in 19-70 was 3.7 million tonnes, in 1970-71 it was 3.6 million tonnes and in 1971-72 it came down to 3.4 million tonnes. The production is not only very much lower than the rated capacity but it is still lower than the attainable capacity.

This problem of coke-oven batteries is not new. I know in the last report it is mentioned that even two years ago when the Committee on Public Undertakings visited—you were the Chairman at that time—we were told that the same problem existed even at that time. I think hence this problem should have been tackled for the last 2-3 years at least and it is a lapse on the part of HSL that has led to the losses ultimately. It is not only this trouble of coke-oven batteries but there is also the shortage of ingots for the steel melting shops. I thought that the Minister has to take immediate steps to maintain and replace the batteries. Something is wrong with our maintenance organisation. Otherwise, this will not have been repeated. The unfortunate calamity that occurred in Rourkela should not be repeated and I think the Minister is taking steps. A regular and continuous preventive maintenance is an immediate necessity and I think HSL must be held responsible for this. In case of breakdowns we do not know on how many people the responsibility has been fixed. So far the question has been hanging fire even in Rourkela. The responsibility has not been fixed. If it is fixed on a particular person or groups of persons then they will be more responsible in future and this responsibility will be there on the part of workers, employers, on the part of officers etc.

Regarding cost of production and prices the PU Committee had gone into this in detail. They have said cost of production

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is going up from year to year. Now, where do we stand? The main reasons are two. First is the increasing cost of the raw materials, productive materials and operating costs. The Committee has given a number of suggestions to reduce the productive materials cost. The Minister has to act *swiftly and firmly in regard to the operation cost*. Because, unless we effectively bring down operating cost, we will not be able to control the prices of steel. It is often argued by Minister or by the Hindustan Steel people that compared to world price, our price of steel is low. The Committee has examined the same thing. It has disagreed with Government's view or of the HSL. It has also suggested that because the Hindustan Steel has the best equipments and most modern, sophisticated machinery, we should be able to get more production at a lower cost. Steel produced from HSL is basic material for many of the manufacturing industries. When Steel price goes up, cost of manufacturing goods goes up in the market also. The Committee therefore suggested this :

"The Committee therefore emphasise the need to reduce the cost of production instead of having a vicious race between the cost of production and the selling price."

Regarding overstaffing, this is almost a regular feature in most of our public sector undertakings. The Committee on Public Undertakings found that the actual staff strength in the Works Department of Rourkela and Bhilai steel plants was about double the number provided in the project report of the expansion of the steel plant. But unfortunately the Industrial Engineering Department of HSL says that there is no over-staffing. But ultimately the question was examined by the Bureau of Public Enterprises and later on by the Administrative staff college at Hyderabad and they were of the opinion that there was definitely over-staffing in HSL. I don't say that overstaffed officers should be retrenched and sent home. At least in future we should see that over-staffing is avoided. Present surplus staff may be absorbed in future expansion of steel plants. They should get the expert opinion in this respect. Until and unless

they get the expert opinion, no appointments should be made.

Sir, industrial relation is the most important factor not only in production but also in determining the cost of production. All of us, employ, employee, members of the public Parliament, everybody is responsible, since we believe in public sector undertakings. We must put our heads together to see that cordial industrial relations exist. Not only that. The management of public undertakings must feel that they are the model employer in the country and they should be generous towards the demands of labour. The Unions and workers should feel that it is not a private sector. Ultimately it is the functioning of the public sector undertakings that is going to be the indicator of the future development of the country. They should believe that it is for the advantage and benefit of the public. Otherwise people will think that it is only a lip-service.

I think that all the parties should be held responsible for this and we must see that all these public sector undertakings flourish well as compared with the private sector.

Regarding the expansion programme of the plants, normally when we expand a plant, we expect that we should get some advantage not only in production but also in prices. I very much doubt whether our expansion programme is going to give us these advantages.

The biggest plant that we are having in the public sector is the Bokaro Steel Ltd. The original estimate for the first stage, apart from the off-site facilities which were given, was Rs. 620 crores. Later on, we had a revised estimate which has made the total shoot up to Rs. 90 crores more. We are told that this revised estimate has been sent to the Government and it is pending with them for more than two years waiting for the approval of Government. I want to know from the hon. Minister why Government should take two years to approve the revised estimate sent by their own undertaking. Again, Parliament has been kept in the dark about the revised estimate, because about Rs. 90 crores of public money is going to be spent in excess. I think that Parliament should be informed of the revised estimate,

We should have learnt from our past experience, at least from the HSL where we have committed very costly mistakes, and these things shou'd not be repeated at Bakaro. There has been delay in construction, and organisational failures have also been there. The construction has been delayed for more than two years, and we shou'd see that at least now the works are completed in time.

Regarding the contract with the USSR, the Committee has been very critical and has said :

"The result was that while on the one hand the supplies were deficient to the extent of 10,000 tonnes for the first blast furnace complex, a large number of items of rolling mills required much later have already been supplied."

I think the hon. Minister must take into consideration the criticism of the Public Undertakings Committee and see that this kind of thing is avoided the future.

Now, I come to the mini-steel plants. The question came up today also. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether Government stand by the Industrial Policy Resolution or not. The hon. Minister should come forward with a clear statement on this matter. Para 7 of the Industrial Policy Resolution states :

"In the first category will be the industries, the future development of which will be the exclusive responsibility of the State."

Again, in para 8 we have :

"All new units in these industries..."

that is, Schedule A industries, where iron and steel finds a place—

"...save where their establishment in the private sector has already been approved, will be set up only by the State."

The hon. Minister has been avoiding to state how many licences have been issued to the private sector as compared to the public sector. We had an interesting debate in the Rajya Sabha also, where Shri Shah-

nawaz Khan had given one figure and the hon. Minister Shri S Mohan Kumaramanglam gave a different figure and there was discrepancy...

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : The hon. Member is not correct. No different figures were given. The figures were different in relation to different questions.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : I hope he will give the complete answer in the course of his reply to the debate.

The point that I wanted to make was this. While we believe in the socialist objectives and we say that we must own the commanding heights and especially in steel and mines which is a very important public sector undertaking, why should we give licences to the private sector, and why should we not give it to the State public sector undertakings ? There are many backward States and backward regions. Why should the Government of India not insist, even if those States do not come forward, that they should run those units ? I want to know from Government how many such licences have been given to the private sector. I do not want to say that they must have taken money from them for the elections. Even if that be so, I want to know how many licences have been issued to them.

Regarding the three new steel plants which are going to come up, I know that Government are taking keen interest. But I want to point out that the techno-economic feasibility report had been submitted long back; I think it was submitted in November or so, as far as Salem is concerned, and enough land has been acquired. I want Government to expedite the matter and take a decision as far investment is concerned, and as far as the commissioning of the DPR of the Salem plant is concerned.

I now come to another very important matter regarding my State, and that is the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. Not only does it produce lignite but it produces about 40 per cent of the total power supplied to our State. Even a paper like *The Hindu* which is known for its moderate views has

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commented as follows :

"The thermal power station has proved to be a case of inefficient planning and mismanagement"

And this year, the power production has gone down, mainly because of lack of lignite availability. We have been pressing Government for a second mine-cut for a long time

Government are sleeping over the matter. They themselves say that the machinery is old and outdated. I want to know from the Minister when they are going to get new machinery and when the second mine cut is going to be ordered. They say that the machinery may come by the end of the year. I would urge upon the Minister to give immediate financial help to the Neyveli Lignite Corporation so that power generation in the plant could be maximised which will alleviate the power shortage in the State of Tamil Nadu.

श्री प्रबोध चन्द्र (बुधवारपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, स्टील प्लांट्स द्वारा मुल्क की तरक्की की निम्नानी और तरक्की का एक सूचक होता है। उसके बारे में कहने के लिए जब कोई आदमी खड़ा होता है.....

श्री हुकमचन्द कछवाय (भुरेला) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : गण पूर्ति के लिए घटी बजाई जा रही है।.....घब कोरम हो गया। माननीय सदस्य अपना भावण जारी रखें।

एक माननीय सदस्य : अब तो लंच अवर है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी लंच अवर नहीं शुरू हुआ। यह ठीक नहीं है कि लंच के पहले भी हाउस में कोरम न हो। यह बहुत गलत बात है। अगर इसके बाद कोरम न हुआ तो मैं हाउस ऐडजर्न कर दूंगा। मालूम होता है कि मेम्बरों का हाउस में दिल ही नहीं लगता है।

श्री प्रबोध चन्द्र : हमारी स्टील मिनिस्ट्री के जो मिनिस्टर हैं वह बेहतरीन मिनिस्टरों में से माने जाते हैं। उनकी काबिलियत और अहलियत, उनकी मेहनत पर किसी को कोई शक नहीं है, मगर जो हमारे देश की स्टील मिल है वह हमारे देश की नाअहलियत की बोलनी हुई तस्वीर है। हमारे मुल्क की जो भी स्टील मिलें हैं अगर उनका मुकाबला आप दूसरे मुल्कों की स्टील मिलों से करें..... मैं जापान और जर्मनी जैसे बड़े बड़े मुल्कों का जिक्र यहां पर नहीं करता, जो हमारे साथ के, हमारे पाये के मुल्क हैं उनके साथ भी अगर मुकाबला किया जाये.... तो हमारे मुल्क की स्टील की कीमत सबसे ज्यादा है और प्रोडक्शन के लिहाज में जो पर-वर्कर प्रोडक्शन है वह सबसे कम है। खास कर उस हानल में जब इन बड़ी-बड़ी स्टील मिलों में हमारे देश का इतना रपया लगता है तब इतनी बेरहमी में उस रुपये को मर्फ करने के बाद हमारे ऊपर बहुत बड़ी जिम्मेदारी आ जाती है।

आज से तकरीबन 38 साल पहले हमारी कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन दुनिया के तमाम मुल्कों से कम थी। बल्कि हावड़ा ब्रिज जब बना तो हमें जिस कीमत पर स्टील मिला वह दुनिया के जो टेन्डर थे उनमें कम से कम कीमत पर मिला जो उसके पीछे यह भी बात थी कि हिन्दुस्तान की स्टील की इण्डस्ट्री को तरक्की दी जाय। मगर आज हमारे मुल्क की स्टील मिलों की क्या हालत है? मिनिस्ट्रो के मुंह से सुनकर अफसोस होता है कि हमारे स्टील प्रोडक्शन की कमी की वजह यह है कि रेलगाड़ियां नहीं मिलती, कोयला नहीं मिलना, हमारे यहां पर रिफ्रेक्ट्रीज नहीं हैं। इससे ज्यादा खराब बात और क्या हो सकती है कि इन चीजों की कमी महसूस की जाए। आखिरकार मिनिस्टर तो इनकी बनाने वाला नहीं है। जब प्लानिंग हुई थी इन स्टील मिलों की उस वक़्त इसकी सबसे पहले आपकी देखना चाहिये था कि चीजों चीजें इन मिलों को चलाने के लिए जरूरी हैं

वे हमारे देश में मिल सकती है या नहीं मिल सकती हैं।

अभी चन्द दिन पहले स्टील एडवाइजरी कमेटी की मीटिंग हुई थी और उसमें दम्तूर एण्ड कम्पनी की एक रिपोर्ट पर चर्चा हुई थी। तब यह बताया गया था कि ये जो मिले हम बनाने जा रहे हैं और जिन पर कगोडो रुपया हमारा खर्च होगा उनकी 88 परसेंट कंपैसिटी भी यज्ञ अगर हमने की तो चांसिस हैं कि वे ब्रेक अप हो जाएं और आने वाले पच्चीस साल में कुल मुनाफा जो है वह 4.5 परसेंट से ज्यादा नहीं देगी जबकि प्राज बड़े से बड़े बैंक का भी इन्टेस्ट आठ या नौ परसेंट है। हमसे कैसे हमारा काम चल सकेगा। अगर पब्लिक के रुपये से जो आमदनी होती है वह 4.5 होगी तो हमारे लिए यह मोचना जरूरी हो जाता है कि आखिर कमजोरी क्यों है और कहा है।

आप दूसरे मुल्को के साथ आने देग का मुकाबला करे तो आपको पना चलेगा कि हमारे मुल्क का जो स्टील का प्रोडक्शन है वह मातवें या आठवे नम्बर पर आता है। जापान एक छोटा सा देश है और हमारी तरह से वह भी एशियाटिक कट्री है और उसकी मिसाल आप लें। उन्होंने अपनी इस इंडस्ट्री को आगे ले जाना था तो उनके बड़े बड़े इंजीनियर जहाजों में भजदूरों के लौर पर गए और अमरीका की इन्डस्ट्री के जितने भी राज थे उनकी अपने मुल्क की बेहतरी के लिए वे लेकर आए। वे राज क्या हैं, इसको हमें देखना होगा। हमारे देश में तो यह समझा जाता है कि आई० ए० एस० अमृतधारा की तरह से होता है जो सब बीमारियों का इलाज कर देता है। जिस तरह से अमृतधारा से सब बीमारियां दूर हो जाती हैं उसी तरह से आई० ए० एस० या आई० सी० ए० एस० का जो केडर है चाहे उन्होंने कभी लोहे का नाम भी न सुना हो, हम समझ लेते हैं कि वे इस काबिल हैं कि लोहे की बड़ी से बड़ी मिश्रणों को वे चला सकते हैं।

मैं समझता हूँ कि हमें इसमें शर्म महसूस नहीं होनी चाहिए कि हम बड़े आफिसर्स का पुल कर रहे हैं। हिन्दुस्तान में स्टील मिले कोई तीस चालीस साल पहले चालू हो गई थीं। टाटा के साथ श्राप अपनी स्टील मिल का मुवाबला करे। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा था कि टाटा की मिलें बहुत सस्ती लगी है, बहुत पुरानी लगी है इसलिए उनको मुनाफा होता है और हमारी ये मिलें बड़ी कीमती मिलें आई हैं। लेकिन जब वह यह कहते हैं तो इस बात को वह भूल जाते हैं कि वे तो पुरानी मिले हैं और जो हमारी मिलें हैं वे मौफिस्टिकेटिड मिलें हैं। इन हमारी मिलों के साथ अगर वे मिलें मुकाबला कर सकी हैं तो मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर वे हमारी मिलों से अच्छी चल रही हैं तो यह काबिले फर्र वान है और पचाम साल पुरानी मिलें आज की नई मिलों के साथ मुकाबला करने की स्थिति में हैं। मैंने एक सवाल वजीर साहब से पूछा था। अगर आप उन तमाम फौसिलिटीज को सामने रखें जोकि पब्लिक मंत्र की मिलों को मिलती हैं और उसके बावजूद भी जो घाटा होता है उस सबका अगर अन्दाजा लगाया जाय तो मेरा ख्याल है कि पांच साल में सभी मिलों का जितना सरमाया है वह खत्म हो जाएगा।

एक और चीज देखने को मिलनी है। आज से चालीस साल पहले हमारी मिले यह कोशिश करती थी कि अच्छे से अच्छा स्टील पैदा किया जाय और मुनाफे को वे दूसरा स्थान देती थीं। लेकिन आज हमारी मिले यह कोशिश करती हैं कि ऐसी चीजें पैदा की जाएं जिससे ज्यादा से ज्यादा मुनाफा मिले, फिर चाहे देश का उससे कितना ही नुकसान क्यों न हो।

जहाजों के लिए हमें जो स्टील चाहिये वह सब हम पैदा नहीं करते हैं। मशीनरी के लिए हमें स्टील चाहिये और वह भी सब हम पैदा नहीं करते हैं काफ़ी हिस्सा इस सब का हम इम्पोर्ट करते हैं। अगर हम मुनाफे का ख्याल न रखें और उन चीजों को पैदा करें जिनसे देश में

[श्री प्रबोध चन्द्र]

छोटी छोटी इंडस्ट्रीज हो सकती है तो आखिर मे जाकर आप देखेंगे कि जितना घाटा इस किस्म के स्टील को पैदा करने से हमारी बड़ी स्टील मिलों को हुआ है, देश को उससे कहीं ज्यादा मुनाफा हो चुका होगा। हमारी शिप बिल्डिंग में जो स्टील लगता है उसका शायद पाच या दस परसेंट ही हमारे यहाँ बनना होगा लायडज के मुकाबले में मिनी स्टील प्लांट आप बना रहे हैं। मे समझता हूँ कि कोई न कोई इस में कोओर्डिनेशन होना चाहिये। मिनी स्टील मिल क्या बनायेगी और जो दूसरी मिलें हैं वे क्या बनाएंगी? सिर्फ मुनाफे पर नजर रखकर किसी चीज को बनाना इस देश की बहुवादी के लिए काफी मुजिब बात होगी। तीन चार मिनी स्टील मिलें आप लगा रहे हैं। हम वहाँ-इस बात पर कंसर्ट्रेट करें कि हम एक मिल के जिम्मे—यह लगा दे कि इस खास किस्म का स्टील वह बनाए क्योंकि वह स्टील हमारे मुल्क में पैदा नहीं होता और इसके लिए हमें दूसरे मुल्कों पर डिपेंड करना पड़ता है। फिर चाहे हमारी डिफेंस इंडस्ट्री हो, शिप बिल्डिंग इंडस्ट्री हो, इंजीनियरिंग इंडस्ट्री हो, उन सबके वास्ते हमें काफी तादाद में खास किस्म का स्टील बाहर से मंगाना पड़ता है और हमारी कोशिश होनी चाहिए कि एक एक मिल के जिम्मे लगा कर हम उसको अपनी ही मिलों में तैयार करवाए।

बार बार यह कहा गया है कि हमारी स्टील मिलों में पैदावार में कमी की एक बहुत बड़ी वजह यह भी है कि यहाँ स्ट्राइक्स बड़ी होती हैं प्राइवेट सैक्टर की मिलों के मुकाबले में जब कि वहाँ बेजिज भी कम मिलती है। फिर चाहे आप इंडियन आयरन एण्ड स्टील कम्पनी को ले या टाटा को लें और वहाँ की बेजिज को ले तो आपको पता लगेगा कि वहाँ बहुत कम स्ट्राइक्स होती हैं। यहाँ स्ट्राइक मजदूर नहीं बल्कि अफसर बहुत करवाते हैं। बड़े अफसरों के

साथ मुझे यह कहना पड़ता है कि दो साल पहले अगर एक अफसर के खिलाफ इनएफिक्वेंसी या नाअह्लियत के सबूत थे और उनको इसका सर्टिफिकेट दिया जाना है तो अगले साल उसे पद्मश्री का खिताब दे दिया जाता है। मुहतरिम बजीर साहब से मैं कहूँ कि उनको इस तरह जरूर ध्यान देना होगा कि हमारी इन स्टील मिलों में आए दिन क्यों स्ट्राइक्स होती हैं प्राइवेट सैक्टर की स्टील मिलों के मुकाबले में। किसी अफसर को जिम्मेवारी के औहदे पर या टैक्नीकल औहदे पर रखने से पहले हमको चाहिए कि हम देखें कि उसको इसका कुछ इन्फो भी है या नहीं है। अगर आप यही देखेंगे कि कोई फ्रंट डिविजन की बी ए है या ग्राई ए एस है और उसको स्टील मिल में रख लिया जाना चाहिए तो इसमें स्टील मिल नहीं चल सकेगी।

आप दूर न जायें। दो तीन प्राइवेट सैक्टर की मिलें हैं। इंडियन आयरन है, टिमको है, टाटा है। आप अब आकड़े निकाल कर देखें कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील में जितना मालाना उत्पादन होता है और यहाँ जितना होता है उसके मुकाबले में हमारे यहाँ—स्टाफ किंगना है। अगर आउटपुट का मुकाबला किया जायगा तो आपको जान कर हैरानी होगी कि हमारे यहाँ दुगुने से भी ज्यादा स्टाफ है इन प्राइवेट मिलों के मुकाबले में। यह इनएफिक्वेंसी की वजह से नहीं है बल्कि बहुत ज्यादा स्टाफ होने की वजह से भी इनएफिक्वेंसी होती है।

जब हम हिन्दुस्तान स्टील से या कहीं और से दो टन सरिया लेने जाते हैं तो जवाब मिल जाता है कि स्टाफ में नहीं है लेकिन ब्लैक में आप चाहे जितना ले लें। मोतिया खान में जाकर आप देख लें जिस किस्म का लोहा आपको चाहिए, मिल जाएगा। यह कहा से आता है? कोई आस्मान से या विलायत से तो वह आता नहीं है। यह जो डिस्ट्रीब्यूशन है यह गलत होता है। जिन आदमियों को अफसर नहीं,

उनको—लोहा दे दिया जाता है। वह जा कर ब्लैक मार्किट में बिकता है। जिन को लोहे की जरूरत है उनको नहीं दिया जाता है। उन बेचारों को अपने छोटे मोटे कारखाने बन्द करने पड़ जाते हैं या ब्लैक मार्किट में ले कर अपनी रोजी कमाने पड़ती है। मिनिस्टर साहब जांच करें कि जो अलायमेंट स्टील का होता है वह कड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज को क्यों ज्यादा किया जाता है और आया उनके यहाँ उसकी खपत उतनी होती है या नहीं होती है।

सैंकड़ों साल पहले से हमारे गांवों में ब्लैकस्मिथ काम करते आ रहे हैं। वे बेहतरीन स्टील बनाते थे। सौ साल पहले का बना हुआ हल आज के हल से कहीं ज्यादा ताकतवर, कहीं ज्यादा मजबूत और कहीं ज्यादा अच्छा होता था। आज पैदा होने वाला स्टील सौ साल पहले पैदा होने वाले स्टील का मुकाबला नहीं कर सकता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप क्वालिटी की तरफ भी तबज्जह दें।

छोटी इंडस्ट्रीज को आगे ले जाने के लिए यह निहायत जरूरी है कि मुनाफे पर नजर न रखी जाए और उनकी जरूरतों के मुताबिक हम अपने देश में स्टील पैदा करें। इससे वकनी तौर पर जरूर आपकी नुकसान होगा और शायद इस वजह से ज्यादा क्रिटिसिज्म भी हो कि हिन्दुस्तान स्टील को 50 करोड़ का घाटा हुआ है लेकिन आप देखेंगे कि हिन्दुस्तान के लाखों जो मिडल क्लास इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट हैं, उनको कहीं ज्यादा उससे फायदा होगा।

इस लिए मैं अपने मोहतरिम साथी से कहूँगा कि सिर्फ हूर छोटे बड़े अफसर को डिफेंड करने से काम नहीं चलेगा। उस की बहुत इन्टीमेटली देखना होगा कि क्या अफसरों में नाअह्लियत है या किसी और बात की कमी है। आखिर कोई बात तो जरूर है, जिस की वजह से हमारी इंडस्ट्री दिन-ब-दिन नीचे जा रही है। कुछ दिन पहले अखबारों में छपा था कि अगर हैवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स का घाटा इसी तरह जारी रहा,

तो वह दो तीन साल में सारा सरमाया खा जायेगा। यह ऐसी हालत है, जिस पर हमें काफी तशवीस होनी चाहिए और जिस पर गौर करना चाहिए।

मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर श्री कुमारमंगलम के होते हुए हम अपने स्टील प्लांट्स को ठीक नहीं कर सकते, तो शायद वह दिन कभी नहीं आयेगा, जब हम उन को ठीक कर सकें। जब वह मिनिस्टर बने थे, तो मैंने उन्हें लिखा था कि क्या मैं उन्हें मुबारकबाद दूँ या उन के साथ हमदर्दी कहीं क्योंकि उन को विरासत में ऐसी चीजें मिली हैं, जिन के चारों तरफ गन्दगी है, लेकिन मुझे विश्वास है कि जिस चीज में भी वह हाथ डालते है उस में बेहतरी करते है। मुझे अब भी तबक्को है—मुझे इस बारे में मायूमी नहीं है—कि वह इस तरफ तबज्जुह दे कर उस इंडस्ट्री को, जिस पर सारे देश की इंडस्ट्रीज निर्भर करती हैं, मजबूत पावों पर खड़ा करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

13 hrs.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA (Domarlagan): Mr. Speaker, Sir. I shall try to be very brief in putting before the House such of my views that I hold in generality with regard to the demands that are before us for discussion. This is indeed the most fundamental and most important demand that we are discussing in the House and I have also no doubt that this Ministry is held in the ablest hands of the Cabinet; and, therefore, so far as the Government is concerned and so far as the programmes of expansion and then the people involved in it are concerned, I have no doubt that their efforts will succeed and greatest efforts will be made to right the mistakes that might have occurred in the past, and which have occurred indoubtly in the past.

Mr. Speaker, as I see, the problems are much more difficult than most of us conceive. The task that faces this Ministry of Development of Mineral Resources of the country and its exploitation and production of steel, all its totality, are big complex in of tasks which require some basic introspec-

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tion as to whether our failures on several fronts are really only due to the inefficiency of a man here or a little planning there or there is something much more basic behind this. I believe in the letter and so I personally feel that we need not go into the past mistakes by way of cheap criticism. A qualitative change has come in the situation after the Ruling Party to which we have all the honour to belong, has committed itself to new goals so far as social progress is concerned and the radical nature of the progress is concerned. Therefore, it is not only the Government and the politicians who have to re-dedicate themselves to the great task that faces us but the services too have to deal with sincere Desire and the people in general also.

Recently, as the Reports show, there has been a fall in general—fall in the production of many of the basic products that we require for economic development.

There are various reasons for it like lack of transport, lack of raw materials, technical difficulties, etc. We have to examine as to why these difficulties have arisen and whether the social situation has satisfactorily changed for moving fastly towards helping progress. Even, so far as the problem of overstaffing in the several projects is concerned, it is not possible for us to solve it because in our democratic set-up, the States have their own political pressures in imposing workers on a public sector or private sector unit and the Centre has its own concept and there is a clash. It is not easy for the Centre to rationalise the whole complex problem of employment. Therefore, in its totality, we have to put up with it.

Similarly take transport. I have not made any calculation, but I personally feel that India is the country where there is the highest amount of railway travel in the whole world. With the kind of travelling we undertake on account of this mela or that flimsy reason and so many other things, the railway gets bogged down so much that the tracts are to carry more passengers and railways are not able to move the raw materials that are needed for the rapid progress of basic industries. So, either we

should expand the railways and increase their capacity or we should change our ways of life by which we put a restraint on travels so that we can move ahead faster towards building basic industries.

Restriction on consumption is a must before we can move fastly towards building up our basic industries. That is not being done. Under the new conditions, I would beg to Government to revise its concept so far as the consumption pattern in the country is concerned. The more you save the more you can concentrate on production. Then, there is the question of changing the entire psychology of those who are engaged today in this great venture of producing the basic goods. Their attitude has to change. If it does not change, I would warn the ministry that in spite of their best exercise, they will not be able to do anything. That attitude is not changing as fastly as I would like it. The management labour relations are also far from satisfactory. The public sector at any rate can now under the changed circumstances take up this question boldly and create a new pattern of relationship. Besides, we should take courage in our hands and leave a substantial initiative to the working class as an experiment to see whether a departure from the existing practice of controls by a few bureaucrats from the Government or from the technical units will do or leaving a substantial initiative to the labour class can deliver the goods. I personally feel that if we leave a substantial initiative to the workers, we can perhaps alter the situation in favour of rapid production. This will be an experiment in our bid to make a success of Parliamentary democracy for achieving socialism.

श्री हुकम चन्द कच्छवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय मेरा व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

MR. SPEAKER : The bell is being rung...now there is quorum.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Now, I wish to refer to another important aspect of the problems that face the Ministry. In this basic industry, the time has come for the Government to take a decision as to whether this mixed economy pattern should

stay or not. I personally feel that specially in the steel industry and in the major heavy engineering industry, both the systems cannot work even though the standards of accomplishments in public sector units continue as they are today.

One of the major reasons why we will not be able to increase our production according to rated capacity is the confusion that prevails today in the working, in the distribution pattern, in the organisational set-up and in many other political, economic and social aspects because both the sectors exist in trying to do their work in their own way. From this point of view also, I submit that the entire planning of steel production has to be taken up much more boldly than what the Government has so far been able to take or has ventured to do.

In this connection, I invite your attention to p. 22 of the Report which refers to the question having been handed over to the National Council of Applied Economic Research to make a projection study of steel demands. I do not know what was the basis of their study demands. But I for one try to see by the end of this century, 2000 A. D. what will be the pattern of our demand and how far shall we be more justified in having a heavier and a more massive planning than what we are able to do today. I would submit that even to convert our present society into a welfare State, we will require perhaps ten times more steel than what we are planning in the Fourth or Fifth or Sixth or Seventh Plan. By that time, the people will not wait for the estimates that you are making.

Take, for instance, drinking water. We have to give drinking water to all our 600,000 villages. How much steel is required to build water pipe-lines? We have to supply gas, fuel energy, to all these villages. Then comes lighting. All this requires a network of new pattern of transport system either for gas or for coal or for gas energy or for water, and we will require a colossal amount of steel, in order to complete this programme so that we may call ourselves merely a welfare state and not even a non-capitalist state, or a socialist state. This planning which was initiated by a project study of the National Council

of Applied Economic Research is far short of the needs that the people will have after 28 years from now. We will require so many things. I do not talk of big machinery. Our railways, our war machinery, our civil population, all will require far more than what has been planned. According to this, the rated capacity of the steel plants by the end of the Century may go up to a total of about 35 million tonnes or 40 million tonnes. Even if we take over Tatas and others the production cannot go beyond 35 or 40 million tonnes. But by that time our requirement will be hundreds of millions of tonnes in a year. Today America is producing about 100 million tonnes. Our total of annual production by the end of the Fourth Plan will not be 100 million tonnes according to the present rate. I, therefore, plead for a bolder plan; I plead for converting the whole pattern of our production into State control. I also want a more rigorous control on consumption so that we may be able to find the resources that are needed to expand our capacity. I have no time to go in details. It is said that about Rs. 2,000 per tonne are needed to plan our steel plants. Well, we can find these resources; I have no doubt about that, provided we really want to go socialist way. If we do not want to go the socialist way and if we have doubt in our minds, perhaps we will require another 75 years to become a welfare state where the basic needs might be met. Then, because of pressure of population even this slow progress will not be possible. You will not be able to achieve your objectives so long as the bureaucrats and technicians do not commit themselves to the public sector philosophy. Therefore, the entire complex of problems, social, political, technical and economic, have to be put into one sweep, and a thorough survey has to be made to find ways and means to transform our method of life and action. If the feudal approach to life continues and faster rate of steel production and removal of inefficiency from the steel plants will be impossible to achieve. Therefore, while we all should try to press the Ministry to be more efficient and to have a better coordination in order to make a rapid advance, we also have to see that we go the socialist way, we try to transform the entire thinking process and introduce in services and in the working of the production units, a new spirit a new

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dedication, in favour of public sector and not in favour of mixed sector.

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी (गया) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमःरा भारत खनिज सम्पदा से भरा है। इतनी खनिज सम्पदा है कि अगर उस को व्यवहार में लाया जाय, उस का उपयोग किया जाय तो हम अपनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति करते हुए दूसरे देशों की भी पूर्ति कर सकते हैं। किन्तु दुर्भाग्य है कि सारी आवश्यकताओं को देखने के बाद भी हम बहुत से मामलों में आत्म-निर्भर नहीं बन पाए हैं। बिहार की बात लें, हमारे माननीय सदस्य कहते हैं 314 खाने हैं जिन में से 311 बिहार में है। एक समाचार छपा है और उस समाचार को देखने के बाद ऐसा लगता है कि क्या औचित्य था, क्या कारण था आज से कुछ दिन पहले पूर्वी बंगाल में एक दिन घघवती हुई आग के विस्फोट होने का। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ क्या बिहार में इस तरह की सम्पदा है या नहीं? बिहार-वासियों के लिए उस का उपयोग किया जाता है या नहीं? कितने परसेंट बिहार-वासियों को नौकरी देते हैं? कितने परसेंट बिहार-वासियों को काम देते हैं? क्या नहीं आप वहाँ उद्योग-धन्धे स्थापित करते?

अध्यक्ष जी, इस में बताए गये आंकड़ों से स्पष्ट हो जाता है कि बिहार देश की ज़मीन से निकाली गई दौलत का एक तिहाई हिस्सा मुहिया करता है, पर फिर भी सबसे गरीब राज्य है। बाक्साइड 460783 टन, कोयला 31794 टन, खनिज ताम्बा 475744 टन, कच्चा लोहा 5709 टन, क्यानाइट तथा अन्नक 8888 टन, देश में सब से अधिक बिहार में पाया जाता है.....

एक माननीय सदस्य : यह सूचना गलत है। इस की अपनी बनाई हुई है।

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : यह दिनमान की सूचना है, यह 26 मार्च, 1972 का अंक है,

मेरी अपनी बनाई हुई नहीं है।

इतना ही नहीं समूचे भारत में 377 अरब रुपये का खनिज निकलता है, जिस में अकेले बिहार का योग 1.19 अरब रुपये खनिज का है, फिर भी बिहार में बारखानों की संख्या सिर्फ 381 है और इन में लगे हुए लोगों की संख्या 212020 है जब की सारे देश के खनिज पथार्थ में एक बड़े हिस्से का योगदान बिहार करता है।

इस का क्या कारण है? सारी सम्पदा हमारे बिहार में उपलब्ध होने के बावजूद बिहार को देश में उचित स्थान नहीं मिलता। 1942 में बिहार की देश में चौथी पोजीशन थी लेकिन अब 17वीं पोजीशन है। जहाँ भी देविये-उपेक्षा की जाती है। हमारे यहाँ उद्योग धन्धे होते हुए भी हमारे लोगों को उन में स्थान नहीं दिया जाता इसी लिये हमारा प्रदेश इतना पिछड़ गया है।

हम यहाँ पर प्रतिदिन चर्चा करते हैं कि रेल डिब्बों की कमी है, माल का ढेर लगा हुआ है लेकिन माल भेजा नहीं जा रहा है, क्योंकि रेल डिब्बे नहीं मिलते। हमारी उत्पादन क्षमता है, लेकिन उत्पादन नहीं है, क्षमता है, लेकिन माल निकाला नहीं जाता। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले 25 वर्षों के अन्दर खान और इस्पात मंत्रालय ने रेल विभाग से क्यों तालमेल नहीं बैठाया, क्यों डिब्बों की व्यवस्था नहीं हुई। माल बरसात में पड़ा रहता है, लेकिन भेजा जाता। रेल के डिब्बे उस समय मिलते हैं जब उन की जरूरत नहीं होती, लेकिन जब जरूरत होती है तब डिब्बे नहीं मिलते। मेरा सुझाव है कि ऐसे अबसरों पर माल को शहर से 50 किलोमीटर या 75 किलोमीटर की दूरी पर गोडाउन में रखा जाय और जब माल की जरूरत हो तो उस समय यदि रेल के डिब्बे उपलब्ध न हों तो ट्रकों से माल भेजा जाय।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या मैं आप से पूछ सकता हूँ कि आप कौन सी डिमाण्ड पर बोल रहे हैं।

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : मैं स्टील एण्ड माइन्ज पर बोल रहा हूँ। हमारे मंत्री महोदय ने रेल के डिब्बों की कमी का जिक्र किया था, इस लिये मैं उन से निवेदन कर रहा था कि वह रेल विभाग से ताल-मेल बैठाने के लिये शीघ्र से शीघ्र रेल के डिब्बों की व्यवस्था करें ताकि हमारा खनन का कार्य ठीक ढंग में चल सके।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस्पात आज हमारा बुनियादी उद्योग बन गया है, यह सामान्य जनता के उपयोग की चीज है किन्तु हमारे जैसे साधारण लोगों को, छोटे छोटे लोगों को बिल्कुल नहीं मिल पाता है। इस का क्या कारण है? मैं समझना हूँ या तो मैनेजमेंट की कमी है, या हमारे सरकारी अधिकारियों में कमी है। आज भी हमारे यहाँ का कच्चा माल दूसरे देशों को भेजा जाता है और दूसरे देशों में वही माल पक्का माल की शक्ल में, फिनिशड माल की शक्ल में महे दामों पर भगाना पड़ता है। इस व्यवस्था में अब सुधार होना चाहिये, लेकिन वह सुधार हो नहीं पाता। यहाँ तक कि कच्चा माल भी लोगों को, छोटे छोटे कारखानों को सीधे नहीं मिलता, बड़े बड़े कान्ट्रैक्टर उस को खरीद लेते हैं, जिन का उमर से सम्बन्ध नहीं होता और महे दामों पर बेचते हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय बिहार में जितनी खनिज सम्पदा है, उस का लाभ बिहार को नहीं मिलता। मैं अपने एक अखबार का उदाहरण आप के सामने प्रस्तुत करना हूँ, इस में लिखा है...

बिहार में इतनी अधिक खनिज सम्पदा होती है भी उद्योग के मामले में बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। प्रकृति ने बिहार को कोयला, बॉक्साइट, चूना पत्थर, डोलोमाइट, फायरक्ले, शीशा, जस्ता, फास्फोराइट जैसे बहुत खनिज प्रसाधनों से सम्पन्न किया है। हमारे हजारी बाघ, पालमऊ और गया जिलों में इन सम्पदाओं का भरपूर भण्डार है। चतरा में अभी हाल में गोमद का पहाड़ निकला। बड़े बड़े व्यापारी वहाँ आ कर 20 रुपये मन में उन

पत्थर के टुकड़ों को ले गये। सरकार को इतना देने के बावजूद भी कार्यवाही नहीं हुई, अब हाल में पुलिस ने वहाँ घेरा डाला है। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यही है कि बिहार के अन्दर चूना पत्थर से लम्बर हीरे-पुखुरा तक उपलब्ध है, लेकिन सर्वे की जरूरत है, खोज करवाने की जरूरत है और खोज करवा कर उस को निकालिये तथा इस काम में हमारे बिहार के लोगों को लगाइये, जिन से बच्चा की बेकारी दूर हो सके। आज हम दूसरे राज्यों के मोहताज बन गये हैं। अगर हम इन प्रिम्निव कामों में बिहार के लोगों को लगाय तो उन को काम मिल सकता है, लेकिन दुख यह है कि जितने उद्योग लगे हुए हैं, उन में ही बिहार के लोगों को नहीं लिया जाता। मैं सरकार से माग करता हूँ कि आप आदेश निकालें, हमारी परसेन्टेज को देखते हुए, हमारे अर्धवामियों को, हरिजनो को, पिछड़ी जातियों के लोगों को अनिवार्य रूप से इन कामों पर लगाया जाय। यदि आप ऐसी व्यवस्था कर सकें तो आप का खनन विभाग, आप का कोयला विभाग और दूसरे काम सफल हो सकेंगे, बरना गरीब तडपेगा और पेटवाली कन्न पेट बड़ेगा, इस से सफलता नहीं मिल पायेगी।

13 26 hrs

[MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

मैं अभी हाल में अपने घर गया था। वहाँ पर थोड़ा सा सीमेंट लान की जरूरत पड़ी तो पता चला कि रिटेल के भाव से तीन रुपया अधिक है। मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ कि एक साधारण व्यक्ति होंगे हुए मैं उचित मूल्य पर सीमेंट नहीं ले सका। छड़ों की जरूरत पड़ सकती है, 10-20 किलो या क्विंटल की भी जरूरत पड़ती है, लेकिन क्या कारण है कि महंगी मिलती है। शायद अपने प्राइम को एम०पी० बतलाऊँ तो सस्ती मिल जाय, किन्तु अगर मेरे परिवार का कोई आदमी जाय तो उस को नहीं मिल सकती। इस बात का पता लगाना चाहिये कि इस बड़ में ऐसी कौन सी चीज है जो इस को खोलना बनाती बन्नी जा रही है, कौन सा महकमा है,

[श्री ईश्वर चौधरी]

जिस में कमी रह गई है। आज जो बड़े बड़े पूंजीपति बन गये हैं, जिन की बड़ी बड़ी फैक्ट्रियां चल रही हैं, उन के कितने शेर होते हैं, लेकिन पूरा फायदा उठा रहे हैं। लेकिन उन के मुकाबले हमारे जितने कारखाने हैं, दुर्गापुर, रूकेला, भिलाई, सब में कुछ न कुछ घाटा चल रहा है, इस का क्या कारण है ? जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर की लिमिटेड कंपनियों है उन को घाटा नहीं होता है हमारी कंपनियों को घाटा होता है और मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि इस में घाटा लगता है, हम इन को कैम चलायें। कल यहां पर यह कहा गया, एक पेपर मिल का उदाहरण देते हुए कि चूंकि वह पेपर मिल घाटे में चल रही है इसलिए उसको सरकार नहीं लेगी। तो सरकार घाटे में चलने वाली चीज को नहीं लेगी... (व्यवधान)... मैंने केवल एक उदाहरण दिया है जोकि कल यहां पर सरकार ने कहा। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि हमारे यहाँ की खानें हैं, जैसे हमारे यहां दोहरी खानों में खानें हैं, भूकम्प हुआ तो पता चला कि खदान में खाने कार्यकारी ये वे मारे गए तो उनके परिवारों के बारे में सरकार ने क्या चिन्तन किया है ? खदानों की ओर के उनके लिए कौन सी व्यवस्था की गई है ? इसी प्रकार से मेने आज अखबार में पढ़ा कि चूंकि सरकार खान को अपने हस्त में ले सकती है इस डर से मालिक सोचते हैं कि हम इसको क्यों चलायें और वे मजदूरों को हटा रहे हैं। इस प्रकार से तीन हजार मजदूर बेकार हो गए हैं। मैं जानना चाहता उन गरीबों के लिए सरकार ने क्या प्रयास किया है चाहे प्राइवेट सेक्टर हो या सरकारी मोहकमा हो सभी जगह उन गरीबों के हितों को सोचना चाहिए। उनके नाम पर वीनस निकाला जाता है लेकिन उनके लिए भ्रमण और बच्चों की पढ़ाई की व्यवस्था न होने का क्या कारण है ? क्या गरीबों के लड़के अमीर नहीं बन सकते हैं ? क्या उनके लड़के पढ़ लिख नहीं सकते हैं ? क्या उनके के लड़के अज

और बकील नहीं बन सकते हैं ? बन सकते हैं। न बनने का कारण केवल उनकी गरीबी है और आप उनकी ओर कोई ध्यान नहीं देते और उनके लिए कोई प्रबंध नहीं करते। (व्यवधान)... मैं सरकार से मांग करता हूं कि हमारे बिहार में जितने भी उद्योग हैं, जितनी खानें और फैक्टरीज है उनकी ओर उचित ध्यान दिया जाये और वहां पर हरिजन, आदिवासियों और पिछड़ी जाति के लोगों को नौकरी दी जाये इन शब्दों के साथ मैं मंत्री महोदय से आग्रह करूंगा कि हमारी बातों पर वे विशेष ध्यान दें।

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA (Giridih) : Mr. Deputy-Spe. er, Sir, Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam deserves our praise and support for the one great leap which he took by taking over 214 coal mines.

श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप की व्यवस्था चाहता हू। सदन में गणपूर्ति नहीं है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member may resume his seat for a while. There is no quorum. The bell is being rung.

Now, there is quorum. The hon. Member may resume his speech now.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA : As I was saying, Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam has to be given all praise and support for the great leap forward he took so far as the coal mining industry is concerned and to the extent he has been implementing Shrimati Indira Gandhi's policy, the end result of this was that in Jharia coal fields for the first time in their lives, the colliery workers started getting their dues—I am told the wage bill increased from Rs. 12 lakhs to Rs. 18 lakhs per week.

In the steel sector—I will take up coal a little later—after mishaps like Rourkela roof collapse, destruction of fire bricks in Bokaro, crippling of steel production in

Durgapur and in Rourkela in terms of rated capacity, Shri Kumaramangalam has done a good day's job by minimising our losses. In 1970-71, production was 3.612 million ingot tonnes while in 1971-72 it was 3.476 million ingot tonnes. The difficulties in the three steel plants, the HEC's contention that 'we will reach break-even point if we start erecting two steel plants every year; otherwise we will never make it', the coking coal producing collieries, 214 of them not yet fully taken over and therefore cannot be reconditioned so as to reduce losses and step up production—in the background of all these, Shri Kumaramangalam's effort reminds me of the difficulty which Alice faced in Wonderland. That was with the flamingo. Just as she straightened its neck and wanted to give with it the hedgehog a blow, it would curl round itself and look up in her face. So, the difficulty is this that in terms of production, productivity or rated capacity, we are not making the grade, although there has been a successful holding operation so long. But I understand that the Steel Ministry has set its target at 90 per cent rated capacity. Although that may be realistic, that is not far enough, when you remember that in Japan they go up to 125 to 140 per cent of the rated capacity of steel plants. How do they do it? It is one of their knowhows which we have to import just to make the grade.

Two major innovations have been made in order to implement the policy of self-reliance. First, the CEED—the Central Engineering and Design Bureau—is doing its job, and that way, we will be getting independence not only in technological skill but we can improve on the technologies in the existing schemes that are in operation in the different steel plants. Second, it is a big innovation that is coming; that is, the restructuring of the coal and steel corporations in one joint complex. I am told that it is a holding company, with a three-tier structure, and a vertical and horizontal integration. That is part of the industrial picture in advanced countries like the United States of America.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Your main interest is in coal. You had better come to that. There is not much time.

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYA : Therefore, I should like to

come back to the project reports. A quarterly evaluation of the probe by the Parliamentary Committee on Public Undertakings, the suggestion of a techno-economic survey for Bokaro and the White Paper about the proposed new steel plants are all necessary and proper. They brought to light not only the teething troubles, the irritations and mistakes in the formulation of policies, but also the errors in the estimates vis a-vis performance in Hindustan Steel.

While we are debating on the production and productivity and costs and losses, the difficulty is that the level of science and technology abroad is not only rapidly rising in all those countries including the USA but is expected to rise at an accelerating speed following an exponential curve. A telescoping of change in times has become the only alternative. We had the vertical blast furnaces which have been replaced by curvilinear furnaces as in Bokaro, and are to go in for horizontal blast furnaces which are round the corner. If only corruption is eliminated in the washeries, Hindustan Steel which has reduced its losses from about Rs. 10 crores to Rs. 5 crores will be reaping a profit. In coking coal reserves, a large investment would be necessary in the coming years.

Coming back to Giridih, I remember with regret how much of coal we have lost through faulty timing and faulty measures. We understand that the atomic energy authorities in Britain have reported the manufacture of fibre which is four times tougher than steel and almost inexpensive. Therefore, for the perspective planning over the next 30 years, we must know what is happening and what is going to happen round the corner before we take any big decision.

Now—this is an important point—we must be aware of the way in which we have to run these plants. The question arises as to how to run them. These technocrats in the steel plants are all right. But what about the techno-bureaucrats? No. Some of them have the habit of becoming techno-bureaucrats and prisoners of their own experience.

To the extent the IAS and ICS officers

[Shri Chappalendu Bhattacharyya]

can take a broader view, their services should also be welcome in running the steel plants.

I shou'd make another submission. In order to combat that fibre we must intensify our search for bauxite, nickel and copper because these metals can combat the fibre that is round the corner. I want to make a special plea about Giridih mica mines. 5,000 jobs are off.

SHRI K. N. TIWARY (Bettiah) : Do you want to switch from iron and steel to that fibre ?

SHRI CHAPALENDU BHATTACHARYYA : No. We must be able to complete with it when it comes; I do not want to switch over.

As regards Giridih, I make bold to say that there are at least 3-4 million tonnes of first grade metallurgical coal lying under water the like of which there is nowhere else in India we have to get that coal out. That would be a challenge to the Government of India and the Ministry of Steel. In the context of rising prices, it will be worthwhile. As Rs. 50 per tonne of coal we found it too costly. Now we are going to pay Rs. 175 for every tonne for prime coke and even at Rs. 90 per tonne, that coal would be economical to mine.

In my constituency there starts a mica belt of over 72 miles. There was a lot of agitation as regards the proposed nationalisation of mica mines and mica foreign trade. I suggest that the take-over of mica foreign export trade should be given priority. For the same reason, to give the small self-employed man a break, nationalisation of mica mines should be the last in the list of Government of India's programme. In the meanwhile the raising industry in mica mines should be there and there should be legal recognition to the share cropper. The mineral concession rules shou'd be amended only for mica mining industry to give the small men the benefit, without which the exploration or prospecting of mica mines will come to a stand-still in this belt.

श्री बापीरथ लंबर (झाबुआ) : उपाध्यक्ष

महोदय, खाम और इस्पात मंत्रालय की मांगों पर चर्चा चल रही है। मुझे बहुत कम समय दिया गया है और मैं बोलना काफी चाहता था, लेकिन मैं आप के स्रादेश का पालन करूंगा और तीन या अधिक से अधिक पांच मिनट में समाप्त करने की कोशिश करूंगा।

खान और इस्पात मंत्रालय की मांगों के मिलमिले में अनेक सदस्यों ने घाटे की चर्चा की है और खानों की प्रगति के बारे में शंकाए व्यक्त की है। मैं भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस विभाग को सक्रिय बनाया जाय और इस में जो घाटा हो रहा है उस को पूर्ति की जाये। लेकिन अगर ऐसा करना है तो सब से पहले इस विभाग में बड़े बड़े अधिकारी हैं उन बड़े बड़े वेतन-भोगिया का कम किया जाये और जो छोटे लोग हैं, बेकार लोग हैं और धधध के लिये भटका रहे हैं, उन को काम दिया जाये। अगर ऐसा किया जाये तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह घाटे की पूर्ति में सहायक हो सकता है।

देखा यह गया है कि बिलाई के इस्पात कारखाने में, राउरकेला तथा दुर्गापुर आदि कारखानों में बड़ी बड़ी तनक्वाहें लेने वाले अधिकारी तो बहुत हैं लेकिन वहाँ काम उस हिसाब से नहीं होता है। माननीय सदस्यों ने शिकायत की है कि आई० ए० एस० और आई० सी० एम० अफसर वहाँ हावी हैं और वहाँ जिस ढंग का काम होना चाहिये नहीं हो पाता है। साथ ही साथ इस विभाग में काम करने वाले जो इंजीनियर हैं वे भी विदेशी इंजीनियरों की तरह से काम नहीं करते हैं। देखने और सुनने को यह मिलता है कि बिलाई कारखाने में जो रशिया के इंजीनियर काम करते हैं वे मजदूरों के रूप में नजर आते हैं और मजदूरों की तरह काम भी करते हैं लेकिन हमारे इंजीनियर अफसरों की तरह से काम करते हैं। मजदूरों की तरह से काम नहीं करते हैं। हमारे यहाँ के इंजीनियरों में और विदेशी इंजीनियरों में काफी फर्क है और अगर हमारे

यहाँ के इंजीनियर भी विदेशी इंजीनियरों की तरह से काम करने लग जाए तो हमारा उत्पादन बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ सकता है।

14 hrs.

अभी तक इम मंत्रालय ने कुछ विशेष क्षेत्रों में ही कोयले या खनिजों के कारखाने खोले हैं। पूरे देश में इमका विस्तार नहीं किया गया है। इमका नतीजा यह है कि पूरे देश को इमका लाभ नहीं मिल पा रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सम्पूर्ण देश का और सम्पूर्ण क्षेत्र का भव् होना चाहिये और पूरे देश को लाभ मिले, ऐसी कोशिश की जानी चाहिये। कुछ क्षेत्र ऐसे हैं जहाँ पर अपार खनिज सम्पदा भरी पड़ी है लेकिन अभी तक उनका सर्वेक्षण नहीं हुआ है। इसका नतीजा यह है कि उन क्षेत्रों को विकास की दौड़ में पीछे रहना पड़ा है।

लोहे और कोयले का उत्पादन देश में बढ़ रहा है। लोहे की माँग को आप देखें। साधारण से साधारण आदमियों को भी लोहे की आवश्यकता होती है। किमान को होती है, जो गरीब आदमी मकान बनाना चाहता है उसको भी होती है। उम को लोहा ठीक ढंग से उपलब्ध नहीं होता है। खेती के औजार बनाने के लिए, ट्रैक्टर बनाने के लिए सरियों की आवश्यकता पड़ती है। लेकिन उनको भी महंगा मिलना है। आम लोगों के इस्तेमाल का जो लोहा है और कोयला है वह काफी महंगा मिलता है। आम लोगों के इस्तेमाल का जो लोहा है और कोयला है वह काफी महंगा होता जा रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसका एक मात्र कारण यह है कि इस विभाग का जो खर्चा है वह बहुत बढ़ा हुआ है। इस खर्च को कम किया जाना चाहिये। इसकी जाँच होनी चाहिये। दुर्गापुर, राउरकेला आदि में यह खर्चा बहुत बढ़ा हुआ है। राउरकेला के इस्पात कारखाने की एक छत गिर गई जिस की वजह से करोड़ों रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। वह किस की जबाबदारी है। किसने इसको बनाया और कब बनाया और

क्या कारण था कि वह गिर गई? इस सब की जाँच करने के लिए कमेटी बिठाई जानी है। लेकिन रिपोर्ट जब आ जाती है तो आगे उस पर विचार नहीं किया जाता है, कार्रवाई नहीं की जाती है। नतीजा यह होता है कि घाटे पर घाटा होना जाता है और इसका नतीजा देश को तथा देश की जनता को भ्रगनना पड़ता है।

मैं मध्य प्रदेश से आता हूँ। उसका साबुआ क्षेत्र बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। वह पहाड़ी एरिया है। वहाँ कुछ खनिज पदार्थ पाए जाते हैं जैसे अभ्रक है, मैंगनीज है, साफ्ट स्टोन है। इनका दोहन भी कुछ हद तक हो रहा है। लेकिन ठीक से नहीं होने के कारण उमका पूरा लाभ वहाँ जनता को नहीं मिल पा रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मध्य प्रदेश के झाबुआ, रतलाम, धार, खारगोन, गुजरात के बड़ोदा और पंच महल और राजस्थान के वामवाड़ा, डूंगरपुर, चित्तौड़ आदि जिलों का सर्वे कराया जाए इस विभाग के द्वारा और इन खनिजों का पना लगाया जाए और इन का दोहन किया जाए ताकि उन पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रों को इस विभाग के द्वारा लाभ हो सके। ऐसा अगर किया गया तो उस क्षेत्र में रहने वाली आम जनता को और खास तौर पर पिछड़े हुए लोगों को, आदिवासी लोगों को, गरीब लोगों को जिन को काम नहीं मिलता है, उनको लाभ होगा और उनको काम मिल सकेगा। सर्वे करवा कर आप ठीक से वहाँ कदम उठावें ताकि देश को और देश की जनता को लाभ मिल सके, यही मेरा आप से निवेदन है।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): Sir, I
am conscious of the fact that there are many
speakers yet to speak and the time allotted
is only 5 hours. So, I will not take much
time. Many members have evinced a very
keen interest in the nationalisation of coking
coal mines. They have rightly appreciated
this most important step perhaps in our
move towards socialisation. There are some

[Shri Shah Nawaz Khan]

facts which I would like to place before the House.

Bharat Coking Coal is the largest labour intense public sector enterprise in India today. Nowhere in India do we have a working force of 1.20 lakh persons in one contiguous belt of 20 miles under one employer. Persons earlier employed by a multitude of owners with different service rules and working conditions have been brought under one umbrella and the problem of bringing measures of uniformity among them is stupendous. The personnel and welfare officers who used to be employed by some of the owners more to suppress the workers rather than look after their genuine grievances have now to be replaced and wherever possible an effective industrial relations department has to be built up and strengthened.

A reference has been made to the heavy losses in Bharat Coking Coal during the first six months of its existence. Members may be aware that during this period, the ownership remained unaltered and Bharat Coking Coal was only in charge of management. Necessarily, therefore, the identity of the different collieries had to be maintained. It is only when the full ownership is taken over, we can start the process of amalgamation.

On 17th October last year, we took over the management of 214 coking coal mines. Some member said that of these 78 were abandoned mines. Actually, there are about 50 mines which had been abandoned and flooded, because they worked at shallow depths and exhausted the reserves in top seams. Now we find that in those 50 mines and from under Railways and Roads in Jharia we would be able to reclaim about 350 million tonnes of very valuable coking coal. The coal seam goes very deep, thousands of feet below. The owners had worked only to a few hundred feet and abandoned the mines and they are now flooded. In scientific mining, we have to go very deep. In Sudamdih and Mondih which we started in the Jharia-Dhanbad area, we are going down to 1600 feet and we are working at three different levels at the same time. It is tremendous advantage to take over these coking coal mines.

Now, some hon. Members have mentioned about losses and said that during the last six months, we have incurred huge losses. The fact is that during the last six months of our working, there has been a loss of about only Rs. 25-30 lakhs, whereas in the implementation of the wage board award and in implementing other statutory obligations, we have paid over Rs. 1.50 crores extra. Now that we have paid that much extra amount, it just shows the extent to which the labour were exploited in that area.

14 hrs.

AN HON. MEMBER : That includes extra man-power also.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : Extra man-power is there. We are only managing agents. We inherited the extra man-power. Since we have just taken over the management, we have to more or less continue the same structure. It is only when we take over full ownership, we will be able to make proper arrangements and nationalise the man-power.

One thing which I would like to mention here is this. It was said that overnight many people were in, and new labour was recruited. That sort of a thing would not have been possible if we had received full cooperation of our friends working in the labour field. We in future look forward to getting plenty of help from them.

I am glad to inform the House that in spite of this, neither the output has fallen nor the Company has incurred heavy losses. The actual loss comes to about 40-50 paise per tonne of coal raised.

The House is fully aware of the circumstances which compelled us to nationalise the coking coal mines. There is scarcity of resources of this very valuable material and we had to conserve it. There has been almost a unanimous demand from all sections of the House that the entire coal industry should be nationalised. If the private trade play their part honestly and faithfully, as present, we do not feel the same urgent necessity for nationalising the coal industry. There are huge reserves of non-coking coal in this country. We have

sufficient stocks to last, say, for 500 years and, therefore, the necessity or urgency is not thro' to the same extent to warrant nationalisation of the entire coal industry. But if we find that the private trade is not playing fair, that they are not investing and that they are only out to exploit, then it will be upto the Government to take proper steps.

Sir, a number of hon. members referred to the surplus labour in the coal mines. We are aware that there is surplus labour, but our intencion is not to retrench any genuine labour and we hope that, in the future expansion programmes, we will be able to utilise that labour.

SHRI R. N. SHARMA (Dhanbad) : They are not labourers ; they are *pahalvans*

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : Once we take over the owners then we will deal with the *pahalvans* also.

Some hon. members expressed apprehension that there might be flooding of mines during monsoon. I would like to assure the hon. members that we are fully conscious of this. Already a sum of over Rs. 50 lakhs has been spent on purchase of pumping sets and other equipment. The only thing of which we are rather apprehensive is the irregular supply of electric power. There are wide fluctuations and there is lot of tripping of power. (*Interruption*) We hope that, with the full cooperation of the State Governments and the D. V. C. which they have assured to the hon. Minister, we will be able to tackle it. (*Interruption*) power problem is one which has to be tackled rather carefully to save the mines.

A number of hon. members said that Bharat Coking Coal Company has increased the price of coking coal. This is nothing extraordinary because even for the non-coking coal, the Railways have given an increase of Rs. 3.50 per tonne during the past two years whereas coking coal price has been steady for nearly 3 years. This is nothing extraordinary that we are asking for. This hardly covers the statutory obligations which have been placed on them.

About shifting of the head office from

Calcutta to Dhanbad, some members were unhappy. The whole House knows that, out of 214 coking coal mines, 211 are in Bihar. For better control and coordination we feel that it will be advantageous for us to have the head office in Dhanbad itself. But we are retaining an office in Calcutta for sales and purchases, and that office will continue there.

My hon. friend, Mr. Bhattacharyya, referred to the necessity for opening up the mines which have been flooded and which contained very valuable coal. We are going ahead and are trying to conserve as much valuable coal as we can, and we shall therefore consider and wherever necessary reopen the mines which still contain a large quantity of coking coal.

Regarding the closed mines, there were in all 14-12 in Bengal and two in Bihar. Of the 12 in Bengal, a large number had been closed because the reserves had been exhausted ; the other columns were due to industrial unrest. We are doing our best to get all these examined and whenever possible reopened as quickly as we can.

My hon. friends, Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi, and Shri D. K. Panda, spoke about copper. Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi was of the view that the Indian Copper Corporation the management of which was taken over by us recently, should be handed over to the Government of Bihar. One of the important reasons for taking over the management of that Corporation was that it was the only company in the country which was producing copper. There is no other concern in the country which was producing copper. They have very wide experience in this line and in view of the great shortage of copper, we went to expand our activities quickly and make use of that trained and efficient personnel for opening up other mines and other industries of copper in other parts of country. That was the main reason and if we hand it over to only one State, then, of course, numerous problems will arise. Also there is the question of concentrates. We are developing Khetri. Large deposits of copper have been found in Malaj Khand, Balaghat Dt. of Madhya Pradesh. We are developing Rakha mines and there may be need for transferring concentrates from one area

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to another so that they could be processed. That would not be possible if we hand it over to one State.

People talked about the slow and tardy progress of Khetri, I admit there has been some delay. But recently, say, during the last 2-3 years, since the appointment of the new Chairman, the tempo has increased and the work is progressing well, I would like to assure the House, one thing, Yesterday, one hon. Member sought to make out that only one stope was ready out of seven. To an unstarred question it was said that only one stope was ready. But that reply also said that of the remaining six stopes, 80% were ready. 80% have been completed. I want to assure the House that the work now is progressing. We have already built up a stockpile of 1,42,000 tonnes of copper ore. This is a very good stock that we have built up and I am sure that will come in very handy. By the end of the year seven stopes will be ready at Khetri.

The position at Kolihan is much better two out of four stopes are ready. Stockpile of ore production is 1,42,000 tonnes till march 1972 and regular production is likely to commence very soon and by the end of the year the stockpile would be five to six lakh tonnes. That would be sufficient to enable us to start work on production of copper in October.

The Concentrator will be commissioned in the first quarter of 1973. The smelter will be commissioned by the end of 1973 and so would be the refinery. The acid and the fertiliser plant will be completed by February 1974.

Some hon. Members spoke about the rising costs. As per original estimates, the original cost of the plant excluding the fertiliser plant and the township was assessed at Rs. 70 crores approximately. It has now gone up to Rs. 93 crores. There is an increase of Rs. 23 crores. Of this, one-third, that is, about Rs. 7 crores is due to additional mining equipment which was not originally ordered. Now, there is a very obvious reason for this. Previously, we were hoping that we will be able to mine the ore to 0.8%. Then we brought it down to 0.7%.

But now we hope that with the addi-

tional machinery we would be able to utilise ore containing 0.5% of copper. I may inform the House that the Indian Copper Company which we have just taken over was not utilising ore which was carrying even 1 per cent. They were utilising only 1.8% ore and over, and the ore below 1.8% copper was thrown away. We are going to use 0.5% ore. This is because there is tremendous shortage of copper in the country. We want to make use of the best methods for processing copper. We want to make use of it as much as we can. That is why we have had to order additional machinery for Rs. 7 crores worth. The remaining Rs. 16 crores accounted for general escalation in prices and wages. As you know, we have no control over wage rise. I would assure the House that Khetri is progressing very well. We hope we will be able to stick to the dates which have already been given.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH (Jhunjhunu):
In the budget proposals you have shown Rs. 120 crores. In the unstarred question you said Rs. 115.98 crores. Here you state Rs. 93 crores for the same thing.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : Rs. 93 crores did not include the fertilizer plant and the township. I have made it clear. The estimates which you quote include all these. That is the overall cost. Shri Bhattacharyya and Shri K. D. Malavia spoke of the need to attain self-sufficiency in metals as quickly as possible.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA (Khammam) : Since he is dealing with copper, I would like to know one point about the Agniguntala ore project. The Agniguntala ore content is much higher than Khetri. So, what steps are being contemplated by the hon. Minister to speed up this project ?

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : Geological Survey has got units which are spread out in different parts of the country. They carry out exploration, drilling and prospecting in different parts. That place is showing good prospects and we hope we will be able to make good use of that ore there. In addition to Agniguntala, there is a good reserve at Malajkhand in Balaghat district. Some very promising reserves are there and we hope to utilise that as quickly as we can.

I would like to give a general picture to the House. Our present production is 9 to 10 thousand tonnes. Our present requirements are 1,13,000 tonnes. There is a wide gap. To fill this gap we have taken up various programmes. We hope to produce 30,000 tonnes at Khetri and another 30,000 tonnes in Singhbhum. We hope to produce another 30,000 tonnes at Malajkhand in addition to the other places I have mentioned. We are aware of the fact that there is tremendous scope in this country for developing and prospecting basic metals like copper, aluminium, lead and iron.

Regarding aluminium, we have located plenty of bauxite ore. By the end of fourth plan or beginning of fifth plan, we hope to make substantial progress and be self-sufficient in aluminium in the next few years.

We have our Bharat Aluminium Corporation coming up at Korba. They will be producing one lakh tonnes of aluminium metal eventually, and we are already in an advanced stage at Ratnigiri and we hope that another lakh of tonnes of aluminium would be produced there. We are in touch with the State Government of Maharashtra regarding some difficulties of mining leases. I am grateful to the Chief Minister of Maharashtra who has helped us in getting our difficulties resolved as quickly as possible and clearing that area by giving us the mining leases.

Regarding zinc also, we are going ahead and doubling our capacity at Debari in Udaipur. We are also putting up a zinc smelter at Visakhapatnam. Messrs. Cominco Binani Zinc Ltd. are also expanding their capacity. So we are fully conscious of the urgent need to develop our mining resources and minerals and to process them as quickly as we can, and we are going ahead with full confidence.

My hon. friend from Kudermukh, Shri P. R. Shenoy talked about a very interesting point in regard to the transport of iron ore, whether it should be in slurry form or in the form of pellets from the port. We are lucky in this country that we have been endowed with huge reserves. Of iron ore, 10,000 million tonnes have been proved in this country and there may be more. So

far, we are aware of 10,000 million tonnes of iron ore in our country. We are expanding our steel industry as quickly as we can, consistent with our resources. But there is the urgent need for earning foreign exchange, and so, we are exporting iron ore as much as we can. Last year, we exported about 20 million tonnes, but we wish to expand our export, and with that view, we would like to adopt a new method of export of iron ore from Kudermukh. The ore in the Kudermukh area is a low grade ore; it is a magnetite ore with about 35 per cent iron content, and it has to be crushed and formed into slurry so that it could flow and it can be transported through pipes and put into tankers, which will stand in the sea some distance away from the shore, about 8 or 8 k.m. away from the shore. The advantage of this method is that we shall be able to carry that by tankers carrying 2½ to 3 lakh tonnes. The transport of iron ore by smaller ships is most uneconomical and it adds up to the transportation cost. It is with a view to reducing the cost of transportation and to be in a position to compete with countries which are now emerging as great exporters of iron ore, countries like Brazil and Australia who are coming up and who are using the most modern methods for reducing the cost of transportation and who are advancing very fast, that we have to use new and modern methods. The whole DPR is before Government, and I am sure Government will give very careful consideration to this new method of transportation in slurry form, which is something new to this country.

I am sure, as the hon. Member has said very rightly, it has therefore to be considered very cautiously, and the whole thing has to be considered and given due consideration whether it is the proper thing to do or not. The matter is before Government and at the highest level it is receiving the urgent attention of Government.

My hon. friend's apprehension was that if we adopted this method, it might retard the progress of Mangalore port. I can assure him that in the Kudermukh area alone, there are 6 million tonnes of iron ore and it is not only the slurry pipe that will carry ore, but we want that the Mangalore port

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should develop as fast as it can so that from its present capacity, we can raise it to 2,25,000 tonnes load. In any case, therefore, there is no conflict between the two. As a matter of fact, we are anxious that Mangalore port should develop as fast as it can so that we can export more ore through that port.

Export of iron ore today is not a simple matter. We have to find markets and in the new company we are thinking of forming, the Government of India would have 51 per cent shares and the Marcona Company of US, who have great experience in carrying iron ore in slurry form would invest 25 per cent, three topmost firms dealing in iron in Japan will also be associated as shareholders. The advantage we will have is that we will have export companies participating in the transportation in slurry form and we will be assured of a regular market in Japan. The hon member knows how difficult it is for us these days to compete with other countries in sale of iron ore.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER How long will the Minister take?

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM About 30 to 40 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER I will call him at 2.55.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON (Lohardaga) What about other members just waiting?

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER I do not know.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN Some members spoke about losses incurred in washeries, Gidu, Kathara and Swang. The Bokaro steel plant is coming up and we are hoping that with its development, the economics would improve and they will be able to make full utilisation of the washeries.

Shri G Viswanathan spoke about the Neyveli project and the need to develop it to meet the requirements of power in Tamil Nadu.

SHRIMATI T LAKSHMI-KANTHAMMA Many members coming

from mining areas want to speak. Kindly extend the debate by an hour.

SOME HON MEMBERS Yes.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER That will be at the expense of another Ministry and it will go on like that. We started at 12.23 today with a balance of 2 hours 50 minutes. Even if we conclude the debate at 3.30, we would have extended the time already.

SHRI KARTIK ORAON Here is a note which says that you have extended the time by which I presume that I will get some time.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER I do not know whose note it is. I have not given any (*Interruptions*) Order, please.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN Sir, the Neyveli plant was to produce six million tonnes of lignite and it was to produce 600 megawatts of power. But due to certain reasons, we have not been able to attain the full capacity. One important reason has been the rather strained industrial relations, and the situation is that a lot of work which could have been done is not being done. We are hoping that the industrial relations would improve, and we will be able to attain the rated capacity of power for the Tamil Nadu Government. But we have approached the Tamil Nadu Government to use their good offices to improve the industrial relations and we have been assured that they will do their best in that regard.

There is a plan also to open a second cut at Neyveli. But in the light of the present conditions, we find it is rather difficult to go forward when even the targeted capacity has not been attained. We hope that with the improvement in industrial relations and the improvement in output—and we are also going to import an additional machinery to make up the gap in production—the full capacity would be realised.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER You have taken almost 40 minutes, which is more than what the senior Minister proposes to take.

SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN : I am just taking off his load. Shri Chapalendu Bhattacharyya spoke about mica mines. I entirely agree with him that there is need to give protection to the small producers of mica by nationalising the trade of mica, and we are moving along this line; and I can assure him that we have no intention of nationalising the mica mines.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri C. D. Gautam. I am going strictly by the list given by the party whips.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM (Balaghat) : May I seek your leave to sit and speak ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes; you may sit and speak.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has given us an encouraging account of the Malajkhand mines, but the steps taken for accelerating the work have not been so much encouraging. He has also given us a statement about the Khetri mines.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If each Member takes not more than five minutes, I would be able to accommodate more Members, as many as possible. At 2.55 I shall call the Minister.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM : All right. The hon. Minister has also spoken about of the Khetri mines. If these two are compared, then the hon. Minister will find that it will be more advantageous to work the Malajkhand mines, giving it priority over the khetri mines. The Khetri mine is being worked since 1937 and we have not been able to produce copper ore as yet. In Khetri, it is required to bore underground, while the Malajkhand mines are open-cast mines. As far as I know, it will produce copper ore within five years and also it is of a better quality and is in greater quantity than the ore from Khetri mines.

I request the hon. Minister to visit the mine and look for himself the possibility of its working results. I may inform the hon. Minister that Shri Nitiraj Singh Chaudhary who was a Minister visited the mines and was much impressed.

We know the country's demand for this metal is about a lakh of tonnes and we are producing only 10,000 tonnes. There is thus a big gap. If Malajkhand mine goes into production, I think it will produce about 30,000 tonnes from what he has told us. I request the hon. Minister to speed up this work.

I also request the hon. Minister to set up a smelter at Malajkhand so that we may be able to have side industries such as sulphur dioxide and sulphuric acid. Sulphuric acid is required for preparing fertilisers and there is great need for fertilisers in the country as available land-areas get reduced. Gypsum and card-board industries could also be set up there. This is a adivasi area and it will be in keeping with our policy of removing poverty and unemployment. It will give employment opportunities to people in these backward areas also.

When ore is produced, there should be a railway line to take it from Malajkhand to Balaghat; otherwise it will be costly to transport it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You should speak about it on the Demands for Railways.

SHRI C. D. GAUTAM : It goes along with the mines. I therefore suggest a railway line from Malajkhand, Barhar, Balaghat to Gondia.

At present the number of local people who get employment in an area is not great; only a small number get employment. I suggest that employees from Balaghat should be employed, and not from outside districts. There are also bauxite deposits near Supkar, Gadhi and Godmaon. They are said to be in a huge quantity. Similarly huge quantities of iron ore are said to be near about Lavagur in Balaghat district.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You can send these details in a letter to the hon. Minister so that his attention could be drawn to these matters.

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA (Midnapore) : This Ministry is holding a large number of public undertakings and most of the important undertakings are mentioned in the

[Shri Subodh Hansda]

report on page 3. I should like to mention some of them. There are nine big undertakings which are mentioned in this report and out of these I think two are yet to be commissioned and seven undertakings are already under production.

Out of the seven undertakings, I find that five undertakings are already running at a loss and the cumulative loss upto date is Rs. 892 crores. It is very difficult to say after so many years of commissioning of these projects how this loss is gradually accumulating day by day. I think Government has taken certain steps like task force scheme. Though this scheme has been introduced, I do not think much improvement has been made in this respect. This is a serious matter and the Government should take special care to see that this loss does not occur in future. I do not think that people will forgive us for this big loss which is going to occur in the next years also.

I would like to say about the steel distribution policy. Steel is distributed directly to the steel consumers. 90% of the total output goes to the consumers directly. I find that most of these big chunks of steel go to the big consumers rather than the small consumers. By experience, it has been seen that the big consumers put their indent directly to the JPC or the Steel Controller and they get steel directly from them but the small consumers like the small scale industries Corporation of the various States. For that reason there is much of delay and the required quantity which is usually indented by the SSI Corporation for the small scale industries is not usually given. I would like to suggest that to feed the small consumers, certain portion—at least two-thirds of the total quantity that goes for consumption of the steel industry to these big consumers—should be ear-marked for the small scale industries.

Steel industry is one of the biggest undertakings and it employs more than 2 lakhs of people, I find that in most of these undertakings, the local people do not get employment and this is a general complaint, particularly of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Where most of these

undertakings are located, most of the local people are up-rooted from these places. They do not get chance in these undertakings. I would request the Minister to look into this so that they get accommodated in these undertakings. If we look at the figures, by calculation I would say that at least 14,000 tribals should have been in these undertakings. But the figures can be counted on fingertips.

My last point is that there was a proposal to set up an Alloy Steel Plant at Purulia. I do not know what is the position? The cost of the project is Rs. 42 crores. I am told the project is going to be set up somewhere else. I would strongly object if it is being shifted somewhere else. West Bengal is mostly a backward area. There is unemployment problem in the State. The steel plant may be set up at Purulia.

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह (झुंझनू) . उपाध्यक्ष
महोदय, आप ने जो समय मुझ को दिया है उतने कम समय में कुछ कह सकना मुश्किल है, इस लिए मैं केवल अपने कुछ प्वाइंट्स रखूंगा।

स्टील किन्नी भी देश के विकास के लिए बहुत आवश्यक है हम इस बात को रिअलाइज करते हैं लेकिन जब हम अपनी इंडस्ट्री का मुकाबला दुनिया के अन्य देशों से करते हैं तो पाते हैं कि हम दुनिया के कुछ प्रोडक्शन का केवल 1 परसेंट प्रोडक्शन करत हैं और उसके हिसाब से हमारा पैर कैपिटल कैम्पेन्शन 11 के० जी० आता है। जब हम इस पर विचार करते हैं तो पाते हैं कि हमारी मिनिस्ट्री ने इस के लिये बहुत कुछ किया है। आजादी के बाद हमने अलग-अलग बड़े-बड़े प्लान्ट्स बनाने की योजना बनाई। उसके अन्तर्गत स्टील का प्रोडक्शन काफी बढ़ना चाहिए था लेकिन दस साल तक काम रुका रहा। अब उस ने थोड़ा मोमेन्टम पकड़ा है। हम चाहते हैं कि सरकार इस तरफ और ध्यान दे।

स्टील से ही देश मजबूत बनता है क्योंकि बिना स्टील के न देश डेवेलप कर सकता है और न इंडस्ट्री डेवेलप कर सकती है। मैं इस संबंध

मे एक निवेदन करना चाहूंगा। मंत्री महोदय ने यहां पर कहा कि हम आयरन और एक्स्पॉर्ट करते हैं, जो हमारे पास सप्लस होता है। लेकिन हमारे लिए आज स्टील इंडस्ट्री बहुत आवश्यक है। सरकार को इस बारे में सोचना चाहिए कि आयरन और का एक्स्पॉर्ट बन्द करे क्योंकि आयरन के बिना हमारा काम नहीं चल सकता। ऐसा हो सकता है कि हम जो इस से फारेन एम्बेज मिलता है लेकिन हम फार्न एक्स्पॉर्ट तो हमारे मुद्दों में भी काम सकता है। इस लिए आयरन और का एक्स्पॉर्ट आप बन्द करे। आयरन और के एक्स्पॉर्ट में दश को नुमान हो गया है।

यहां कोल माउन्ट के बारे में बहुत कुछ कहा जा चुका है इसलिए मैं उस के सम्बन्ध में आपका समय अधिक नहीं लगा। केवल इतना कहूंगा कि उस के उत्पादन के लिये जिस प्रकार की आवश्यकताएं हैं उन को पूरा कर तो हम से दश का काफी लाभ हो सकता है।

मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि हमारी जो स्टील की डिमान्ड है वह 1975 में 7.6 मिलियन टन होने वाली है और 1980 में 12.9 मिलियन टन होने वाली है। अगर आप इस डिमान्ड को आज की ही रफ्तार से पूरा करगें तो हमारा काम कैसे चलेगा? इसके लिये कोई उचित व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए और सरकार दश का और मदद की आवश्यकता दे कि हम इस मांग को पूरी कर सकेंगे।

मैं खेतड़ी प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में भी कुछ निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि क्योंकि वह मेरी कांस्ट्रक्शंस से सम्बन्धित है। मैं मंत्री महोदय के विचार से सहमत हू कि पिछले बारह महीनों में इस प्रोजेक्ट की जो प्रोग्रेस रही है यदि वह चलती रही तो बारह, चौदह या सोलह महीने में वह फगशन करना शुरू कर देगी। लेकिन उस कांस्ट्रक्शंस के सम्बन्ध में जो डिफिकल्टी हैं उन को बतलाना चाहता हू मैं कोई उस प्रोजेक्ट की आलोचना नहीं कर रहा हू,

केवल मंत्री महोदय के विचार करने के लिए कह रहा हू। मैंने देखा कि हमारी प्लानिंग गलत हो गई है। हमने फारेन एक्स्पॉर्ट से गाय लेने से ही काफी रुपया खर्च किया है लेकिन उस गाय का फायदा हम नहीं पा सके। हम देखते हैं कि आर्गिजिनल प्लान में 2 स्टोप्स रखे गये थे लेकिन अब दो की जगह 13 करने पड़े रहे हैं। हम ने मारी प्लानिंग गलत की है। अगर हमने प्लानिंग गलत न की होती तो फिर यह प्रोजेक्ट सफल न करता।

इसी तरह से आर्गिजिनल प्लान के हिसाब से बहन गी मशीनरी एक्स्पॉर्ट करने की हमारी स्क्रीम है और कुछ हमने इम्पोर्ट की भी है। मेरे पास इस का डिटेल्स हैं कि कहाँ कहाँ स एक्स्पॉर्ट की गई है। लेकिन अब वह सारी मशीनरी आउट ऑफ डेट हो गई है और प्लेन्ट में लगे बिना ही बेकार हो गई है। हम उसको इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकते। उनमें बजाय अब हम को दूसरी मशीनरी मगानी पड़ रही है। हमको इन बातों को देखना चाहिये। आज गड्डे मुर्दों को उखाड़न से कोई फायदा नहीं है, लेकिन हम को उनको देखना चाहिए और जो भी डिफिकल्टी पैदा हुए थे उन में सबक लेना चाहिये।

खेतड़ी के अन्दर हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड का हंड आफिस था। अब उस को कलकत्ते में शिफ्ट किया जा रहा है। मैं उसके विरुद्ध स्ट्रागली प्रोटेस्ट करता हूँ। 1967 में कहा गया था कि खेतड़ी प्रोजेक्ट देश का सबसे बड़ा प्रोजेक्ट है और उस का हंड आफिस वहां पर ही होना चाहिये। आज भी हम प्लान्ट के अन्दर हम 31,000 टन का प्रोडक्शन पाते हैं आज यह आर्गुमेंट दिया जाना है कि हंड आफिस सेंट्रल प्लेग में होना चाहिये। लेकिन क्या फलकत्ता हिन्दुस्तान की सेंट्रल प्लेन्स है? आज अगर दिल्ली को सेंट्रल प्लेग कहा जाय तो वह माना भी जा सकता है, लेकिन कलकत्ता तो बिल्कुल नहीं है। इसलिये खेतड़ी के अन्दर ही उस का हंड आफिस रहना चाहिये।

[श्री शिवनाथ मिह]

इन शब्दों के साथ मे इन मन्त्रालय की मांगों का समर्थन करना है ।

SHRI KARTIK ORAON (Lohardaga)

Sir, our objective is to have socialism in the economic system based on the nationalisation of means of production and distribution and exchange. Now we are thinking in terms of increasing the wealth of our country. For that, we have to lay more stress on self-reliance. While thinking in this way, we find ourselves rather too far away from the task that lies before us. The challenge is really very difficult. I am sure that unless the Hon'ble minister assumes the properties of steel, I do not think he will be able to deal with this task.

He will have to deal with this with a firm hand and only then he will be able to reverse the order which exists today. We have invested about Rs 3,000 crores in our steel industry. Within three years of production the steel industry is supposed to give a return of at least a minimum of 10 per cent dividend on the capital outlay. What is our position? Though we have invested about Rs 3,303 crores in the public sector, we are losing to the tune of Rs 530 crores annually instead of getting a return of Rs 500 crores annually. That means, we are losing to the extent of Rs 1,000 crores. This is a very serious problem which the hon Minister will have to take note of. He should try to devise ways and means to bring about a change. This is really a very big challenge for him. Unless he brings about a change in structure, behaviour and functioning which is of a revolutionary character, I am afraid a change of this order in a very short time is really difficult. So, this should be the concern of not only the Minister but of the whole country. We should try to see where the snag is and how we can get over it.

I have many points to cover but for want of time I am not able to do it. There are some good points brought out in this report. There is sufficient development in research. I notice that every public sector factory or undertaking has a design office, a research and development centre. This is, of course, a must for all industries.

But I cannot understand one thing. In

one place he talks of a Holding company where he has tried to combine a number of items. The Holding company will deal with steel, coking coal, iron ore, manganese and so on. Unless each unit is capable of functioning in a proper and efficient way, I am definitely of the opinion that putting all of them together will not be able to bring about good results. I personally feel that it is like sitting for a test. Suppose I sit for a test and answer one question half way, another question only for a quarter, take yet another question and leave it in the middle, will I pass the test? No, I will pass the test only when I reply to all the questions correctly and in a nice way. So, though this idea is very good, I personally feel that this is not the time when we should go in for this. Again, he is trying to involve some private companies also. Before I would think in terms of looking after the house of another person, I would have to keep my own house in order.

There is very much disparity in recruitment and promotion policies in the public undertakings. I hope the Minister in his set up one public sector service commission for recruitment to all posts in the public sectors. Then only he will be able to bring in uniform standards in the matter of recruitment and promotion in the public sector.

We have to develop the national character. It was Pandit Nehru who once said that we should judge the result not by the statistics or the amount of money spent but by the development of human character. What we have to do today is to develop the human character to tackle these challenging problems.

Finally, I would like to invite the attention of the hon Minister to the condition obtaining in HEC which is likely to create ill-feeling, discontent, dissatisfaction and hatred between different sections of the people. What is happening in HEC today? The acquired 3,767 acres of land in the nearby area and made these people refugees. What are they going to do with that land now? I am told that they are trying to open a co-operative society instead of giving back the land to these people. Why are you trying to blackmail the people of that area? If you cannot give them any assistance, at least do not try to blackmail

them. So, I would request the hon. Minister to issue directions straightway, immediately, to the Chairman or the Managing Director and restrain him from taking any such steps. I want to say in the end that though my voice is harsh I am not harsh.

He should not be a party to this type of a thing. I would once again request the hon. Minister to look into it. This is a very serious issue. If he does not take note of it, I am sure, the situation will develop to such an extent that it will get out of control.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to hon. Members for the interest they have taken in the working of the Department in my charge and for the kind words and some times the not so kind words which have been said about our work. I sympathise with them for the shortness of time and I would also ask them to excuse me if I am not able to answer all the questions that have been raised in the debate. I do not think there will be adequate time to deal with all of them. But I assure them that whatever has been said will be given utmost consideration by the Department and we shall try to see the extent to which we improve our work.

There can be no doubt if we examine the record of the Department during the last year in steel that we have not been able to attain the targets which we had put before ourselves last year and which in a sense I committed myself to in this House that I would try to attain. I do not want to make any secret of that. I think, it is necessary for me to fully put before the House the position, frankly and honestly, of the industry and the steps that we are trying to take in order to improve it.

What exactly had happened during last year? We had put before ourselves at the beginning of the year a target of 2,200,000 tonnes of ingots steel in Bhilai and we achieved 1,933,000 as against 1,940,000 in 1970-71. We went slightly ahead of last year's production. In Durgapur, we were better than last year but far away from the target which we had put before ourselves. The target was 1,153,000 tonnes and we

reached 700,000 tonnes as against 634,000 tonnes that we did last year, i. e., 1970-71. In Rourkela, the target was 1,400,000 tonnes and what we reached was 823,000 tonnes as against 1,238,000 tonnes that we did in 1970-71. So, obviously, we were well behind what we attempted to achieve and what we had put before ourselves as the target.

I certainly do owe it to the House to explain quite clearly what were the reasons for not achieving the target. The most important one, of course, was the collapse of the steel melting shop roof in Rourkela. That cost us, at a conservative estimate, something like 350,000 tonnes, i. e. 3½ lakh tonnes. Had we been able to keep up to the same level of production which we had achieved in Rourkela in normal working months, then, you will appreciate, we would have reached somewhere in the region of perhaps even 1,200,000 tonnes or certainly 1,150,000 tonnes. That would have made the entire difference both to the steel production in our country and to the economics, that is to say, the need for imports and the profitability of the Hindustan Steel Ltd. itself.

I would, however, at this moment like to pay my tribute to the manner in which, after the collapse of the roof took place, the roof was again put up. It was put up in a record time. The work was done on a war-footing. We brought in Jessops who did an excellent job in fabricating material for the roof. We thought it might take even as much as a year to get back into normal production. But it was done in a matter of 4½ months.

The second main reason why we were not able to achieve what we wanted to do was the very serious trouble we had in the coke oven in Bhilai. Despite this, we reached the figure of 1,953,000 tonnes. But I cannot gainsay the fact that, had our operation of the coke oven in Bhilai over the year been executed according to the technological rules which we should have followed, we would have achieved well over 2½ million tonnes in Bhilai this year. We have paid for our technological violations in the working of the coke ovens and also for our incompetence in maintenance. We are trying to make it up, and I will come to the measures that we are taking, in a minute.

15 hrs.

[Shri S. Mohan Kumarmangalam]

The third is—and this is also a very serious matter—the disturbed industrial relations that we have had, particularly in the Durgapur area. It is our assessment that we have lost somewhere in the region of one million man-hours of work in Durgapur during 1971-72. And it is important to note that something like 65 per cent of the financial losses that have been suffered by Hindustan Steel are due to what has been happening in Durgapur.

The fourth is the eternal problem—as you must be feeling because I have repeated it time in and time out—of inefficient maintenance to which we are really trying to make a difference.

What are the steps which we are taking? What are we trying to change and how do we think that we will be able to achieve the targets that we have put before ourselves this year?

To improve the performance of the coke ovens in the short run, that is to say, for immediate, direct improvement in the working of the coke ovens, we have appointed two special groups of experts—that is, Hindustan Steel did—to look the coke ovens in all the three public sector plants, and we are going to check up what is going on in the two private sector plants, where also we are facing trouble in the coke ovens. The services of a leading Soviet specialist—I think, he is number two in the coke oven branch in Soviet Union were availed of. He came down, spent a number of months here and gave us a detailed manual on the working and maintenance of the coke ovens. It is being translated, distributed, throughout the coke oven areas in our steel plants and all the steps that he has proposed are being implemented. I hope, this will mean a real improvement in the working of the coke ovens this year.

A special Group, apart from the two groups set up by the Hindustan Steel, was constituted by the Government for suggesting the most cost effective measures for increasing coke production, and this Group's suggestions also are under implementation. A Group has been set up under the chairmanship of the Steel Secretary to make an assess-

ment of the coke requirements in the steel industry and its availability from other sources, for example, the small coke ovens which we find in the coke ovens areas in Dhanbad and Jharia. I think, we have now taken effective steps to ensure the best use of the coke that is available in our country. And even in the case of coke oven gas the shortage of which became inevitable with the bad working of the coke ovens, we were using supplementary fuels like Naphtha and Benzene by suitable modifications, in reheating furnaces, etc. Some hon. members suggested that we must have a long-term plan for improvement of the coke ovens. We have already started doing that in terms of re-building our coke ovens. A new coke oven battery, as the hon. members are aware, was commissioned in Bhilai in January 1972. Capital repairs of all the batteries in Rourkela are being planned taking one-half of a battery down as in Japan to ensure minimum dislocation in production. We have decided to instal an additional half coke oven battery at Rourkela and another full battery at Bhilai. It will take probably two or two and a half years to put these schemes through. We have also taken a number of steps one is setting up separate Group concentrating on the maintenance in the plant itself and the other is to be able to make adequate provisions for spares to be available continuously whenever they are needed. We have planned a three-year rolling plan for stores and spares, raw materials, etc. and to ensure that, as a result of this, we will get all the spares at the cheapest and most economical prices and also that they will be available whenever we want them.

Now, these are broadly the steps that we are taking in the field of organisational and, what I would call, mechanical improvement. Perhaps, the most important, particularly, I would say, in Durgapur is the difficulties that we have been facing in the field of industrial relations. Whatever my friend Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya may say the fact is that we have suffered a lot. I do not say that it is the labour relations that are exclusively responsible for the troubles in Durgapur. Not at all. But I do say that more than in the other two plants, disturbed industrial relations have affected the working of the plant to an extraordinary degree and perhaps it may be use

ful if I Just gave one single instance which will enable hon. Members to appreciate what happens when we do not have proper industrial relations machinery working and proper relations between the management and labour.

On the morning of the 21st April, just a few days back, one of the EIMCO operators—there are five EIMCO operators to remove the slag which is on the site—refused to work and did not work from 11.15 a. m. to the end of the shift, that is, 2 o' clock. As a result, he was under-timed that is to say, he was marked as not having worked for that period. Immediately all the other EIMCO operators went on a lighting; strike as a protest against the under-timing, namely against the under-timing of this operator. As a result of these five persons not working, the entire production in the steel melting shop had to be severely curtailed and almost brought to a stop. The management, for the first time in many years, rightly said, 'We are not going to talk to you even over this under-timing affair until you go back to work. Then only we will discuss.' They refused to go back to work. As a result of the agreement we have arrived at with all the three Unions, none of the Unions supported these workers, also probably for the first time, including the Union for whom Shri Bhattacharyya may have sympathy. None of the Unions supported them. They tried the various political parties and tried to fish round hoping that they would get some support. Ultimately, finding that they did not get any support, after three days, they went back to work unconditionally. We lost 4000 tonnes of steel as a result of the strike of these 15 EIMCO operators. This was taking place time and again. Unfortunately...

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad) : What is the punishment given ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Please don't interrupt.

Unfortunately, the policy that we have been pursuing so far has been that whenever pressure like this builds up, we retreat, feeling that if we did not retreat, production will go to pieces. But with a new General

Manager there who it not going to resign—I assure Mr. Sokhi though he wants him to—I think we are beginning to get a grip on the situation there. Now, as a result of the intervention of the Labour Minister of West Bengal, Dr. Gopal Das Nag, we have come to an understanding with all the important Unions in Durgapur to set up a three tier system for settlement of disputes— one tier at the plant level, then with the management and ultimately with the Labour Minister himself involved in a sort of joint Council—and we hope that this will mean a real improvement.

I do not at all say that the workers alone are responsible. It is a sort of demagogic way of putting the management and the Government in the wrong and always charging us of trying to shift our responsibility to the workers, because after all it is the duty of the Government and the management and, more than that of the Government, of the management to manage the workers. But the fact remains and we cannot get away from that fact and if we try to get away, we will not realise that what is really harming production in Durgapur namely instances as the one I described now have continuously been responsible for keeping the production at such a low, depressed level in Durgapur. Why is it that in Bhiini and Rourkela we do not have these troubles on the scale that we have in Durgapur alone? I would appeal to the hon. Members on the other side to apply their minds and try to make a distinction. The management is the same. The Chairman is the same. Officers are transferred from one plant to another. It is not that the officers in one plant are worse than the officers in another. Now, as a result of the new approach that we are making in Durgapur, we hope we shall have some improvement. I was there in Durgapur only day before yesterday. I met all the Unions and I had discussions with them and I think the situation is improving. I would appeal to the hon. Members to lend their support to our approach and I think the management also hopes that in its policy of firmness combined with justice and combined with fairness the management should now have the entire support of the House and I am confident that if we implement it fairly and honestly, we will be able to make a decisive turn in Durgapur this year.

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We are in other respects also improving the position. The hon. Member Shri Bhattacharyya mentioned about the production incentives which of course are frowned upon in China, but I know he has no longer any sympathy for China, and I can assure him that production incentives are being introduced, they have already been introduced effectively in Bhilai. To a large extent we will be able to implement them also in Rourkela and in Durgapur also. So, that is being done. I think that will lead to improvement in productivity. The Hindustan Steel are making a number of improvements so far as the day to day organisation is concerned.

Then, a number of general allegations and statements had been made, that the our steel is very costly, why we are producing so little and so on, I would appeal to hon. Members to appreciate that by and large the steel prices in our country do correspond very favourably with the international prices. If we are able to bring our production from the present 65 to 67 per cent level which it is today to the level of 80 to 82 per cent which we aim at, I have no doubt that we shall be able to bring our steel prices to possibly among the cheapest steel in the world. This is not my opinion alone. There have been World Bank experts who have also come and looked around. Undoubtedly they expressed their regret regarding the present low level of production, but they have also said that on the basis of the present skills and organisation which we have got in our steel Plants, if we are even able to come up to 80 to 82 per cent we should be able to bring down the cost of steel substantially, and also substantially less than in some of the other countries in the world like Japan, the United States and so on. So, that is so far as this aspect is concerned.

May I now deal briefly with the question why it is that we are suffering these heavy losses? About this year, I do not want to give any exact figure, because no final figure is arrived at, the accounts are still in the process of being checked, but I have no doubt we shall suffer a fairly serious loss in Hindustan Steel. There were various reasons. First, of all, the full impact of the wage agreement is coming to Rs. 6 crores or so.

The higher consumption of stores and spares and on account of maintenance comes to Rs. 6 crores and possibly another Rs. 6 to Rs. 7 crores are due to war risk insurance and revaluation of the Dutchmark, which is a German decision, and another Rs. 1.5 crores being our liability for additional bonus, altogether Rs. 20 crores. And then, whatever extra loss we may suffer will probably be due to the fall of the roof in the steel melting shop etc. It is a fact that we will be losing money but I do want hon. Members to appreciate that we are controlling the price of steel and that when we fixed it originally we did it not by price control but by regulation; when we did it in 1962, we fixed it on a standard capital block of Rs. 1,176 per tonne of saleable steel. Now the actual capital block today is somewhere in the region of 2,000 so far as Bhilai is concerned and may be even more so far as Bokaro is concerned. The difference between the private and the public sector arises out of the fact that the capital block of the private sector,—most of it, was constructed long before and at much cheaper cost. The share capital so far TISCO is concerned is Rs. 50 crores. Necessarily it is a bias, as it were; I would not say against the public sector alone. But, as a result of pinning the steel prices down, we do almost necessarily ensure that we are working at a loss.

If we were going to increase the steel prices, which we had no intention of doing then it would have meant on the one hand that we were going to increase the profits in the private sector and on the other hand we would merely have improved the both working of the public sector. So, what we thought we would do and what has been done by the Government this year is to funnel off what can be paid extra by the steel consumer by the imposition of the excise duty. That is really the method by which we would funnel off even possible profits in the public sector in the steel plants and which would become much more in the private sector, because the private sector has advantages so far as capital costs are concerned. This is how we are looking at it. But you may say that if the increase in excise duty had been given to the steel plants as increase in price, the financial position of all the steel plants would have been better including that of Hindustan Steels. But of course, the financial position

of the TISCO and IISCO would have been much better ; I do not think that I should actually bracket TISCO and IISCO like that the financial position of TISCO would have been much better, and the financial position of IISCO would have been a little better, because if you look at IISCO's production it is nothing very much more than the production even in the public sector plants and substantially worse than the production in Bhilai.

SHRI R. N. SHARMA : That is under the influence of Durgapur.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Now, we think that this is the way in which the matter should be looked at.

Let us not beat our breast too much about our own inefficiency. There is no doubt that there is inefficiency. There is no doubt that we have got a long way still to go. But I think, and I am confident that during the last year, as a result of a number of measures which we have taken and which I have outlined very briefly just now, we shall be able to make a turn inside Hindustan Steels and inside our steel industries. I think with that I shall leave Hindustan Steels and go on to other points.

Shri Swaran Singh Sokhi raised the question of Bokaro and said that there had been complete organisational failure in Bokaro. Of course, the use of hyperbole is not impermissible in Parliament, and I have no objection to the language used. But I think that it is good also to look at the facts.

The tempo of work at Bokaro has progressively and significantly improved during the last year. Probably, the best index of the pace of construction is to see the rate of erection of steel structures, mechanical equipment and refractories. During 1971, the erection of steel structures amounted to over 71,000 tonnes, an increase of about 51 percent over the previous year. The progress in the erection of mechanical equipment was more striking as the aggregate work done during 1971 amounted to 39,000 tonnes, which is a hundred per cent more than in 1970. In refractory works, the progress is from 5568 tonnes in 1970 to 34,000 tonnes in 1971, a

sixfold increase. The monthly rate of erection of equipment has been doubled last year and is proceeding at the rate of 12,000 tonnes a month, the highest rate ever achieved anywhere in our country in a major project of this character. But it is inevitable and I would plead with the hon. Members also to appreciate some of the difficulties that we are facing in Bokaro, that in such a gigantic project involving 50,000 to 60,000 workers working in a single area, we have a number of difficulties, such as non-availability of essential goods, scarce raw materials, delay in supplies of equipment, periodic failures of a number of contractors who have been engaged and a continuous under-current of labour indiscipline arising from the necessity for us to go on keeping to targets. As soon as a particular section of the worker know that they are in a crucial position in the chain of production or construction which will enable them to hold us, they hold us and when they do so, we find it very difficult to know how to get over that difficulty. As a matter of fact, at the present moment, we have got a lock-out in Bokaro in one of the areas, in the blast furnace and coke oven and refractories area as a result of the workers thinking that with the date of commissioning of the blast furnace coming up within a seeable distance towards the end of June or the beginning of July, they are in the best possible position to, if you pardon my using that language, twist the arm of Bokaro Steels as well as that of the Government as effectively and as possible; but we decided that we could not give in any more, and if we gave in as we did in earlier days in Durgapur, we would never see the end of this arm-twisting policy which is followed by strategically placed groups of workers, who twist the arm only when it becomes most useful and most proper from their point of view and most difficult from our point of view. Unfortunately, there is no other way that we have been able to find because there are a large number of unions in Bokaro and the larger the number of unions, the less becomes the strength of each union and its capacity to deliver any goods. So, on this occasion, with the full knowledge of the Chief Minister of the Government of Bihar as well as of the local authorities, the Bokaro Steel Ltd., have declared a lock-out in a small area, and I think that as a result of it, we should be able to bring some sense to certain sec-

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tions of the workers who think that they can use the critical stage which the project has reached, in order to be able to get what they want.

There has been no revision of the revised schedule of construction finalised in the middle of 1969. After the commissioning of the first blast furnace complex the first stage will be completion about a year *i. e.*, in June 1973. The coke oven battery was lit by me in March and we hope we would be able to keep up to the schedules we have put before ourselves.

So far as the estimates of expenditure are concerned, I do not want to go into them as they been mentioned here repeatedly, but I think hon. Members should appreciate that almost the major part, more than major part, perhaps 75 per cent, of the escalation has been due to increase in the cost of indigenous equipment, particularly in regard to HEC and other organisations. Since I do not have much more time, I shall leave Bokaro at that.

I would like to deal with certain important matters in the other organisations, particularly in HEC and MAMC. I always wonder about one thing. When hon. members speak on the floor of the House, they always quote from the reports of the Committee set up by Parliament regarding public sector undertakings only those parts that are critical of their functioning. I suppose the same weight can be attached to those parts that are favourable to us. Since hon. members are not prepared to quote the parts favourable to us, I suppose I shall have to do it.

SHRI K. MANOHARAN (Madras North): That which is greater has to be quoted.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM: In the Heavy Engineering Corporation, we are making a real change. The Committee on Public Undertakings in its report submitted on 27th April, just a few days ago, has stated—and it is very gratifying—

“The Committee find that the

Ministry have already taken action in organising task forces to tackle systematically and earnestly the problems of the Heavy Engineering Corporation. While the Committee appreciate the determination with which the problem of putting to full utilisation the capacity of the Heavy Engineering Corporation is being tackled of late, they feel that this effort would have to be sustained over a number of years till all the teething troubles of the plant are overcome”.

We entirely agree.

The Committee have also made a remark about the systematic way in which the problems of the Heavy Engineering Corporation are being tackled. What I would like hon. members to appreciate is that within the last one year we have made a real improvement. In 1968-69, the equipment produced was 23,852 tonnes and in 1971-72, we have improved it to 33,000 tonnes. In between, in the two years, it was 24,462 and 23,109 tonnes—almost at the same level. But this year we have made a decisive jump. In terms of value, in 1968-69, it was Rs. 10 crores, in 1969-70 Rs. 14 crores, in 1970-71 Rs. 19 crores and in 1971-72 Rs. 28 crores. This is a decisive improvement. Not only this; we have made certain items of equipment which have never been made before in the country, wagon tippers, 180-ton EOT crane and so on and so forth.

I think we are beginning now to get over the hump in HEC. I am confident that this year we will really reach a stage when certainly there will be loss. It was already there, but we are confident of being able to break even in the latter part of the year.

How has this happened? We have made certain changes in the top management. We have given special attention to the integration of effort and sharing of workload, to securing adequate orders to see that production is uninterrupted, to improve the foundry forge plant, particularly its operation was examined by the Administrative Staff College in Hyderabad, to improve the methods and procedures of planning and production, because it is a very complicated plant in which every single thing that is produced is separate and different from any single other

article. All these things together with planning properly the availability of raw materials have, I think, led to a real improvement in HEC.

We have also done something which I think the management can certainly take credit for. We have pretty well solved the problem of rehabilitation of the Muslim employees which had been a running sore in the Heavy Engineering Corporation since 1967. We are now almost at the end of the road so far as that problem is concerned.

So far as the Mining and Allied Machinery is concerned, here also there has been a substantial improvement in terms of tonnage as well as in value. In 1970-71, the production was 7,742 tonnes, compared to 5,764 tonnes in 1969-70, and it has increased to 12,000 tonnes in 1971-72; that is, the last year. Production also has gone up in value; from Rs. 3 crores in 1969-70 to Rs. 5 crores in 1970-71, and has doubled to Rs. 10 crores in 1971-72. The Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation was the sickest child among the many sick children which exist in the Ministry of Steel and Mines. But I think we are really out of the woods, and I am confident that during the coming year, the steps which are being taken being similar to those we have taken in the Heavy Engineering Corporation, we will put the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation properly on a sound footing. We will go ahead as we are planning for in the coming years.

I am reaching the end of the time allotted to me, and I only want to mention, with the Deputy-Speaker's permission, one or two points made by hon. Members, because I do not want all of you to feel that I have escaped from here without answering a single point. I had to deal with certain general matters which are of importance, because, I think hon. Members will appreciate that the time is not enough for me to be able to deal with every single question.

The hon. Member Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya, mentioned particularly about the poor maintenance and the consequential breakdown, and not the workers' performance, as being responsible for the Durgapur loss. I have already made my

point on that, but I would like to emphasise that we are taking and have taken steps inside Durgapur regarding improvement of the technological position.

Certain allegations have been made by the hon. Member Mr. Sokhi regarding corrupt officials and action not being taken and so on. I can assure him that whatever information he has got on that matter appears to be incorrect, because I have myself examined the position in Durgapur, and all those allegations which had any *prima facie* content in them at all, have been referred to proper authorities and action will be taken on the basis of whatever reports we receive.

There has been an allegation made that the recommendations of the Pandey Committee have not been implemented. That is not correct. We have implemented most of them one after the other.

My friend Mr. Boattacharrya was very exercised for a second time on the promotion of a particular person within six hours in one day. At that time, I had expressed a certain amount of doubt about the truth of the report. Now, I am in a position to tell him that that is not true. The position is simple. Every General Manager has to have a private secretary; I think that is very obvious. And every private secretary of a General Manager has to be really a competent person. Speaking as a Minister I can say that if my private secretary is not competent, I cannot do a quarter of the work that I should do. If you want a good, first-class man as private Secretary to a General Manager, you must enable him to move out of the private secretaryship somewhere else, because he cannot move from his private secretaryship to become General Manager which is the post immediately above him and below which he is working. So, a decision was taken by the board of Hindustan Steel sometime ago—I do not know whether it was one year or two years back—that every private secretary of a General Manager should be entitled to a lateral move; that is to say, he can move into any other department for which he is qualified and on a lateral basis. All that happened in this case was that the private secretary laterally moved; that is considered to be one promotion which it is not. Late-

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ral movement means—I think we know it— one moves sideways, but at the same time. at the same level; you know it is neither forward nor upward nor downwards. *(Interruption)*

Let me finish. I am giving the fact. There, he was in a place where he was qualified to be promoted. He was, given a promotion. There is nothing out of the way, and it is unfortunate that a small matter like that which is entirely according to the rules of Hindustan Steel should be the subject of so much comment.

Because, while hundreds of these things happen in the Private Sector nobody bothers about that, but only when we stick to the rules, the matter is picked up and given a slight twist. Unfortunately, it creates a considerable amount of demoralisation when such things are looked upon a major mistakes.

Mr. Bhattacharyya also said that it has become a practice to allot quota not on the basis of actual requirement but on the recommendation of somebody. It is not so. Nobody makes the recommendation regarding the allotment of steel. Allotment of priorities regarding steel is done strictly on the basis of sponsoring by authorities— Governmental or Quasi-Governmental authorities—on the demands of different areas of industries. They go before the Joint Plant Committee, then before the Steel Priority Committee and then only, it is not allotment, but it is a question of priority requirement that is determined.

Mr. Sokhi has given some details about the personal experiences and inspection he had of the Rourkela Plant. I have not got the details in answer to what he said. I will give him details later if he is still interested at that time.

So far as taking over the Asian Refractories is concerned, Hon. Members know that the delay was due to the delay in the court. It took four months for us to get through the court. I think we all know that this can happen.

Mr. Viswanathan spoke about over-staffing. But the difficulty about over-staffing of any particular concern is when a person gets inside the field of constructing a particular plant, then in our country he thinks he has a prescriptive right to the job in the plant itself. You are not, as I know, from Salem. If you were an M.P. from Salem, I am sure, after we have constructed a steel plant in Salem, there will be into few workers who will be on your head asking you to see to it that they are given jobs in the steel plant. This is the trouble in our country, and I think it arises out of difficulty regarding employment, and the Members of Parliament from the particular area, where you and I may be complaining about over-staffing. I can assure you, would be the first in the field to demand that there should be no retrenchment, and unfortunately we have to follow that. What you had also suggested was, at least to see that they are assimilated in future. We shall try, but I think it will be difficult to avoid it for some time to come, until our whole man-power problem viz., solution of the unemployment in the country has been properly achieved.

Mr. Panda has charged me about the question of the second steel plant in Orissa. Well, he can wait for hearing my remarks tomorrow afternoon. I am sure he is going to wait. I think that discussion on the Resolution has not yet concluded.

So far as Khadiikar formula is concerned, that was inevitable because we are dealing unit by unit. If we had take Hindustan steel everybody would have got 1% extra. Because we dealt with it unit by unit, Rourkela got more R. Bhilai got more, Durgapur did not, Fertilizer plant did not. But if we take Hindustan Steel as a whole every body would have got 1%. What happens? The Fertilizer people have not been badly treated. but others have been well treated or better treated I do not think you want me to take back the extra bonus from the Rourkela or from the Bhilai worker; that is not your intention. We cannot extend it because applying the principle of Khadiikar formula they are not entitled to. So, merely because next door the workers are entitled to it, because we apply Khadiikar formula in that way does not mean that the plant which is not entitled

becomes entitled. I think it is a better way to meet that problem like that.

So far as the sale of scrap at Rs. 50/— to a contractor from Bhilai is concerned, that is not true. I have examined that matter. I do not think any mistake has been committed by the Bhilai authorities.

I have not, unfortunately, the time to deal with mines at all. My hon. friend the Minister of State, Mr. Shah Nawaz Khan, had dealt with these elaborately. I think all the questions that were raised have been dealt with him.

I shall finally deal with two points. One is, so far as the copper deposits in Madhya Pradesh are concerned, Mr. Gautam has rightly said that there are very good copper deposits, possibly, they may be the best in our country. The copper ore content is 1.16 and 21 million tonnes of reserves have already been discovered there. Probably, we got 40 million. We are definite that we will be putting up a concentrator there, and very likely we may put up a smelter. We have not taken a final decision. That will be done very soon.

Mr. Shivnath Singh said, we should not export iron ore and we should put a stop to it. I am afraid I cannot agree with him. At the very minimum, we have got 10,000 million tonnes of iron ore. I do not know how we are going to calculate how soon we are going to exhaust it, but assuming we even reach the Japanese rate of production, which is going to take us some time, we need not have any fear. These are the discovered, proved reserves. If we take reserves which we are in the process of discovery our broad guess is in the Kudremukh to Goa area alone on the West Coast which has magnetite ore of 3%, we will have 6,000 million tonnes. So, we need not have any fear that we are going to exhaust our reserves. Even countries like Brazil and Australia are earning so much money by exporting iron ore. I think you should criticise us for not exporting enough. That is the real change against Government, to which I cannot plead guilty, though I can feel rather uncomfortable about it.

Finally, both in the Department of steel and in the Department of Mines, we

are trying to put the working of the department on a more and more scientific and rational basis. The holding company about which some hon. Members had made a mention is essentially a device by which we would be able to coordinate and control the development of our iron ore and steel industry more effectively than before. My friend, Mr. Mohanty, was sceptical and said, "Why don't you put your present house in order before trying to build a new house?" I am not trying to build a new house. This is only a better method of being able to put the present house in the proper functioning order. We are merely setting up a coordinating authority which will not be interfering in the day-to-day operations of Hindustan Steel or Bokarao Steel, etc., but bringing them together, giving them maximum assistance and helping them to get over the difficulties and pushing up in the most effective way the iron and steel production in the country. I am confident that the holding company which we hope to bring into operation within the next few months will mark a significant step forward in the more effective leadership by Government of the industrial sector, both public sector and private sector and also in the area of production of the principal metal steel in our country.

Sir, I once more thank hon. members for their friendly remarks today. I assure them that when we all meet together next year, we will have a better story to tell them.

Some Hon. Members rose.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will allow only those whose names have been listed and who had no opportunity to speak.

SHRI G VISWANATHAN : What about Neiveli?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : My colleague, the Minister of state, has dealt with it.

I admit that I have not been able to deal with probably 75 per cent of the questions raised in the debate owing to lack of time. It is a choice between taking point by point and trying to give a broad picture. I assure hon. members that I will go through

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the debate and reply to them personally on every single question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : They can take it up directly with you also. (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA (Khammam) : Since we did not get any time to speak on the debate, we may be allowed to ask three or four questions. Is there any co-ordination between the Department of Mines and the Ministry of Railways about transportation? Coal has to be transported from Ramgundam to Kothagudam. Because of shortage of coal at the thermal power station at Kothagudam on account of the non-availability of wagons to carry coal from Ramgundam, there is power cut and industries are affected. So, is there any coordination in the matter of lifting of coal?

Secondly, this morning the question of having a mini steel plant at Kothagudam was raised. Many tests have been conducted for years and years by metallurgical laboratories. Feasibility study has also been made. Recently, a UN team visited that place. What is the latest position?

My third question is about the closing down of the diamond mines in Andhra Pradesh. His predecessor had promised that he will make Rayalaseema into a Ratnaseema. Now that the diamond mines are closed there is so much of unemployment. Even before the formation of the Gem Corporation I had requested that the diamond mines should not be closed down.

Finally, what is the recruitment policy in the steel industry? There is a feeling growing among the local people at Visakhapatnam that only outsiders are recruited in the Visakhapatnam steel plant. That feeling has to be removed, if that is not correct.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Regarding the question of transportation of coal from Ramgundam to Kothagudam, I would like to mention that the question of difficulties faced regarding transport of coal are always under exami-

nation collectively by the Department of Mines and the Ministry of Railways. I do not think there is any gap in the understanding of the two departments. Possibly, even daily sometimes they will be meeting to try to solve the problems. Unfortunately, sometimes there is not enough foresight in planning ahead and, therefore, these difficulties do arise.

So far as the question of the mini-steel plant at Kothagudam is concerned, at present there is no question of setting up a mini-steel plant at Kothagudam. It is not a mini-steel plant at all. The idea probably is to put up a sponge iron plants there with the help of UNIDO to experiment whether we can use coal as a solid reductant to increase the ferrous content of iron ore. It is being processed and probably will come up. But it will take some time.

So far as the recruitment policy is concerned, I am glad the hon. Member has mentioned it, because this is one of the things which I wanted to make mention of. Perhaps the way in which things are going on is best illustrated by my friend, Shri Shivanath Singh's sudden espousal of the cause of Hindustan Copper headquarters at Khetri. What does moving of Hindustan Copper headquarters from Khetri to Calcutta mean? It means not a single employee of Khetri need be moved to Calcutta. It means you will have the headquarters of Hindustan Copper in Calcutta, employing the vast number of 60 workers, which is going to change the employment situation both in Calcutta and Khetri, completely, of course! Let us appreciate that this small headquarters we fix not according to the State but according to the working of the organisation, I may be wrong in deciding on Calcutta; I do not wish to get into a debate on that and I do not think it is right.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH : The shifting of the headquarters will affect the development of copper at Khetri.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : What you must appreciate is that it makes no difference to employment. Whether the headquarters should be either at Calcutta or Khetri is a matter of balance between the various considerations. H.C.L. has to look after not only Khetri; it

has to look after Rakha project, integrate Indian Copper mining with Rakha, it has to supervise Agrigundala project in Andhra Pradesh and many other projects. He may think that it should be in Khetri because it is in his constituency. But I have been put in charge of Hindusthan Copper Ltd. as a whole. If I have to think of H.C.L. as a whole I cannot think in terms of one State. Unfortunately, there has been a tendency growing, and I say that with a great deal of sorrow, for thinking in terms every particular plant that is put up in every particular State to provide employment only for the persons in that particular State.

The Government of India have taken a decision which we are vigorously implementing that all posts below Rs. 500 a month should go to the people of the area. We are giving those posts to them. But there is a tendency not only in Vizag but in so many places also of over-stressing this point, and of demanding that, if there is an engineer with a salary of Rs. 750 or Rs. 1000 or Rs. 1250, you have taken too few Bengali engineers in Durgapur; that you have too few Bihari engineers in Dhanbad; that you have taken too few Rajasthan engineers in Udaipur and so on. Surely, India is a single country and we should try to go on the basis of merit. Our claim in the Government of India and in the public sector products projects entrusted to my charge is that employment in superior posts is being given strictly on the basis of merit and the capacity to do the job. If we are wrong in judging of merits, you can criticise us. But it is not fair that everyone of these posts should be put under a microscope and to try to examine who was his father, who was his mother and where from he has come. The posts below Rs. 500 a month are going strictly to the people of the area. But when it comes to higher posts, it is strictly on the basis of merit and merit alone.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There are a number of cut motions moved. I put them all together 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, 1973, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 75 to 77 and 129 relating to the Ministry of Steel and Mines."

The motion was adopted.

{The Motions for Demand for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.}

DEMAND NO. 75 : DEPARTMENT OF STEEL.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 95,63,000 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, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Steel'."

DEMAND NO. 76 : DEPARTMENT OF MINES.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,92,63,000 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, 1973, in respect of 'Department of Mines'."

DEMAND NO. 77 : GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,04,14,000 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, 1973, in respect of 'Geological Survey'."

DEMAND NO. 129 : OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 55,65,20,000 be granted to the President

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

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, 1973, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel and Mines'."

15.48 hrs.

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND
CHEMICALS.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 66 and 125 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals for which 4 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. 66 : MINISTRY OF
PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 64,73,000 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, 1973, in respect of 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals.'"

DEMAND NO. 125 : CAPITAL OUTLAY
OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM
AND CHEMICALS

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Motion moved.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 69,12,61,000 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, 1973, in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals."

15.48 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair.]

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Ministry deals with very vital sectors of our economy. The saddest commentary that I want to make is that the foreign monopolies have had the strongest grip on these products, that is, petroleum and chemical products. These two vital sectors, petroleum and drugs, are under the firm grip of foreign companies, mainly, British and American.

Take, for example, the price of crude. We import about 14 million tonnes of crude. What is more astounding is that the oil companies, the foreign monopolies, import crude from their own source. Our Government cannot direct them to use crude oil from any other source. Several times it was discussed here also—the Soviet Union wanted to supply crude at a cheaper cost to these Anglo-American oil magnates and they openly said that they were not going to refine any crude that the Government may bring from any other country except their own. What is more astounding is that the prices of the imported crude have been fantastically pushed up again and again at the sweet-will of the big foreign companies. Till the end of 1968 Burmah-Shell charged 1.38 dollar per barrel imported from Persian Gulf and 1.31 dollar per barrel for Agha-ghary crude oil. ESSO and Caltex were charging 1.31 dollars for Arabian crude. In between, only for a short time, 5 per cent was reduced. Again the plea was raised by these foreign monopolists that because higher royalties were charged by the oil-producing countries, they had to increase the cost of the crude. The price of 1.25 to 1.28 dollar per barrel shot up to 1.81 to 1.85 dollar per barrel in the year 1970-71. What an unimaginable increase! When Government, day in and day out, talk of taking the country towards self-reliance, this is the picture that is prevailing year after year in the most vital sector of our economy. Again there is pressure for rise because of devaluation of dollar. The Indian people will have to pay for the higher cost of crude that they will import from their own sources. So, the Indian people will continue to be looted by the Anglo-American magnates and our Government