

Mr. Chairman : I shall now put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

Mr. Chairman : 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, 1971, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 34 to 36 and 117 relating to the Ministry of Foreign Trade."

The motion was adopted.

(The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.)

DEMAND NO. 34—MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.44,17,000 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, 1971 in respect of 'Ministry of Foreign Trade.'"

DEMAND NO. 35—FOREIGN TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.70,65,55,000 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, 1971 in respect of 'Foreign Trade.'"

DEMAND NO. 36—RENEUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,39,70,000 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, 1971 in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.'"

DEMAND NO. 117—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.21,97,000 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, 1971 in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Foreign Trade.'"

16 hrs.

MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS

Mr. Chairman : The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demand Nos. 74 to 76 and 128 relating to the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals for which five 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. 74—MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICAL AND MINES AND METALS

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.44,88,000 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, 1971, in respect of 'Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals.'"

DEMAND NO. 75—GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved :

"That a sum not exceeding Rs.9,37,58,000 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, 1971, in respect of 'Geological Survey.'"

DEMAND NO. 76—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved :

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.14,23,91,000 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, 1971, in respect of ‘Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals.’”

[Failure to put a stop to the corruption, nepotism and favouritism that are rampant in the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travencore Limited. (5)]

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure of the F. A. C. T. to produce fertilisers to its installed capacity. (6)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to prevent excessive and wasteful expenditure in FACT (7)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Need to set up an independent and impartial machinery on the lines of the Public Service Commission to select persons for appointment in the services of public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals. (8)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure of the Government to make India self-sufficient in fertilisers. (9)].

Shri Yashpal Singh (Dehra Dun) : I beg to move :

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Working of the Geological Survey of India and equipping the said organisation with aeroplanes for survey work. (10)].

DEMAND NO. 128—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND MINES AND METALS

Mr. Chairman : Motion moved :

“That a sum not exceeding Rs.87,99,93,000 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, 1971, in respect of ‘Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals.’ ”

Hon. Members may now move their cut motions’.

Shri P. G. Sen (Purnea) : I beg to move :

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to provide kerosene pumps for proper and easy availability to the villagers who otherwise get kerosene at petrol prices. (4)]

Shri P. Viswambharan (Trivandrum) : I beg to move :

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs. 100.”

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs. 100."

[Need to adopt policy by the Indian Oil Corporation to make allotment of petrol pumps and oil depots to unemployed engineers. (11)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to direct the Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd., to go in for indigenous materials in preparation of drugs. (12)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Malpractices indulged in by coal miners in supplying low grade coal to railways and steel plants. (13)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to conserve the gas which is being burnt in the Ankleshwar area in the absence of Cylinders. (14)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to reduce the prices of drugs generally and further substituting the imported ones by indigenous ones. (15)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Desirability of accelerating the oil drilling operations in the Doon valley of Uttar Pradesh. (16)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals

and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need for reducing the price of kerosene oil. (17)].

Shri Yashwant Singh Kushwah (Bhind):
I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Delay to start production in Korba Fertilizer Factory (18)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to reduce the prices of fertilizers. (19)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to meet the requirements of fertilizers within the country. (20)].

Shri Ganesh Ghosh (Calcutta South):
I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to take over all foreign oil companies. (21)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to compel foreign oil companies working in India to handle cheap Soviet crude oil and other petroleum products. (22)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to change the refinery agreements between the Government of India and foreign oil companies into ordinary licensing agreements. (23)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to compel foreign oil companies to substantially reduce the prices of crude oil and petroleum products to internationally available rates. (24)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Grant of licence to the Birlas for a fertilizer plant in Goa. (25)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to reduce the price of fertilizers. (26)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to set up more fertilizer factories in the Public Sector. (27)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to reduce the price of kerosene. (28)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to check corruption by top officials. (29)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to abolish contract labour in the Mines particularly in the Government owned mines. (30)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to nationalise all the coal mines or at least to take over their management by the Government. (31)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1."

[Failure to stop large scale retrenchment of the drilling personnel of the coal mines. (32)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Partisanship of the management of the Calcutta Branch of the Indian Oil Corporation in the dispute between two rival employees unions. (33)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Suspension of 6 leaders of the Indian Oil Workers' Union by the management of the Calcutta Branch of the I. O. C. at the dictation of a rival employees' union. (34)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to check the vindictive attitude and actions of the officials of the Canning Oil Project against the local employees. (35)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Transfer of Union leaders from the Calcutta office of the Canning Oil Project to Assam as retaliatory measures while recruiting new employees for the same posts. (36)].

Shri Om Prakash Tyagi (Moradabad):
I beg to move :

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to make proper use of large variety of herbs available in India. (47)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to make the country self-reliant in chemical technology. (48)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to run chemical plants on profit. (49)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to provide safeguards to small coal mines. (50)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to encourage use of coal in rural areas so as to save cow dung manure. (51)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to encourage naphtha based fertilizer plants. (52)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to set up ammonia plants for producing fertilizer. (53)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to make proper use of gas and to check its misuse. (54)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Indifference shown towards offer of collaboration by Japan in respect of off-shore oil exploration. (55)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100.”

[Failure to make the country self-reliant in the matter of fertilizers. (56)].

Shri Shiva Chandra Jha (Madhubani):
I beg to move:

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1.”

[Failure to stop the rampant bureaucracy in the Fertilizer Corporation of India. (57)].

“That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced to Re.1.”

[Granting of the licence to the Birlas for setting up the fertilizer plant in Goa. (58)].

Shri Sradhakar Supakar (Sambalpur):
I beg to move :

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Need to improve the working of the Public Sector Projects under the Ministry. (59)].

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Slow progress towards self-sufficiency in non-ferrous metals. (60)].

"That the demand under the Head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Production, distribution and price of oil in India. (61)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Slow progress towards self-sufficiency in the production of drugs and chemicals. (62)].

Shri Ram Charan (Khurja) : I beg to move :

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to make reservation for the people of Scheduled Castes/Tribes in granting the agencies of Indane gas. (63)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to make reservation in the allotment of Petrol pumps to Scheduled Castes/Tribes. (64)].

"That the demand under the head Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to make reservation for scheduled Castes/Tribes people in granting the agencies of Indian Oil products. (65)].

Shri Sradhakar Supakar : I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Issue of licence of Birla Brothers to establish a fertilizer factory at Goa. (66)].

"That the demand under the head other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Import of fertilizers to India. (67)].

Shri Ram Charan : I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals be reduced by Rs.100."

[Failure to give consideration for issuing the Indane gas agencies to the Scheduled Castes/Tribes who applied for it. (68)].

Mr. Chairman : The cut Motions are also before the House.

श्री बेनी शंकर शर्मा : सभापति महोदय, मैंने अपने कट मोशन आज सबेरे दिये हैं।

सभापति महोदय : वह निर्धारित समय के बाद आये हैं।

श्री बेनी शंकर शर्मा : इसके पहले भी सदन में इस तरह से कट मोशन पेश करने की इजाजत दी गई है।

सभापति महोदय : इस तरह से कभी नहीं हुआ है।

Shri Manubhai Patel (Dabhoi) : I rise to express my views on the Demands of an important Ministry which deals with a number of things, with the health of the people through drugs and pharmaceuticals, with the health of the land through fertilisers and with the health of the national economy through the exploration and exploitation of petroleum products, mines and metals. This Ministry has the fortune of controlling a vast empire. Each subject under its charge is itself a vast empire. There are certain empires which nobody can touch. I am glad Dr. Triguna Sen is heading this Ministry because he had a feather to his cap while handling the Education Ministry by unanimously and successfully bringing about a national policy in education because he never yielded to the strings and pulls of political pressures. But in this Ministry he has yet to prove that he will not succumb and will be above it, because in all the different subjects I am going to deal with political considerations are taken into account.

First I. D. P. L. In 1959, Russia came out with a sum of 10 crore roubles help. Without any project report, without any detailed studies we just accepted the charge. And look at the conditions of all the five projects which are really pitiable. On Rishikesh with an investment of Rs.25 crores and a 300-tonne capacity, the loss is Rs.10 crores. They are not able to produce even a small quantity of those products, they are not able to produce them in quality and clarity also. The choice of the site was not purely technical, it was based on political considerations. Hence a loss of Rs.10 crores. Not only that, they are now thinking of producing cattle feed.

In Hyderabad, we are producing drugs. But the question of the disposal of the effluents remains. A sum of Rs.15 lakhs were granted which later on shot up to Rs.45 lakhs and still there is no solution in sight. Their investment is Rs.20 crores and loss Rs. 6 crores. Vit. B¹ and B² are not saleable because they are very costly as it goes against the policy of Government to bring down the prices of these drugs. I will go into it later.

The third is the Madras Surgical Instruments unit where the investment was Rs.6 crores and loss Rs.4 crores. They could

not produce surgical instruments. They produced cutlery, spoons and forks, and now they are thinking of producing consumer goods. This is the fate of these three units.

The fourth was the Phyto-Chemicals which was dropped after spending Rs.30 lakhs. The fifth project, the Bombay Glandular, has not commenced at all.

As against these, Hindustan Antibiotics with the help of U. N. I. C. E. F. produced penicillin and streptomycin. They paid back the loan of Rs.3.5 crores and they have resources worth Rs. 6 crores today. That was because they had better collaboration, with companies which knew more about these techniques, while in these collaborations with Russia the machines were outdated and the technology was also old. The surgical instruments and other things produced with these Russian designs and patents can never be utilised here.

In Rishikesh we are spending Rs.15 to Rs.20 lakhs, every year on these Russian technicians. They are demanding extension every year and we are also giving them extension every year. For what? For experimenting on our unit and trying to derive benefit out of it. I am not talking from a political viewpoint, but the only remedy is to do away with the Russian technicians there.

The second remedy is to stop the Madras Surgical Instruments Factory because out of Rs.6 crores you have a deficit of Rs.4 crores. You can never work with such units.

Thirdly, they have spent a huge sum on the marketing organisation of I. D. P. L. Though they have entered into contracts with small agencies also, ignoring them they have entered into a contract with Voltas. Voltas are demanding high prices, defeating the Government's policy of bringing down prices. That is why the vested interests which are functioning through the I. D. P. L. should also be put a stop to.

A very important giant petro-chemical complex is taking shape which is going to change the whole face of our country, revolutionise our chemical and petroleum

[Shri Manubhai Patel]

products industries and open new gates for progress. The Udex plant has already started. The hon. Minister laid the foundation stone some time back for the Aromatics plant. About the Naphtha Cracker I do not know whether the collaborators have signed the agreement or not. Regarding the Naphtha Cracker, the difficulty is about the supply of crude. This morning there was a short notice question in which it was asked whether the Ankleshwar oil wells would dry up by 1978 and the Minister was fumbling. He was not able to reply categorically. He only said that production at the present rate would continue till 1976 or so and after that it would decline. This Naphtha Cracker has to depend mainly on crude produced at Ankleshwar. If you do not feed it, all the down-stream industries will have to suffer. That is why I put a question whether any Member of the Commission had resigned. He did name one Member, Mr. Deshpande, but he said that he resigned for some other reason. Actually this is the reason. I do not press the Minister or the Government to reply on the spot, but I would request them to appoint a Commission of experts on this to find out the reasons for the drying up of the oil fields in Ankleshwar. Without doing it there will be difficulty after some time.

Then I come to the gap between licensing and down-stream units.

You are going to produce 24,000 tonnes of D. M. T. Additional polyster capacity is not granted. That means that the D.M. T. will not be lifted, it will be a problem. Polyster capacity is granted in Assam, which shows that this will have to be lifted from here to Assam.

Another point is about the caustic soda chlorine plant about which Government have not taken any decision. Unless they decide on this early, chlorine-industries will not be able to start functioning. So this project should be granted round about the petrochemical complex, in that area. Otherwise, there will be a gap.

There is also uncertainty about the Government policy regarding downstream industries. One does not know when one's licence will be revoked and when the Government will take away that industry. For

example acrylonitrile has been taken by the Indian Petro-Chemical complex. It has its hands already full and it cannot take over anything new. But they have given this new thing also to them. About V. A. and P. V. A. fibre no decision has been taken; synthetic rubber plant has not been finalised. There was an integrated project for acrylonitrile and acryline fibre which was given to Tatas. They have taken away the acrylonitrile which is the basic material and left the acryline fibre with Tata. This is going to create more uncertainty. That is why I say that in regard to downstream units there is this uncertainty about licensing. The licences should not be disturbed or taken away unless they prove a failure.

So many problems will arise when the down-stream industries come into existence and we must have a petro-chemical complex research institute. They should think of it immediately so that the problems that arise can be tackled, and improved techniques and knowledge could be imparted to these industries. I request the Ministry to put the down-stream units in the co-operative sector. Lastly, as far as the petro-chemical complex is concerned, what is happening for the chairmanship? In the beginning I pointed out that the Minister could be successful when he was the Minister of Education; here as petro-chemical Minister he should have to prove that he will not succumb to political pressures. The chairmanship of this Corporation was practically decided; the State Government have decided, but since they do not pull together, there is delay. They tried to win over a defector and just because of that it was hanging fire. What is their policy?

श्रीमती जयाबेन शाह (अमरेली) : भ्राप गुजरात गवर्नमेंट को टापाल करने के लिए यह सब कर रहे हैं। पेट्रो केमिकल कम्प्लेक्स का बेयरमेंट भ्राप उसको बनाना चाहते हैं जो डिफेक्ट करके भ्रापकी तरफ आ जाये।

श्री रवि राय : डिफेक्टर का नाम बताइये।

Shri Manubhai Patel : I was telling the House that the Ministry should prove whether the Minister is courageous enough to face the Prime Minister in this respect, because she is intervening or interfering with your Ministry. If you do not succumb to it,

if you survive it, you will, have to accept the recommendation of the State Government. If you try to play with it, it will bring very serious consequences.

My next point is about the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. It is also a very important thing. As I said, it is an empire where we cannot touch anything, and we do not know whether it is under your control. The present head-quarters is at Dehra Dun, where a staff of 5,000 officers and workers are there, and where probably not a drop of oil is produced. In the former days, when Shri K. D. Malaviya was the Minister in charge, a full-time Chairman was not available, and then the headquarters was kept there. At that time, we were not knowing much about the oil-fields also. Now, two sectors are there. So, I suggest that both the regions should have autonomous regional Commissions : one at Sibsagar and the other at Baroda. Otherwise you cannot tackle this problem. You cannot play tricks with the organisation.

About oil drilling, I will just say a few words. I know you have started off-shore drilling already. But there also, out of 350 oil-bearing wells in Gujarat, 56 were gas-bearing and 121 were dry, and yet this Commission was always boasting that the result is cent per cent. The Ankleshwar oil field is one of the best in the world. But you have said that 121 wells were dry, that in the case of 20 wells, water is being injected and in respect of 51 wells, test-repairs are being done. I suggest that this should also come within the purview of the Commission. They will have to examine it.

About the refinery in Gujarat, the capacity of the Koyali refinery is 4.3 million tonnes. There are 16 oil fields there. More may be coming up. You have started off-shore drilling. You will have more crude coming. You have not granted a second refinery there. We have suggested that one should be established in Gujarat because Sanand, Nawagam, Kathane and so many other oil fields are there, and there is great potentiality. But in Assam, you would grant a second refinery. In this report, you have said that there is not sufficient crude and we will have to import it. Why? It is purely on political considerations. We

do not mind it, because we are glad that Assam gets more refineries. We are always glad in the prosperity of Assam. But then, your decision is always politically motivated. That is spoiling the progress of this country.

About the pollution of water. You remember the Monghyr incident where there were flames on the Ganga. At that time, the Prime Minister had committed that let us by 1970 bring a Water Pollution Act. But nothing has been done regarding this.

So, we are not opposed to petro-chemical development and the petro-chemical industries. We wish that it should develop, but the problems which come along with it should also be tackled properly, and if you do not tackle them in time, we will fail and that will be at the cost of the health of our people.

Mr. Chairman : May I know whether your party is putting up only one spokesman (**Interruption**) If it is more than one, then do not take up the entire time.

Shri Manubhai Patel : I shall finish in two minutes. Regarding fuel oil, the present basis is that you are fixing the price on the basis of the imported furnace oil. It should be fixed on the price of the Gujarat crude, and you should consider Gujarat as a separate zone. As far as this crude price is concerned, it should be linked with the Koyali refinery also. The Taluqdar Committee in 1965 had said that the parties concerned should fix the price of R. F. O. You have not accepted that recommendation. I request you to reconsider your policy.

According to their calculation, the price of crude will be something like Rs.24 to Rs.26. The price of this R. F. O. will be 60 per cent of that, which comes to Rs.15 to Rs.16.

Regarding the supply of gas. The Ahmedabad Electricity Company said that they will accept whatever quantity of oil you supply, but O. N. G. C. said that the gas is reserved for the Co-operative Farmers Fertiliser Company which will need the gas after two years. Ahmedabad Electricity Company, was willing to accept the gas for two years, but still this is not finalised. The same is the case with Broach Textile Mills also.

[Shri Manubhai Patel]

In oil marketing, great mismanagement is going on there. I submit to the minister that in marketing spheres, a special advisory committee should be appointed with State committees and district committees, so that there is no delay in marketing.

In the end, as I have pointed out, in all the three subjects which I have dealt with, the main consideration is political. You have to do away with it. Then and then alone you will prove that you do not succumb to political pressures. I hope you will do it earlier, when I could congratulate you.

Mr. Chairman : The next speaker is Mr. R. Barua. I would tell him that his party's time is 1 hour 54 minutes. Two ministers want to speak.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals (Shri Jagannath Rao) : Three ministers want to speak.

Mr. Chairman : Apart from the three ministers, there are 9 speakers. If they take 6 or 7 minutes each, it will be possible to accommodate them. Now, Mr. Barua.

Shri R. Barua (Jorhat) : Sir, when I speak on the demands of this ministry, let me first deal with oil, which is becoming a very topical subject. This year we are going to produce not more than 6.97 million tonnes of crude and our import need comes to 12.58 m. tonnes. It must be said to the credit of the ministry that they have done enough geological and geophysical surveys to go in for more exploration. Off-shore exploration of oil has also been taken up, but in spite of all that you have done during the last 18 years, indigenous production of crude is only 150 m. tonnes. According to estimates, India's oil content will not be more than 1000 m. tonnes. That being so, I submit that the time has come for the ministry to determine a fuel policy and intensive exploration policy. In 1974, taking the best view, our oil production will be 8.5 million tonnes of crude and we will have to depend on import of 20.77 million tonnes. That is to say, every year we are going to depend more on imported crude than on our own production. Therefore, my first submission is that Government should take a

positive line to determine a fuel policy, by which I mean, they must determine what is the need of the country, how much of it is to come from different sources of energy, their relative economics, costs and constraints on foreign exchange and how far we can meet them. Unless they do it in that manner, in the not too distant future, we shall be faced with difficult problems so far as oil is concerned.

With regard to intensive exploration, it is good that sufficient work has been done in different areas including Tripura and other places, but the expenses we are incurring are not commensurate with the results we are getting during the last 8 years. That should be an eye-opener. We should be more pragmatic in our exploration programmes.

So far as off-shore drilling is concerned, let us not be bogged down by the ideological differences of the two worlds; so far as off-shore drilling is concerned, we must have the sophisticated and most up-to-date machinery and technical know-how. Then only it will be real off-shore drilling which will add to the wealth of the country.

So far as Assam is concerned, we are glad that the refining capacity of crude oil is going to be increased and the extra oil that we find today will be refined there. But, so far as the Haldia-Barauni pipeline is concerned we were given to understand that it was meant for drawing the oil from Persian Gulf to Barauni. We are now given to understand that it was meant for the high sulphur content crude from Assam to be drawn for the third unit in Barauni. If that is so, Government is not prepared to have any perspective policy because of which they are now required to change the whole thing at a cost of Rs. 4 crores. Not only that till 1972 this unit will remain idle. I do not understand why it is not possible to take crude from Indonesia, which has more sulphur content, through these pipes without doing any reconditioning. But they are now going to get it from Persian Gulf which means they will have to make the pipes good for crude with a high content of sulphur. I hope the Minister in his reply will make us understand what the policy of the government is.

Coming to the petro-chemical complex that is sought to be established in Assam, it is a very good step. Only the other day the hon. Minister rightly stated that it is the economics of petroleum crude that justifies the additional refinery and it is not because of any political pressure. I am glad that he made it clear. Otherwise, there would have been propaganda that this was as a result of political pressure. Of course, we used political pressure when our demand was not met. All the same, we are justified in our demand because the economics of crude production justified it. Therefore, we are glad they have done it.

Now I come to fertilizer. We say that India today is having a green revolution. In order to make this revolution green and actually revolutionary we have to put in more modern inputs while using high-breed seeds. For that fertilizer is a must. Here I may say that fertilizer consumption in India is rather very low compared to other countries. India is still amongst the lowest consumers of fertilizer per capita. In 1968-69 she consumed 1.66 kg. nitrogen, 0.55 kg. P_2O_5 and 0.27 kg. K_2O , i.e., 2.48 kg. per capita of fertilizer against a total of 4.81 kg. consumed by the Philippines, 14.55 kg. by Korea, 14.80 kg. by Israel and 21.44 kg. by Japan. Comparatively, U. S. A. consumed 64.51 kg. per capita. France 68.37 kg., Australia 99.18 kg. and Denmark 107.25 kg. New Zealand's consumption of 153.71 kg. per capita was the highest of all countries.

Therefore, in order to increase our food production we must have facilities for producing more fertilizer. But, in order to do that it will not be enough to indulge in some sort of political quarrel as to whether we should have it in the public sector or private sector, whether it should be with the co-operation and collaboration of A or B. For example, the Goa fertilizer project was bogged down because of the political debate. But today it has been given the clearance and I hope that this project will get through not because it is given to somebody but because it will expedite our production. So also, I hope the Minister will do well to see that other projects in the private sector and the public sector get through.

Coming to medicine, particularly the I. D. P. L., it is a very sad story. Today

we hear in the public and the press that drug prices are going very high. But what about the I. D. P. L. which was established in order to meet the need of basic drugs in the country? The estimates of the antibiotics plant at Rishikesh, the synthetic drugs plant at Hyderabad and the surgical instruments plant at Madras were revised five times in eight years resulting in the total estimate going up from Rs.33.65 crores to Rs.95.90 crores. The total sales potential according to the bulletin issued by the Russian Embassy is Rs.42 crores but up to March, 31, 1968, sales were only Rs.9 lakhs and the loss of Rs.2.32 crores. There is a loss of Rs.90 lakhs per year for the instruments factory and a loss of Rs.9.12 crores in 1968-69 on sales worth Rs.1 crore. That means, the loss is Rs.9 for every rupee of drug sold. Out of the company's entire income, the Russian experts were paid Rs.29.9 lakhs, that is, one-third of the income. Is this the way we are going to develop our public sector factory? Therefore, the entire I. D. P. L., needs a thorough look.

I am told that in Hyderabad a strike is going on for the last 40 days. There is absolutely no production; whatever little production it had has also stopped. I do not know why the Government is not in a position to mediate in this quarrel and do something to set things right. If the I. D. P. L., fails, no amount of talk about cutting down drug prices will be of any avail. Every day it is becoming a butt of criticism in every paper.

Last of all I shall point out a few things which the Minister will take note of. For instance, in Namrup it is very strange that people without having engineering degree are having a good scale of established engineers. Even in Sindri, I am told, an officer, who was appointed on a pay of Rs.400 about four years ago, is now lifted to a rank with a pay of Rs.2,700. I do not know how far I am correct but these are things which are likely to create irritation in different States particularly because industries go in a big way. If you create these imbalances and apparent irregularities, these are likely to arouse local feelings and sentiments. I hope, the Minister will look into it.

With regard to the hiring of tankers for importing crude oil etc., from foreign coun-

[Shri R. Barua]

tries, scandalous things are going on. I am told that some brokers are appointed but their performance has not been above board and money is being misused. I hope, the matter, will be looked into.

In the Barauni refinery, slag is being wasted. It means a lot of waste for the public exchequer and we are depriving the country of the raw material from which things can be developed. Why is it not being utilised ?

Regarding the petrochemical complex and refinery, I would like to know from the hon. Minister on the floor of the House whether requisite finance for it will be adequately provided in the Budget. We were told long time ago that we were going to have expansion of the Nunmati refinery but we have not got the money up till now for it.

Everytime, we get an assurance but not the money. Therefore, a positive allotment of the money in the Budget, in the Plan, should be made so that the people of Assam and, for that matter, of the country as a whole, will say, "Here is the money and we are going to get it." Other wise, it will always be difficult for the Minister to carry people with him. I hope that adequate provision will be made. Although we are given an assurance for the petro-chemical complex and a refinery, only a provision of Rs.10 crores has been made. We are told that the money will not be a drag. All the same, within the framework of the Budget in which we function, I hope, adequate money will be provided in the Budget so that the people cannot subsequently blame us. Even today we are not getting certain industries which were assured to us.

With these words, I support the demands for grants of the Ministry.

Shri Virendrakumar Shah (Junagadh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals holds responsibility for the development and effective functioning of so many crucial areas of our economy, affecting industry, trade, agriculture, defence, public health and all that, that I would have liked to begin by complimenting the Ministry on its performance. It is quite true that in the last few weeks the success the Ministry has

achieved in getting foreign oil companies to cut down the price of the crude that they import and the effort that the Ministry has been making to bring pressure on the manufacturers of drugs and pharmaceuticals to reduce the prices of their products might have perhaps given the Ministry a sense of achievement, and helped to create some doubt that the Ministry has perhaps stumbled into a fit of efficiency. But the lack of vision, the inadequate and defective planning, ineffective implementation and co-ordination and the inescapable delays and fits of paralysis that the Ministry has exhibited in many fields make it very difficult for one to compliment the Ministry on its record of performance even if one honestly wishes to do so.

Since the time at my disposal is hardly adequate to do justice to the vast compass which the Ministry has under it, I would like to content myself with pointing out some of the glaring instances of inefficiency and mal-functioning of the Ministry that are symptomatic of their general attitudes and achievements in policy and performance.

Sir, let me first take up the question of what the Ministry is doing to increase our refining capacity and to ensure that the vast resources of crude oil in our country are explored and exploited to feed our refineries and to generate the supply of petroleum and allied products that every sector of our economy will require in the coming years. Can anyone deny that a wise policy should have attempted to minimise our dependence on imported crude and to ensure that the exploitation of our crude resources kept pace with the requirements of our refineries ? But what is the position in which we find ourselves today ? What is the prospect that we see before us for the foreseeable future ?

It is well-known that the demand for crude oil that has been envisaged for 1975 is 34 million tonnes. The plans of the O. N. G. C. envisage the production of only about 6 to 7 million tonnes of this crude by 1974-75. This will leave us with a deficit of 27 million tonnes by 1974-75, a very wide deficit. Even today, the amount of foreign exchange that we require to import crude runs into crores of rupees, and the Government itself has admitted that the foreign exchange that we would have to spend by

1974-75 to import crude oil will be in the region of Rs.200 crores per annum. No one not even a Government that thinks nothing of introducing a budget with a deficit of over Rs.200 crores, can contend than an import bill of Rs.200 crores per year is a negligible amount. Is it pardonable when this country is rich in crude resources and when the necessity to import, almost entirely, is avoidable if there is a systematic, phased, effective plan to locate and exploit our vast resources in crude? It is not easy for anyone to understand the extraordinary reluctance of the Government to use our indigenous resources and to continue to depend on costly imports in such a crucial area of our economy.

Sir, the geological and seismic surveys which have already been conducted have revealed that in the Gulf of Cambay near Bombay and in other areas around the Western and Eastern coasts of our country there are rich deposits of oil. The Government itself has admitted that nearly six years have passed since the surveys revealed the presence of rich oil. Six years have passed since oilbearing structures have been discovered and yet, in all these years, what have we done? What have we got to say about exploiting this tremendously oil-rich area? It is true that very recently we heard with a lot of fanfare and publicity about the visit of the Prime Minister to Bhavnagar. But that is not for deep sea drilling. That is for shallow water drilling to which tremendous importance was given, perhaps rightly so. Whatever our technicians did make this possible and they deserve the compliments of this House and the whole country.

Ever since the discoveries of these deposits we have received a number of offers, extremely good offers, of technical and financial assistance from renowned and experienced companies in the United States and Japan. I would specifically refer to the offer made by Tennaco. The Government itself in reply to a question admitted that their proposal was considerably attractive. If I may be permitted to quote, Government itself admitted in the House that Tennaco had agreed to:

- (a) take up the work of drilling entirely on its own risk;

- (b) bear all costs in case of failures;
- (c) be a minority partner in a company that may be formed if the exploration was successful;
- (d) content itself with 51 per cent reimbursement of the cost of the exploration prior to commercial discoveries, and
- (e) a 20 per cent ceiling on its share of profits.

But our Government could not take a decision on the proposal for years. At first they were hesitant because of their preference for taking up the drilling on the basis of "assisted owner operation". Then, Sir, we received an offer from the famous Japanese firm, Mitsubishi. When our Prime Minister visited Japan and during the course of her discussions with the Prime Minister of Japan the offer was given. I understand that the Japanese offer was well within the four corners of our policy since it did not anticipate any equity participation. The total foreign exchange cost of the project including fees for technical assistance was estimated at around 18 million dollars and most of it was available from the project aid that Japan had promised us. We might perhaps have had to find about 8 million dollars of foreign exchange which we could have repaid over a period of three years, but for some mysterious and absolutely inexplicable reasons

Shri Piloo Mody : May be mischievous.

Shri Virendrakumar Shah : This proposal too has been safely lodged in the capacious cold storage in the Ministry.

We were told that the proposals were being examined and had been referred to a British firm which has examined the proposals and submitted its report. We do not know what this report is. Why should it take such a long time for the Government to decide about exploiting our own wealth when we talk about generating wealth in the country and when we talk about banishing poverty? We are allowing tremendously rich oil deposits to go waste and even ten long years after the discovery of rich oil deposits, we have not been able to exploit these resources; and we have been spending hundreds of crores of rupees every year to

[Shri Virendra kumar Shah]

import crude though we had these crude deposits with us and though we had offers of technical assistance consistent with our policy. Why is it that these are not being used? I wonder whether the Minister really is in a position to give an honest reply, honest to himself, and whether he can feel satisfied about his own conscience, his new-found conscience, that what they are doing is good for the country.

Shri Piloo Mody : It is bad. Don't embarrass him.

Shri Virendra kumar Shah : As this happens in respect of things which are so patently clear for the country one wonders whether there is something behind the scenes. Our newspapers have been full of reports that the Government has been continuously dilly-dallying because a Soviet team of experts, in a report submitted to the Government last year, has advised against starting the exploration operations for another few years. The papers report that the Soviet team has advised, saying, 'at the present time it is not reasonable to start exploratory drilling of the off shore areas and more so of the structures constituted in the open sea where the water depth exceeds 40 to 50 meters because of lack of technical means and practical experience.' But, Sir, it is known throughout the world that there are many countries which are successfully carrying on off-shore drilling in the open sea in water 40 to 50 meters deep, and have the requisite technical means and practical experience. It is true that the U. S. S. R. is a new entrant in the field and has not yet acquired the technical means and experience that they themselves refer to. We have not taken the advice of the countries which have experience and the technical know how and technical experience, but we take the advice of the Soviets who have not done anything of this kind. I do not think the Minister can deny it. Is it any wonder if people begin to suspect that the advice of the soviet team was not disinterested advice and that they are wanting to increase their own hegemony and would not like us to develop our national wealth?

Let me take another important point, an almost crucial field of our economy for which the Ministry is responsible, namely, fertilizers. The consumption of fertilizers in

1968-69 has been put down at 1.9 million tonnes. Of these indigenous production accounted for 541000 tonnes of nitrogenous fertilizers and 216000 tonnes of phosphatic fertilizers. In 1969 we thus had to import 1.19 million tonnes of fertilizers costing well over Rs.270 crores. Our targetted consumption for 1969-70 is 2 million tonnes of nitrogenous fertilizers and 1.35 million tonnes of phosphatic and potassiac fertilizers. Our production target for these fertilizers for the year is 1.4 million tonnes and 0.7 million tonnes respectively. However the production from the existing units and the projects under various stages of implementation has now been estimated at not more than 970,000 tonnes of nitrogenous fertilizers and 381,000 tonnes of phosphatic. It is clear that on this basis we will need to import over 1 million tonnes of other fertilizers during 1969-70. The cost of these imports will work out to nearly Rs.360 crores for 1969-70.

One can then ask the question whether by 1973-74 our position will be any better and we would begin to drastically reduce our dependence on imported fertilizers. By 1973-74 our plan envisages a consumption of 3.75 million tonnes for nitrogenous fertilizers and 2.9 million tonnes for phosphatic potassium fertilizers. The estimated targets of production for 1973-74 will still leave us with a considerable gap and therefore a continuing need for imports.

The question that arises is whether the targetted capacities will be created in time, whether full utilisation of installed capacity would enable us to keep pace with projected demands, whether the modernization and rationalisation of production will keep prices at a level that would permit and encourage the increasing utilisation of fertilizers, whether the basic raw materials on which we plan our production will be indigenously available for a foreseeable period of time or whether we would have to depend on imported foodstock or look for more plentiful materials like coal that can serve our needs equally effectively and even more economically.

So far, the record of our government does not fill one with confidence on any one of these counts. We are lagging far behind our targetted capacity. We are not even able, for various reasons that are often recounted by the Government, to produce at

our full installed capacity. Our installed capacity in 1969 was 15.65 lakh tonnes whereas our actual production was only 8.8 lakh tonnes. Our new projects are lagging behind their time-schedules. Some of them are behind schedule by years. The levy in fertilizers and the increase in fertilizer prices, the delay in the availability of imported fertilizers and the paucity of credits for the purchase of fertilizers have even begun to affect the off take of fertilizers. Even according to the Government, it has brought down the rate of consumption of fertilizers during the last year. Indecision, lack of vision, constant revision of criteria, obsession with the prejudices and susceptibilities of extraneous centres of influence have all hampered and hamstrung our efforts to reach self-sufficiency in fertilizer production. Proposals that can accelerate our progress to self-sufficiency are held up due to indecision or ideological hypochondria while the nation loses crores of precious foreign exchange every week. On the one hand we talk of a war on poverty, ask the nation to quit poverty, say that it is our socialistic ideal to improve the standard of our living, of our masses overnight and on the other hand we allow-illogical inhibitions and indefensible indecision to cause losses of millions of rupees per week and postpone the day when we can free ourselves from dependence on the whims of big powers and achieve national self-sufficiency in essential fields of our economy.

I want to mention the case of Tata's proposal for a fertilizer plant at Mithapur to remind the House of a flagrant instance of the consequences of our Government's policy of indecision. The project was recommended by the Gujarat Government as early as January, 1968. I believe it went back and forth from the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and the Planning Commission like a shuttle cock. It was approved by the Ministry—Government of India—more than twice. It was taken up twice. Till to-day even when our country is badly in need of fertilizers, there is no decision at all. We are spending crores of rupees on the import of these fertilizers. Yet two years after the Government of Gujarat recommended the project the Central Government has still not been able to take a decision. Tata has to submit a new proposal. First the Government of India

said that they could not agree to the project since they were not sure whether such a huge project should be located in the private sector. The policy of the Government has not precluded private enterprise from the field of the manufacture of fertilizers. Yet, in this case, the Government was not sure, ostensibly because of the size of the project whether the project should be allowed in the private sector. Later, the Government shifted its ground, and argued that the proposal could not be accepted since it depended on the import of ammonia as feed-stock. Yet within a few months of the Government's turning down the proposal of the Tatas on the ground that it contemplated ammonia as feed-stock, it is wellknown, another fertilizer unit was allowed to import liquid ammonia to be used as feed stock. Then the Government argued that it was not sure whether the assistance the Tatas expected from the external financial institutes would be forthcoming.

I must now say a word about the other industries and enterprises that fall under the Department of Chemicals, particularly, about the drugs and antibiotics. We are aware of the performance of the I. D. P. L. I would not therefore go into that. But let me come to a most extra-ordinary thing, about the I. D. P. L.

The Report of this Ministry is a masterpiece in ambiguity when it comes to the performance of I. D. P. L. which has under it three plants described in the report. All these three are run with the technical and financial assistance of the U. S. S. R. In Rishikesh, with a total investment of Rs.28 cores, we have just seen how much it has done.

Shri Piloo Mody : Animal feed.

Shri Virendra Kumar Shah : It is very interesting to see the difference in the cost of production of two public sector plants producing the same drug. The one at Pimpri produces streptomycin at a cost of Rs.295 per kg. while the Rishikesh plant's cost of production is Rs.700 per kg. The report says about Rishikesh :

“The most serious of the problems has been the low output of its saleable products mainly due to problems of

[Shri Virendra kumar Shah]

quality, particularly clarity, in respect of sterile products".

This is a serious thing about the manufacture of life-saving drugs of which this House should be seized. Leaving aside the euphemism, in clear language what does this mean? It is a clear admission that the drugs made here are of poor quality, vitiated with impurities and devoid of the sterility essential in these drugs.

Would they like to give an injection of streptomycin produced here to any of their near relatives knowing that it has such impurities?

Shri Piloo Mody : Or to their colleagues.

Shri Virendra Kumar Shah : I would say this is a kind of germ warfare that this Government assisted by the Russian experts is waging on the people of this country.

As I said earlier, this Ministry has so many departments that it is not possible to cover all of them within the time allotted to me.

It deals with mines and metals besides petroleum and chemicals. I would just say one thing. When we are today finding so much shortage of aluminium and we have banned its export, why is it that we deny the expansion of the existing capacity of industries in this field? This is not an isolated case relating to this Ministry alone. In the whole gamut of economic activities, be it scotters or cycles or sewing machines or steel, expansion of existing capacity is disallowed with the result that people are denied their legitimate requirements of whatever products can be made available to them. At least on the question of aluminium, an answer should be forthcoming from the hon. Minister.

16-18 hrs.

श्री श्रीकार लाल बोहरा : (चित्तौड़गढ़) : सभापति महोदय, खान, घातु मंत्रालय और रसायन और पेट्रोलियम तथा केमिकल्स मंत्रालय के बारे में जब चर्चा की जाती है तो कुछ ऐसा लगता है कि हमारी ऐसी अवस्था है कि हमारे घर में तो सब कुछ है फिर भी हम पड़ोसियों से माँगते फिरते हैं। इस देश की खनिज सम्पत्ति के बारे में जो आँकड़े बार बार प्रस्तुत किये जाते

हैं केन्द्रीय सरकार के द्वारा, अगर उनको ही आधार मान कर हम अपनी चर्चा करें तो लज्जा से हमारा सिर झुक जाता है। इस देश के अन्दर कोई ऐसा महत्वपूर्ण खनिज नहीं है जो उपलब्ध न हो और पर्याप्त मात्रा में उपलब्ध न हो लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात है कि 22-23 वर्ष हमारे देश में स्वराज्य आये हुए हो गये लेकिन हम अपने देश की सम्पत्ति का ठीक तरह से खनन नहीं कर सके, उन का उपयोग नहीं कर सके और करोड़ों रुपया जो हम अपने खून और पसीने से कमाते हैं उस को हमें विदेशों को भेजना पड़ता है। मैं समझता हूँ कि आज 22-23 वर्ष के बाद हम अपनी दौलत पर चर्चा करते हैं तो हम अपने को भिखमंगों की हालत में देश के सामने और संसार के सामने प्रस्तुत करते हैं।

17 hrs.

आज देश में ताँबे की कमी नहीं है, जस्ता की कमी नहीं है, और भी जितने महत्वपूर्ण खनिज हैं उनकी कमी नहीं है, लेकिन हम उन खनिजों को विदेशों को भेजने में समर्थ नहीं हो पाते, उनका खनन नहीं कर पाते। मैं कुछ इन बुनियादी बातों पर आज की चर्चा के समय प्रकाश डालना चाहता हूँ।

हमारे देश की जितनी भी—औद्योगिक विकास की योजनायें हैं, जितना भी हमारे देश का व्यापार है, जितना भी हमारे देश का विकास है वह इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि हम कितनी तेजी से अपने देश में पर्याप्त साधन-सुविधायें दे पाते हैं, पर्याप्त मात्रा में खनिज सम्पदा का उपयोग करके आगे बढ़ पाते हैं। ताम्बा, शीशा, जस्ता, आयरन और, मँगनीज, बाक्साइट आदि जितने भी महत्वपूर्ण खनिज हैं, वे बढ़े ही कीमती खनिज पदार्थ हैं।

संक्षेप में मैं आपके सामने कुछ आँकड़े प्रस्तुत करना चाहता हूँ। इन से आपको पता चल जाएगा कि हमारे देश में कितने डिपॉजिट्स हैं। कापर को आप लें। कापर 240 मिलियन टन हमारे देश में मौजूद है, यह स्पष्ट हो चुका है। लेकिन आज हमारी जो आवश्यकतायें हैं वे केवल 1 लाख 24 हजार टन की हैं। लेकिन इन आवश्यकताओं को भी हम पूरा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। इसी तरह से जिंक की हमारे देश में कॅपेसिटी 75.5 मिलियन टन है और जो हमारी आवश्यकतायें हैं वे 1 लाख 42 हजार टन की हैं लेकिन उनको भी हम

पूरा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। में जानना चाहता हूँ कि आखिर यह कमजोरी कहाँ है, गलती कहाँ है, क्योंकि हम अपनी क्षमता का पूरा पूरा उपयोग नहीं कर पा रहे हैं? क्या हमारे देश में कुशल इंजीनियर नहीं हैं, योग्य प्रशासक नहीं हैं, टैक्नीकल क्षमता हम में नहीं है, ईमानदारी से काम करने वालों का अभाव है, परिश्रमी नागरिकों की कमी है? यह एक सीधा सा सवाल है जो में डा० सेन जैसे मेधावी व्यक्ति से करना चाहता हूँ जिन्होंने बनारस विश्वविद्यालय के अन्दर नई पीढ़ी को प्रोत्साहन दे कर वहाँ के रंग को बदल दिया था। में समझता हूँ देश में आदमियों की कमी नहीं है, योग्य तथा कुशल आदमियों की कमी नहीं है। लेकिन काम पर ऐसे लोगों को लगा लिया जाता है जिन को उस काम का अनुभव नहीं होता है। यही कारण है कि हमारी जो क्षमता है उसका उपयोग हम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं।

इसी संदर्भ में मैं राजस्थान की खनिज सम्पदा पर प्रकाश डालना चाहता हूँ जब आपने खेतड़ी के अन्दर ताम्बे की खोज का काम शुरू किया तो इससे हमें बड़ी प्रसन्नता हुई। जब आपने घोषणा की कि वहाँ पर्याप्त मात्रा में खनिज पदार्थ हैं, ताम्बा है तो इससे हमें बड़ी प्रसन्नता हुई। ताम्बा एक महत्वपूर्ण वस्तु है जो बिजली के काम में, देश के विद्युतीकरण के काम में उपयोग होता है। महत्वपूर्ण खनिज होते हुए जब से ताम्बे की खोज आरम्भ हुई है खेतड़ी के अन्दर तब से वहाँ पचास करोड़ से नब्बे करोड़ तक पूँजी लगाई जा चुकी है। खेतड़ी कापर प्राजेक्ट की घोषणा भी हो चुकी है। लेकिन हमने अभी तक क्या प्राप्त किया है? चार हजार वहाँ वरकर काम करते हैं। एक हजार अफसर काम करते हैं जिनके घरों में एयर कंडिशनर लग गए हैं और बड़े-बड़े लान और बगीचे लग गए हैं। मजदूरों की यूनिटें बनाई गई हैं और उनमें आपस में झगड़े होते हैं। लेकिन प्राप्त क्या किया है? तेरह करोड़ वहाँ अब तक हमने खर्च किया है लेकिन तेरह सौ का प्रोडक्शन भी नहीं हो पा रहा है। दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण यह बात है। इतनी अमूल्य निधि और उसको भी प्राप्त करने की कोशिश नहीं की जा रही है। किसी में जिम्मेदारी की भावना नहीं है। किसी में मिशनरी स्पिरिट नहीं है। अधिकारी जाते हैं, इंजीनियर जाते हैं, कोई जिम्मेदारी की भावना से काम नहीं करता है,

देश की दौलत एक विरासत है, एक पब्लिक वरोहर है, इस चीज को कोई समझता नहीं है। घर किसका, पत्तों का, वाली बात वहाँ हो रही है। किसी की कोई व्यक्तिगत जिम्मेदारी नहीं है। मुझे प्रसन्नता हुई कि कम से कम गोष्ठा के खाद के कारखाने के बारे में आपने एक अच्छा डिजिशन तो लिया। आप जब उसको पब्लिक सैक्टर के अन्दर कायम नहीं कर पा रहे थे तो कम से कम प्राइवेट सैक्टर में उसके स्थापित होने में आपने मदद तो की, उसको लाइसेंस तो दिया। डा० सेन को मैं इसके लिए बधाई देना चाहता हूँ। यह जो अनप्रेक्टिकल नीति है, व्याथर्वानी नीति है कि न खुद करेंगे और न दूसरों को करने देंगे, यह ठीक नहीं है। इस दृष्टि से गोष्ठा में खाद के कारखाने के लिए लाइसेंस देकर आपने अच्छा कार्य किया है। मैं पब्लिक सैक्टर का पक्षपाती हूँ, मैं चाहता हूँ कि देश में सार्वजनिक उद्योग फेलें, तरक्की कर, जितने भी बुनियाती उद्योग हैं, घातु उद्योग है, वे सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में चलें। लेकिन अगर सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र इस तरह से और ऐसे अफसरों के हाथ में रहा, इसी तरह से नौकरशाही का शिकार होता रहा तो इससे ज्यादा अच्छा यह होगा कि प्राइवेट सैक्टर को हम आगे आने का मौका दें। हमें अपनी नीति बदलनी होगी। लेकिन नहीं, देश के हित में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र को हमें बनाए रखना है, उसका संचालन करना है, योग्यता से संचालन करना है और यह निहायत जरूरी भी है। इस वास्ते हमें देखना होगा कि कमजोरी कहाँ है। कमजोरी है हमारे शासन में, हमारे प्रशासन में, नौकरशाही में। अगर हममें कमिटिड मनोवृत्ति नहीं है, समर्पण की भावना नहीं है तो हमें ईमानदारी से स्वीकार करना होगा इसको। सार्वजनिक सम्पत्ति का दुरुपयोग एक बहुत बड़ा अपराध है और इस अपराध को आने वाली पीढ़ी कभी बरदाश्त नहीं करेगी। हम एक साथ दो अपराध कर रहे हैं। नई पीढ़ी को काम का मौका नहीं मिलता है। दूसरी तरफ आपके पास काम है। आपके पास नई पीढ़ी के इंजीनियर हैं, अधिक से अधिक योग्य नौजवान हैं। लेकिन उनको काम नहीं मिल पा रहा है। इस तरह से हम डबल अपराधी होंगे यदि हम ईमानदारी से अच्छे अनुभवी आदमियों का चाहे वे उद्योग के क्षेत्र से आते हों या व्यापार के क्षेत्र से आते हों, उनका देश के सर्वोत्तम हित में उपयोग नहीं कर सकेंगे। देश की सम्पत्ति बढ़ाने के काम

[श्री श्रीकार लाल बोहरा]

17-08 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

में उनसे अधिक से अधिक काम लिया जाना चाहिये। हमें अपनी बुनियादी नीति पर विचार करके उसको निर्धारित करना होगा ताकि देश की खनिज सम्पत्ति का ठीक तरह से खनन हम कर सकें, उसका उपयोग हम कर सकें। अगर हमने ऐसा नहीं किया तो आने वाली पीढ़ी हमको क्षमा नहीं करेगी।

में हिन्दुस्तान जिंक लिमिटेड की चार्ज करना चाहता हूँ। दस बारह करोड़ की पूंजी लगा कर इसको आपने अपने हाथ में लिया। लेकिन आज क्या हो रहा है। आज दस लाख महीना घाटा होता है। जावर माइज का आप डिवेलेपमेंट पूरा नहीं कर पाये हैं। वहाँ जिंक मैटल की क्षमता अठारह हजार टन है लेकिन आप केवल आठ, नौ या दस हजार टन से अधिक जस्ता पैदा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। प्लांट का रोस्टर दरबाद होने जा रहा है। साठ परसेंट की क्षमता से आप उसको चला रहे हैं। उसके बावजूद भी आप कहते हैं विशाखापत्तनम के अन्दर भी एक नया जिंक स्मेल्टर कारखाना लगायेंगे। जब आप अपने जावर माइज का उत्पादन पूरा नहीं कर सकते हैं और एक कारखाना जो आपने सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में लगाया है उसका पूरा इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पा रहे हैं तो दूसरी जगह से कच्चा माल ले कर कैसे आप इस कारखाने को, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के कारखाने को विकसित करेंगे? मैं चाहता हूँ कि देश में सभी जगह, सभी प्रान्तों में जहाँ कहीं भी कच्चा माल मिले उसका उपयोग किया जाए, वहाँ कारखाने खोले जायें लेकिन जिस जगह कारखाना खुला हुआ है, उसको भी तो आप पूरा पूरा चलाने की कोशिश करें।

लेड और जिंक और का मामला आप लें। दरीबा राजपुरा में इसके पर्याप्त भंडार मिले हैं। उसको आपने हाथ में लेकर खनन का काम शुरू नहीं किया। अगर खनन उसका हो, उसका योजनाबद्ध विकास हो, उसका ठीक उपयोग हो तो आगे चल कर आपको कच्चे माल की तकलीफ नहीं होगी। जिस कम्पनी से आपने माल खरीदा, दस हजार कंसंट्रेट का अस्सी लाख रुपये में वह बहुत ही घटिया दर्जे का था। हमारे यहाँ जो है वह उससे कहीं अच्छी क्वालिटी का है।

हिन्दुस्तान जिंक लिमिटेड के बारे में इस दृष्टि से भी आपको सोचना चाहिये। यह एक बहुमूल्य धातु है और देश में इसकी बड़ी माँग है। आज जोरों से इसका ब्लैक हो रहा है। आप लाखों रुपये का इम्पोर्ट करते हैं लेकिन देश में जो उपलब्ध है, उसका उपयोग आप नहीं कर रहे हैं। राजस्थान के लिए हिन्दुस्तान जिंक और हिन्दुस्तान कापर लिमिटेड का बहुत महत्व है। बहुमूल्य हीरे, जवाहरात आदि जहाँ बहुमूल्य वस्तुयें उनसे बनती हैं वहाँ बहुत महत्वपूर्ण राष्ट्रिय उद्योग भी उससे चलते हैं। जिप्सम, वाक्साइट, पायराइट आदि भी उन में हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इनके बारे में एक विशेष मिशनरी स्पिरिट वाला कमिटी संगठन त्रियेट करें, एक बड़ी क्षमता वाला आयोग स्थापित करें जिससे इनका उपयोग हो सके। अगर हम हर साल इसी तरह से अरब्य रोदन की तरह से बजट के समय इस पर चर्चा करते रहे और नतीजा कुछ न निकले तो उसका कोई अर्थ नहीं है। मैं जानता हूँ कि बताया जाएगा कि जावरा माइज में बड़ा प्रोडक्शन हुआ है। लेकिन मैं आँकड़े आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। जिंक कंसंट्रेट का प्रोडक्शन 1967 में 10 हजार 29 टन हुआ। 1968 में 12,839 टन हुआ। 1969 में 13,781 टन हुआ। क्या इसी को आप प्राप्ति कहते हैं। अगर इसी गति, से, इसी वैल गाड़ी की रफ्तार से हम देश को आगे बढ़ाते रहे, देश का विकास करते रहे तो इसमें हमको सैंकड़ों वर्ष लग जायेंगे। नौ दिन में अढ़ाई कोस वाली स्थिति की में आलोचना करना चाहता हूँ, निन्दा करना चाहता हूँ। पराधीनता की बेड़ियों को और हजारों वर्षों की दासता को समाप्त कर हम आजाद हुए हैं। हमें मिशनरी भावना से काम करना होगा। जापान, जर्मनी, रूस आदि देशों ने तथा अन्य प्रगतिशील राष्ट्रों ने द्वितीय महायुद्ध के बाद कितनी प्रगति की है, इसको हमें सामने रखना होगा। उन्होंने बहुत तेजी से प्रगति की है। हम अपने अधिकारियों की मनोवृत्ति को, नौकरशाही को चैक करें।

अब मैं राक फास्फेट पर प्रकाश डालना चाहता हूँ। इसका हम आयात करते हैं। अभी राजस्थान में यह बड़ी मात्रा में मिला है। हमने अगर इसको बाहर से मंगाना बन्द किया तो हमारा लाखों रुपया बचेगा। जब यह राज-

स्थान में बहुत अधिक मात्रा में उपलब्ध है तो क्या में आशा कर्हें कि सेन साहब की देख-रेख में पब्लिक सैक्टर में राक फास्फेट के आधार पर एक खाद कारखाने का राजस्थान में विकास किया जाएगा ? राक फास्फेट एक कच्चा माल है जो न केवल राजस्थान के लिए बल्कि सारे देश के खाद कारखानों के लिए एक बहुत उपयोगी पदार्थ सिद्ध होगा। इसके लिए यह जरूरी है कि उदयपुर के आसपास जहाँ कि पर्याप्त मात्रा में इसके भंडार मिले हैं, चालीस मिलियन टन के भंडार प्राप्त हुए हैं, वहाँ सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र में एक बड़ा खाद कारखाना स्थापित किया जाए। न केवल घोषित करें, बल्कि उसको चलाने के लिये पर्याप्त मशीनरी की अभी से व्यवस्था करें।

राजस्थान में पिछले दिनों पेट्रोलियम की खोज के लिये पेट्रोलियम मंत्रालय की तरफ से कोशिश की गई थी। जैसलमेर में एक पार्टी भी भेजी गई थी। देश में पेट्रोलियम की बड़ी माँग है, इसके आधार पर ही हम अपने देश का नव-निर्माण कर सकते हैं और आज इसकी देश में जितनी आवश्यकता है, उसे हम प्राप्त नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। राजस्थान में उस खोज को और आगे बढ़ाने के लिये आप के मंत्रालय की ओर से और क्या प्रयत्न किये गये इस का पता हम को नहीं चल पा रहा है। में चाहूँगा कि मंत्री महोदय बतलायें कि इस खोज के बारे में और क्या निर्णय लिये गये हैं तथा खोज की क्या स्थिति है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, में यह भी कहूँगा कि राजस्थान में कुछ और खनिज पदार्थ जैसे जिपसम, बाक्साइट, पॅराइट का भी काफी भण्डार है, लेकिन उनकी खोज के लिये हम कुछ नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। अन्नख राजस्थान में काफी मात्रा में उपलब्ध है। बिहार के बाद अन्नख के उत्पादन में राजस्थान का नम्बर आता है, जहाँ से डेढ़, करोड़ रुपये का अन्नख विदेशों को निर्यात होता है—लेकिन आज उसकी हालत बहुत खराब है। अन्नख की खानों के अन्दर न बिजली है, न पानी है, न सड़कें हैं। आज जब कि हम देश की खनिज सम्पदा का अधिक से अधिक विकास करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन इन छोटी छोटी बातों की तरफ भी ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। आज हम यहाँ पर आप के मंत्रालय की माँगों को स्वीकार कर रहे हैं, लेकिन माँगें स्वीकार करने से ही समस्या का हल नहीं होगा। समस्या का हल तब ही होगा, जब आप ईमानदारी के साथ इस बात को सिद्ध करें कि देश की गरीबी को दूर

करने के लिये, देश की जहालत को दूर करने के लिये, देश में समाजवादी व्यवस्था को नया रूप देने के लिये देश के अन्दर अधिक से अधिक दौलत पैदा करेंगे। लेकिन दौलत हाथ में होते हुए भी हम उसका उपयोग न कर सकें, तो हमारी स्थिति उस भिखमंगे की हो जाती है जो घर में दौलत होते हुए भी पड़ोसी से भीख माँगता है, उस समय हमारा सिर लज्जा से झुक जाता है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र दरीबा में लेड बड़ी मात्रा में उपलब्ध है। दरीबा उदयपुर क्षेत्र के चित्तौड़गढ़ क्षेत्र में स्थित है। में चाहता हूँ कि लेड के लिये भी आप एक संस्था अभी से कायम करें, ताकि समय से उस का खनन हो सके। में चाहता हूँ कि आप आँकड़ों की दुनिया में ही न घूमते रहें, बल्कि इस पर गम्भीरता से विचार करें कि व्यावहारिक दृष्टि से कैसे हम अपने देश की खनिज सम्पत्ति का विकास कर सकते हैं ताकि हमारी दूसरी योजनाओं को, जो खनिज पर आधारित हैं, पर्याप्त मात्रा में खनिज उपलब्ध हो सके। चूंकि राजस्थान में हिन्दुस्तान की खनिज सम्पत्ति का बहुत बड़ा भण्डार है तथा देश के अन्य भागों के लिये भी आप विचार करें कि उस सम्पदा का कैसे हम देश के नव निर्माण के लिये जल्द से जल्द उपयोग कर सकते हैं।

Shri S. S. Kothari (Mandsaur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, at the very outset, I would like to refer to the coal industry which I would designate as the chronic patient among Indian industries. The Government has not taken any steps to relieve this industry of their recurring problems and over the past few years, this industry has been stagnating. The fact is that its ills began with the over-assessment of demand by the Planning Commission and by the Government. With that over-assessment, the capacity was increased considerably during the third Plan period. But it could not be utilised. The consequence of the demand not coming up to the estimated figure—actually it proved to be far less than the estimate of the Government—was that there was accumulation of coal and the industry languished. Meanwhile, the cost of production of the coal industry went on mounting up and today the state of affairs is most difficult for the Industry. Some-time back the Government found that the industry was pressing for increase in the coal

[Shri S. S. Kothari]

price. The Government could not resist that increase—it was a reasonable demand—and the Government decided to decontrol the coal industry. Now, as a consequence of that, the coal industry found itself in an invidious position. It could not sell its stocks and it had to bargain with two sets of customers who were almost holding a monopoly, namely, to railways on the one hand and the electricity companies on the other, which mostly belonged to the States. Owing to its weak bargaining position—being constituted of a number of companies, big and small—the industry had to agree to a meagre increase in the price by 70 paise, as compared to what they had asked for, about Rs. 2.50 per tonne initially. Later on they came down to Rs. 1.75. But instead of that, they had to accept 70 paise increase by the railways. The consequence has been that the return on capital employed is probably one of the lowest. There are no funds with this industry for modernising and developing along the necessary lines. There is imbalance in coal production. There is too much production of poor quality coal and too little of superior quality and coking coal. As regards low grade coal, there is considerable production and accumulation of stocks at the pitheads. The consequence is the coal industry is financially in a very bad position. If the Government wants the industry to develop further, it must see to it that this industry is supported.

There are various provisions for rebates for other industries in the Income-tax Act. But the coal industry is a wasting industry and needs to be given depletion allowance. In various European countries, they have a provision for granting depletion allowance, because the mines are a wasting asset. In this country, even that allowance is not given. From 1st April 1970, the development rebate in respect of coal industry and other priority industries has been brought down from 35 to 25 per cent. If this kind of treatment is meted out to this vital industry, I do not see how its economics can improve well. Difficulties will particularly arise when further steel mills, come up and there is greater need for coking coal. At that time, the industry may not be able to fulfil the expectations and requirements of the country.

Coming to the public sector—the National Coal Development Corporation—I think it

is a monument of inefficiency and mismanagement. Except for one set of collieries which has probably done well, the Karanpura collieries incurred a loss of Rs.83 lakhs in 1968-69 as compared to Rs.60 lakhs last year. In respect of Giridih, the loss is Rs.48 lakhs and in respect of Orissa units, the loss is Rs.35 lakhs. This has been made good by profit in some other region. If one set of collieries has improved, it is good ; it is in the national interest, but what about losses in other units ? In the N. C. D. C., there is considerable underutilisation of the second and third plan projects. There is closing down of some third plan projects for want of adequate demand. The capital and maintenance charges of closed mines are very heavy. They have a considerable surplus of labour force and the wage bill shoots up on that account. Besides, the planning of the colliery management is so poor that they have been incurring considerable amount of infructuous expenditure. This is an important point. A large amount of expenditure is incurred on geological prospecting and drilling in various areas, but when it comes to development, they abandon those areas. That is infructuous expenditure by N. C. D. C. which leads to considerable loss of national funds. I would strongly urge the minister to give some attention to these public sector collieries and to see that they achieve a modicum of efficiency, so that there is no recurring loss to the national exchequer. We have what is known as cost accounting. The purpose of it is to see that those areas where there are losses are identified and immediate action is taken to initiate rectification measures, so that the losing units also begin to earn. Then alone can the concern work efficiently.

May I submit that in Japan it takes about two years to establish an industry. But in this country, for the private sector, it takes about two years to obtain a licence.

The Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals (Dr. Triguna Sen) : More than that.

Shri S. S. Kothari : Then how can we expect to progress in this country ? Then, with regard to the public sector, the reverse is the case. They are able to obtain the

licence but it takes them anything between four to five years to establish the project, to work out the project, to develop it and then to construct it. By the time it comes into production, it takes between five to ten years. When this is the state of affairs, what progress can we make ?

Take the case of the Bharat Aluminium project of the government. It has been languishing for such a long time. In this Report, the Ministry say, they have framed some kind of project. Would the Minister specify by what scheduled date Bharat Aluminium would come into stream ? Let them fix a target date and let them make every effort to see that they do something according to schedule. I am sure that that company is not going to come into production for another three or four years.

Shri Ranga (Srikakulam) : That is to provide employment to their temporary engineers.

Shri S. S. Kothari : What is the state of affairs with regard to aluminium ? There is insufficient supply of aluminium and yet the expansion projects are not permitted. I do not understand this policy where every effort is being made to restrict production. What this country needs is a glut in production, more production, more of investment, more of employment. But how can you expect the country to advance, how can you expect the shortages to be eliminated, if production does not increase, if we do not permit the expansion of the capacity. There are aluminium producers who are prepared to increase their capacity, but government does not permit them to go ahead.

Since an aluminium plant requires Rs.5 crores to 10 crores, if not more it cannot be undertaken by a small or middle-sized entrepreneur. It is beyond their capacity. If necessary, let the government have some directors on the board. If you want a hand in management, you can try that also. But, for heaven's sake, for the sake of the country, do not impede the expansion of important industries, vital industries and do not put a curb on production. Otherwise, it is all going to lead to imbalances, to shortages in the economy, which would lead to blackmarketing. Here I would like to refer to scooters where there is blackmarketing. Yet, for the last ten years govern-

ment have not granted any licence for the manufacture of scooters to any new party.

Dr. Triguna Sen : That is not dealt with by my Ministry.

Shri S. S. Kothari : I know that it is dealt with by the Industries Ministry. I do not blame this Minister.

The Mithapur project of Tatas has been referred to by the Swatantra Party member. So, I will not repeat it.

In the matter of fertilizer production, we find that there is a tremendous demand for fertilizers. We are spending anything near Rs.200 crores for the import of fertilizer and that amount is likely to go up in future years. It is bound to increase if the green revolution, as we call it, is to be consummated. In that event, I should think it is the Finance Minister who should come down with a heavy hand on this Ministry because the amount of foreign exchange consumed by this Ministry on fertilizers and crude oil comes to a gigantic figure. Why do they not permit industries to come up ? Why do they not permit fertilizer factories to come into being in this country, so that this drain on foreign exchange can be checked ? But there again they have got their crude ideological notions, like crude oil, and these crude ideological notions are responsible for many of the inhibitions in their mind which, when translated into action, result in impeding investment and progress of industries.

I find from the chart given on pages 62 and 63 of this Ministry's report—they did not care to total up obviously because that would expose them but I took the pains to total them—that against the installed capacity of fertilisers of 5.8 million tonnes, the actual production is only 2.8 million tonnes. It is not even 50 per cent. Will the Minister explain whether this is efficiency ?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals (Shri D. R. Chavan) : The installed capacity is not 5.8 million tonnes.

Dr. Triguna Sen : Quoting from a wrong page.

Shr. S. S. Kothari : They have not utilised even 50 per cent of the installed capacity. Shri Ranga will act as an arbiter in this matter and say whether what I have stated is right or wrong.

Now I would like to take up the point about the Haldia-Barauni pipeline project. This has involved the Government in tremendous losses. It was badly planned and the pipeline was aligned in such a manner that it passed over certain coalfields. Now they say that an entire portion of the pipeline has to be removed or diverted about 75 kilometres which means that the Government is going to incur a loss of about Rs.1.95 crores. This is one of the scandals of this Ministry.

The quality of the pipes is so poor that there are leakages at a number of points and every time they have to dig up long areas ranging about 15 to 20 kilometres and after digging up they have to locate the cracks in the pipeline. What kind of pipelines are set up by this Government which crack up even before they come into full use ?

Two inquiry committees have been set up. One is the Rao Inquiry Committee. We are surprised that that committee has not yet submitted its report. Sir, you were the Chairman of the Public Undertakings Committee when I had the privilege of serving on it. At that time we had visited Barauni and had come across this particular instance where probably there had been something not above board. Certain officers probably have taken advantage to accept pipelines which are highly defective.

Oil exploration work has recently been handed over to Russia. This is motivated by political considerations. Probably it is almost in the nature of a sell-out of India to Russia in respect of this particular item. I do not see why it was necessary to do so. The Oil and Natural Gas Commission had some dynamism at the time when it discovered the Ankleshwar oilfield. But since then it is almost dormant with a huge staff and considerable expenditure. It has no substantial discovery to its credit except for some minor wells here and there. This Oil and Natural Gas Commission needs to be activated. That is a very important matter. As I said earlier, with regard to crude oil we have a tremendous shortage

and it is necessary that that shortage has to be made up ; otherwise, a time will come when we may have to import about 20 million tonnes of crude oil which may involve us in an expenditure of Rs.220 crores of foreign exchange. It is absolutely necessary that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is activated. They should obtain the latest sophisticated machinery that is available in the world. The world is far advanced, particularly, in the petro-chemical complex field. In oil drilling, U. S. A. and other countries have very efficient equipment. But what we do is to try to obtain our drilling equipment from Rumania. In the past the drilling equipment they supplied was found useless and it was not suitable for the purpose. Yet again, we are placing the orders for the same equipment. Will the hon. Minister kindly look into this and explain why these defective machines are being imported ?

Lastly, in regard to kerosene shortage, kerosene is used by the common man. The shortage greatly affects him. The Government, instead of increasing the production of kerosene and taking steps to do so, all that it does is to impose more and more excise duty so that the common man is made to pay a considerably larger amount which affects his budget adversely. I hope, the hon. Minister will see 566 look into this aspect also.

Shri Ranga : May I refer you to pp. 62 and 63 of the Report of the Department of Petroleum and Chemicals ? As per the figures given here, the total installed capacity, in 1969, came to 5,726,000 tonnes and the actual production was only 2,796,000 tonnes.

Shri D. R. Chavan : 5 lakh tonnes, not 5 million tonnes.

Shri Ranga : The figures given here are in '000' tonnes. The installed capacity came to 5 million and odd tonnes and the actual production was 2 million and odd tonnes. The point at issue is that the actual production is less than 50 per cent of the total installed capacity.

Shri S. S. Kothari : The actual production is less than 50 per cent of the total installed capacity. That is my point.

Shri D. R. Chavan : I will give you my figures.

Mr. Speaker : He will explain the position when he replies. Shri Ganesh Ghosh.

Shri Ganesh Ghosh (Calcutta South): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am very thankful to you for giving me this opportunity. This Ministry is a very big Ministry dealing with a number of Departments. I would only confine my remarks to the petroleum sector. Petroleum is an excessively important branch of our industry not only from the point of view of our economy but also from the point of view of defence.

All is not well with our petroleum sector. We as an independent and sovereign nation are still now being held to ransom by a handful of foreign oil companies on whom we are not only helplessly dependent but we are being made to pay for the crude oil and petroleum products as they demand. Even as late as in 1963, these same foreign oil companies were compelled to grant 5 to 15 per cent discount on crude prices and product prices to the Japanese buyers while they exacted cut-throat prices from us.

You will be surprised to know, in their mad drive after profits, how far these foreign commercial firms can go. Some years back, the Soviet Government offered us crude oil and other petroleum products at much cheaper rates than those of the foreign oil companies doing business here. When the Government of India approached these foreign oil companies and asked them to use the Soviet crude for the refineries, not only they arrogantly turned down and rejected the request of the Government but they said that they would not touch the Soviet oil. What did the Government of India do? They meekly acquiesced in this and further granted them to expand refinery capacities to collect more profits from our country. And up till today not one drop of Soviet oil has passed through any of the refineries in India. Almost simultaneously, an identical offer was made by the Soviet Government to Cuba and, in Cuba, the foreign companies refused to handle Soviet oil. What did little Cuba do?

She at once confiscated and nationalised all the foreign oil companies. And heavens certainly did not fall. Nothing happened.

Today Cuba is at least not dependent on the foreign oil companies for the supply of oil. We have certainly a right to know from the Government why they failed to do what little, puny Cuba could do.

Further, the refinery agreements between the Government of India and these foreign oil companies reached in 1951 appear more like treaties between sovereign States than like ordinary usual commercial licences. That these refinery agreements infringe on ordinary Government prerogatives is apparent from the provisions which prohibit the Government from placing an import duty on crude oil, guarantee the refineries against nationalisation for 25 years after they begin operations and give the refineries complete freedom to choose their own sources of crude oil supply. Are we going to put up with this humiliation? Why can't these foolish agreements be changed suitably into ordinary commercial licences? Is there a sovereign Government in Delhi? Or are you under the thumbs of a few foreign oil kings?

Of course, Dr. Sen deserves congratulations for his initiative and efforts to bend the foreign oil companies to our demands. But this is not enough. Our defence requirements must have the priority, a major portion of which is still now under virtual mortgage with the foreign oil companies. If to-day the hon. Minister takes over and nationalises all the foreign oil companies, we, on this side of the House, can assure him that we will do every thing in our power to make him completely successful.

But a peep into the interior of our oil sector makes us completely demoralised. The top bosses of the O. N. G. C. and the I. O. C. are letting us down in our desperate endeavour to become self-sufficient in oil. These top bosses are more after their own personal financial gains than build up a glorious national project.

I will cite here only one or two instances. Some years ago the O. N. G. C. wanted to purchase 599 bighas of land, roughly about 200 acres, from the Nazira Tea Estate in Assam, a British firm, to construct office and to set up a workshop there. Clearance from the Government of Assam was also taken. The particular piece of land was entirely barren and no plant whatsoever, not

[Shri Ganesh Ghosh]

to speak of a tea plant, was on it. The actual price of the land was Rs.14 lakhs only, but the O. N. G. C. or the Government of India actually paid Rs.24 lakhs for the same. Where did the balance of Rs.10 lakhs go? Who appropriated the amount? Will the hon. Minister make a proper inquiry and try to find out what role did Shri L. J. Johnson, Chairman of the O. N. G. C. take in this transaction? Will the hon. Minister also find out what part Brig. Dhillon, Manager, O. N. G. C., Eastern Region, play in this sordid game? Shri S. B. Dey, Auditor, Sibsagar, Assam noted serious objection against this manifest misappropriation. Will the hon. Minister also try to find out what consideration was given by the top bosses of the O. N. G. C. to this serious audit objection?

Now look at the Lakwa Tea Estate. In 1965 the O. N. G. C. acquired a portion of the tea plantation area of the Lakwa Tea Estate for oil drilling. The land had tea plants on it. Naturally compensation was to be given to them, but the rate of compensation was to be fixed according to the scheduled rate of the State Government. So, a tripartite meeting was held in 1965-66. Brig. Dhillon representing O. N. G. C., the District Magistrate of Sibsagar representing Assam Government and the Managing Director and General Manager of the Lakwa Tea Estate discussed and agreed and decided that Rs. 5 per plant should be given as compensation. There are 2 lakh plants and total amount of compensation decided upon was only Rs.10 lakhs. But the amount was not given in that very year. It was for some reasons deferred behind the back of the Assam Government, behind the back of the District Magistrate of Sibsagar. The emissaries of the O. N. G. C. and of the Lakwa Tea Estate met and decided to enhance the rate of compensation from Rs.5 to Rs.12. It has been seen that during the period 1966 to 1968 the O. N. G. C. paid 24 lakhs not all at once but in dribbles to the Lakwa Tea Estate. There is strong reason to suspect why the total was paid in instalments and not all at once. Shri S. B. Dey, Auditor, Sibsagar has noted very strong objections against this over-payment of compensation. If these audit books are seized even today the position will be seen. Although these facts were brought to the attention of the Minister several months ago I am very

sorry to say that no action has been taken by the Minister so far.

There is one Mr. L. J. Johnson, Chairman of the O. N. G. C. who goes out of India 3 or 4 times every year. Whenever he goes, he invariably takes one Shri Khemka with him. What connection has this Shri Khemka got with the purchases of the O. N. G. C.? How does he get the foreign exchange for Shri Khemka's tours? Do other top bosses of so many autonomous corporations go out of India so often and so frequently? Will the Minister try to find out the investments in India and in foreign countries of Shri Johnson and of Brig. Dhillon and also the foreign bank accounts of these people. I know this is not an easy job but an attempt will yield luxuriant dividends. Thank you.

श्री जी. बंकटस्वामी (सिद्दिपेट): अध्यक्ष महोदय, जब आज पेट्रोलियम और केमिकल्स की डिमांड हाउस के सामने है तब मैं यहाँ पर सब से पहले उन 3400 मजदूरों की चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ जो आई०डी०पी०एल० सिथेटिक ड्रगज हैदराबाद में स्ट्राइक कर रहे हैं। आज उनको स्ट्राइक पर गये हुए 37 दिन हो चुके हैं। इन 37 दिनों के अन्दर तकरीबन 1 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान गवर्नमेंट को हो चुका है। वहाँ पर एक मजदूर यूनियन है, जिसका मैं प्रेजिडेंट हूँ। कई बार यहाँ पर मिनिस्टर साहब से मैंने बात चीत की कि साहब, यहाँ पर इंटरफिअर कीजिये और इस प्रॉब्लेम को साल्व कीजिये। यह 3400 मजदूरों की इन्क्रीज वेजेज का सवाल है भारत एलेक्ट्रिकल्स, एच०एम०टी० एच०ए०एल० सब जगह पे इन्क्रीज हो चुकी है। यहाँ पर भी गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया की पब्लिक सेक्टर इंडस्ट्री होने की वजह से इन्क्रीज पे की डिमांड रक्खी गई। हमारे यहाँ आई०डी०पी०एल, सिथेटिक ड्रगज की डिमांड अब तक नहीं मानी गई। भारत एलेक्ट्रिकल्स, एच०एम०टी० एच०ए०एल० में 35 रु० दिया गया। मैंने बीच के रास्ते को मान लिया और कहा कि 35 रु० नहीं तो उस से 5 रु० कम दे दो और मजदूर लोग 30 रु० पर मान गये, लेकिन हमारे यहाँ के चेअरमैन ने सिर्फ 25 रु० तक ही आफर किया। उन्होंने कहा कि मैं इससे आगे बढ़ने वाला नहीं हूँ। अब एक ही पब्लिक सेक्टर अन्डरटेकिंग में 10 रु० कम लेना मुश्किल था और इसी लिये वहाँ के काम करने वालों को स्ट्राइक पर जाना पड़ा।

स्ट्राइक के शुरू होने के 30 दिन बाद तक चेन्नई नहीं गये। वह यही सवाल करते रहे कि अनकंडिशनली विदग्धा करना चाहिये स्ट्राइक को तभी हम बात चीत करेंगे। हमें अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि एक और तो आप सोशलज्म की बात करते हैं और दूसरी तरफ जब मजदूर कहते हैं कि जैसे दूसरी इंडस्ट्री में है वैसे ही हम को पैसा मिलना चाहिये तब आप उसको मानते नहीं हैं। वह कहते हैं कि हम प्राइवेट सेक्टर की बात नहीं करते, लेकिन जो आप एक पब्लिक सेक्टर में देते हैं उतना तो दीजिये, उतना नहीं दे सकते हैं तो उससे 5 रु० कम दे दीजिये लेकिन यहाँ के अफसर पूरे प्यूडल लोग हैं। मुझे तो ऐसा लगता है कि दूसरों के साथ डील करने में यहाँ के मारवाड़ी सेठ भी उन आफिसर्स से अच्छे हैं।

हमारे यहाँ उषा कम्पनी है, पन्द्रह रोज स्ट्राइक वहाँ पर होता है। वहाँ पर भरतराम और चरतराम को आना पड़ा और सेटलमेंट करना पड़ा। मगर हम अपनी पब्लिक सेक्टर अन्डरटेकिंग्स में देखते हैं कि न भरतराम हैं और न चरतराम हैं। यहाँ तो डा० सेन हैं और श्री चव्हाण हैं। वह लोग क्या करेंगे? इस वक्त मैं डा० सेन और श्री चव्हाण से रिक्वेस्ट करूंगा कि आप की मिनिस्ट्री है, आप इंटरफिअर कीजिये। यह गवर्नमेंट और पब्लिक का पैसा जा रहा है। वह कहते हैं कि मैंने चेन्नई से कह दिया है, तुम हैदराबाद जाओ। मैं आठ रोज तक वहाँ बैठा रहा, लेकिन चेन्नई का पता नहीं। मैं फिर वापस आया। आखिर हम को भी तो तकलीफ होती है। मजदूर अपने पेट के लिये स्ट्राइक करते हैं तब हमारा काम हो जाता है, प्रापर तरीके से रिप्रेजेंट कर के उन का काम पूरा करायें। मैंने फिर डा० त्रिगुण सेन से बातचीत की। उन्होंने फिर चेन्नई से मिलने के लिये कहा। मिलने पर चेन्नई फिर वही गाना गाते हैं जो पहले गाया था कि अनकंडिशनली विदग्धा करो और काम पर जाओ। एक महीने के बाद हम देखेंगे। जब नुकसान होता है तो वह सोचते हैं कि हमारा क्या जाने का है, गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया का जा रहा है। यह है हमारे चेन्नई का रवैया।

मैं साफ-साफ कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस में बहुत बड़ी साजिश वेस्टेड इंटररेस्ट्स की भी काम कर रही है क्योंकि हाल ही में सिंधेटिक इज इंडस्ट्री 10 करोड़ के प्राफिट में आने वाली

थी। तीन आई०डी०पी०एल्स० सिंधेटिक इज हैदराबाद में जो फैक्ट्री हैं वह आइन्दा साल में प्राफिट में आने वाली थीं, लेकिन उसको इस तरह से स्ट्राइक पर जाने को मजबूर किया गया। स्ट्राइक में जाने के बाद आज तक बातचीत नहीं कर रहे हैं। इसके पीछे जो वेस्टेड इंटररेस्ट है, उसके बारे में खुल्लमखुल्ला हाउस में सोचने की बात है।

मैं बतला देना चाहता हूँ कि अभी हाल में कुछ केमिकल्स के ऊपर इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस बन्द कर दिया गया जो कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर में थे। अब क्या हुआ कि एक महीने के स्ट्राइक में वहाँ जो प्रोडक्शन था वह चोट खा गया। प्राइवेट सेक्टर वाले जो यहाँ से खरीदते थे अब डिमान्ड करेंगे कि हमको माल दिया जाये। गवर्नमेंट सप्लाई कर नहीं पायेगी, साथ ही वह पब्लिक को भी नहीं मार सकती। इस लिये उस को इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस देना होगा। यह साजिश वेस्टेड इंटररेस्ट की चल रही है। इसको मैं हाउस के सामने इस वास्ते रखना जरूरी समझता हूँ कि 37 दिन स्ट्राइक करने के बावजूद माँग पूरी नहीं हो रही है। 37 दिन तक हम लोग फिरते रहे। चेन्नई के दरवाजे खटखाटायें। मैं ही नहीं, मेरे और एम०पी०जभी थे। डा० सेन से हमने कहा कि इस स्ट्राइक को खत्म कराइये, कोई रास्ता निकालिये ताकि यहाँ पर अमन कायम हो सके और आइन्दा इंडस्ट्री में अमन कायम हो सके। हाल में डा० त्रिगुण सेन के साथ साढ़े दस बजे मीटिंग हुई। सेक्रेटरी साहब के साथ चेन्नई भी आये, ऐसा कहा। लेकिन यहाँ मालूम हुआ कि चेन्नई साहब नौ बजे हैदराबाद फरार हो गये जब कि 33 दिन तक वहाँ नहीं गये थे। यह है हमारे पब्लिक सेक्टर की हालत।

वहाँ पर एक ही यूनियन है। दूसरी कोई यूनियन नहीं है। वहाँ एक भी वर्कर काम पर नहीं गया है। बाहर से कंजुअल लेबर ला कर और ब्वायलर में लकड़ी जला कर धुआँ निकालते हैं ताकि वर्कर धोखे में आ जाये कि फैक्ट्री चालू हो गई है और इस लिये वापस चले आये। वहाँ झूठे पैम्फलेट बाँटे जा रहे हैं कि यूनियन से कुछ होने वाला नहीं है, इस लिये काम पर आ जाओ। लेकिन आज तक 37 दिन हो गये हैं, कोई भी वर्कर काम पर नहीं आया है। मैं खास तौर पर मिनिस्टर साहब से रिक्वेस्ट करता हूँ तो वह कहते हैं कि मैं यहाँ हूँ, चेन्नई नहीं

[श्री बैंकटस्वामी]

सुनता तो मैं क्या करूँ ? मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट, हमारी मिनिस्ट्री चेअरमैन के हाथ में है या वह मिनिस्ट्री के हाथ में है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता। आपको एक डाइरेक्टिव देना चाहिये और कहना चाहिये कि मूल्क के इंटरैस्ट में तुम को जाना पड़ेगा और सेटलमेंट करना पड़ेगा। अगर इस पर भी वह बैसा नहीं करते हैं तब मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारी मिनिस्ट्री हमारे मूल्क के लिये नुकसानदेह साबित हो रही है हमारे चेअरमैन की हालत को देखते हुए। चेअरमैन मुझ से यह कहते हैं कि अगर गवर्नमेंट ने या मिनिस्टर ने या प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने इंटरफीयर किया तो मैं इस्तीफा दे दूंगा। अब क्या करना चाहिये ? प्राइवेट सेक्टर वाला खुद अपने दर्द को मिटाने के लिए जहाँ कहीं भी इंडस्ट्री बन्द होती है, स्ट्राइक होती है या कुछ गड़बड़ी होती है तो सेटलमेंट करने की कोशिश करता है, स्ट्राइक को खत्म कराने की कोशिश करता है। लेकिन पब्लिक सेक्टर वाला यह समझता है कि हमारा क्या जाने वाला है, जाएगा तो गवर्नमेंट का। हमें तो तनख्वाह मिल ही रही है। अगर पब्लिक सेक्टर इस तरह से चलेगा तो कैसे काम होगा और क्या होगा ?

आप उनकी एफीशेंसी को देखें। वहाँ मरकरी की चोरी हुई, लाखों रुपये की चोरी हुई। जनरल मैनजर साहब और चेअरमैन साहब कहते रहे कि ट्रेन में से बाहर जा रहा है। लेकिन जब चोर पकड़ा गया और उसमें अफसरों के भी नाम है तब पता चला कि यह चोरी जा रहा था। चोर ने बताया कि वह मरकरी सुबह बम्बई ले जाता था और शाम को वापिस आ जाता था। ये जो सब चीजें हैं ये मिसमैनेजमेंट की वजह से हो रही हैं और इन सब कारणों से वहाँ लाखों रुपये का नुकसान हुआ है।

एक करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान इस स्ट्राइक के कारण वहाँ हुआ है। चेअरमैन के कदम रखते ही आई०डी०पी०एल० के अन्दर, सर्जिकल प्लांट मद्रास में दो महीने से ज्यादा स्ट्राइक चली थी। वहाँ वह फिजल आउट हो गई। चूँकि बैंकट-स्वामी यूनियन के प्रेजिडेंट है और चूँकि यह स्ट्राइक वहाँ फिजल आउट हो गई थी, इस वास्ते यहाँ भी फिजल आउट होनी चाहिये, यह उनका एटीट्यूड है। समाजवाद की आवाज को मैं सेन साहब के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। क्या इसी का नाम समाजवाद है कि मजदूर अपने हकों के लिए न लड़ें और अफसरों के सामने सिर

झुका दें सीना तान कर वापिस न जायें, बल्कि गर्दन झुका कर जायें ? अगर यह बात है तो कहीं वक्तर अपनी मांगें पेश करें, किस तरह से करें ?

आई०डी०पी०एल० में वहाँ पर एक के अलावा और कोई अफसर उस स्टेट का नहीं है ग्राँध का एक ही अफसर है उसमें। तेलंगाना के अन्दर यह इंडस्ट्री है लेकिन तेलंगाना का एक भी नहीं है। एक जो है वह भी ग्राँध का है। यह पब्लिक सेक्टर इंडस्ट्री का हाल है। लोकल टेलेंट को लिये जाने की हम बार बार माँग करते आ रहे हैं। बोगस लिस्ट्स आपके पास भेज दी जाती हैं कि इतने वक्तर स्टेट के हैं और इतने बाहर के हैं। बाहर के वक्तर नहीं होने चाहिये, यह मैं नहीं कहता। लेकिन लोकल टेलेंट को इग्नोर तो नहीं किया जाना चाहिये।

स्ट्राइक के बारे में सेन साहब को जवाब देना पड़ेगा हाउस में। इतने दिन स्ट्राइक क्यों चली ? क्यों इसको चलने दिया गया ? इसका उनको चेअरमैन से जवाब तलब करना चाहिये। जिन लोगों ने स्ट्राइक की है, उन्होंने लीगल स्ट्राइक की है, लीगल नोटिस दे कर स्ट्राइक उन्होंने की है। पाँच रुपये की वजह से एक करोड़ का नुकसान हो चुका है। आई०डी०पी०एल० के अन्दर इतनी लेवर अनरैस्ट क्यों है, इसका आपको जवाब देना पड़ेगा। अगर लेवर अस-न्तुष्ट हो कर वापिस काम पर जाती है तो किस तरह से आप एक्सपैक्ट कर सकते हैं कि वह दिल लगा कर काम करे और कैमिकल इंडस्ट्री में आपको प्राफिट करके दे ? अगर स्ट्राइक फिजल आउट हो जाती है तो क्या आप यह आशा कर सकते हैं कि वे दिल लगा कर काम करेंगे ? वे समझेंगे कि हमारी जायज माँगों को माना नहीं गया है, वास हमारा दुश्मन है, हमारा खून चूसना चाहता है। चूँकि हम स्ट्राइक पर हैं इस वास्ते अफसर चाहते हैं कि हम सिर झुका कर वापिस काम पर आ जायें। उस अवस्था में कैसे वे काम करेंगे ? वक्तर 35 रुपये की माँग कर रहे हैं लेकिन 30 पर वे मान जायेंगे। लेकिन इतने भी दिये नहीं जा रहे हैं। पब्लिक सेक्टर अंडरटेकिंग में दूसरी जगह जितने माँग जा रहे हैं उससे कम यहाँ माँग जा रहे हैं। इतने तो कम से कम आप उनको दें। आप यह न समझें कि ग्रांट दस दिन में स्ट्राइक फिजल आउट हो जाएगी। एक या दो महीने तक भी यह स्ट्राइक चल सकती है। मूल्क का खयाल

करके आप सेंट्रलमेंट वर्कज के साथ करें। आज भी मैं आपको साफ तोर पर बता देना चाहता हूँ कि चेयरमैन का यही आइडिया है कि वर्कर सिर झुका कर वापिस काम पर लौट आयें और स्ट्राइक फिजल आउट हो जाए। साफ साफ मिनिस्टर साहब को बताना चाहिये कि इस सब के लिए जिम्मेदार कौन है? उसके लिए इनक्वायरी कमेटी बिठाई जानी चाहिये। इन्हीं चेयरमैन के होते हुए मद्रास में भी स्ट्राइक हुई थी और काफी दिन चली थी। उसके लिए भी मैं इनक्वायरी कमेटी की डिमांड करना चाहता हूँ। मरकरी की चोरी जो लाखों रुपये की हुई है और जो मिसमैनेजमेंट की वजह से हुई है, और साथ ही लेबर में इतनी अनरेस्ट क्यों है, इस सब की जांच करने के लिए एक इनक्वायरी कमेटी होनी चाहिये।

समाजवाद का नारा हम बूलन्द कर रहे हैं। वहाँ 3400 वर्कर हैं। 37 दिन से हड़ताल चल रही है। कुछ तो आपको इंतजाम करना पड़ेगा।

गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के पब्लिक सेक्टर अडवर्टीकिज में कम से कम जो तनस्वाह है, उतनी तो यहाँ मिलनी ही चाहिये। इसका एलान अग्रर मंत्री महोदय कर दें तो बहुत मुनासिब होगा।

Shri P. Viswambharan (Trivandrum) : This Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals plays a very important role in the economy of our country. This Ministry has under its control perhaps the largest number of public sector undertakings and the future of our country and our economy depends to a large extent on the successful working of the public sector undertakings. The working of many units under this Ministry tends to shatter our hopes in the public sector undertakings.

Within the short time at my disposal I would cite only the example of one unit under this Ministry, namely the Fertilisers and Chemicals Travencore (FACT) about which much has been said. Not a single session of the Lok Sabha passes without a heated discussion on this FACT. This is the biggest industrial unit in our State and this is one of the oldest industries in the country.

At the outset I would like to point out to you that this Ministry and this unit show

scant respect to this Parliament. I have got copies of answers to a dozen questions. The stock answer is that information is being collected. Only last week when I put a question about the names of persons appointed as Publicity Assistants in this unit, though the number may not exceed a dozen, the answer was that information was being collected. I do not know why the firm and the Ministry should shut out information from this House. In this connection, I want to know whether that list is not presented to this House because there is a particular name, Panampalli Aravindakshan, in that list. I do not want to go into details here.

18 hrs.

Under your distinguished chairmanship the Public Undertakings Committee commented on this factory; it is the saddest commentary on any public undertaking that we have ever come across. 33 recommendations and observations have been made and in spite of the most damning observations of the Committee against this firm nothing effective has been done to improve matters. A C.B.I. enquiry is going on against the managing director of this factory. While this report was in our possession and the C. B. I. enquiry was going on against the managing director the hon. Minister Mr. D. R. Chavan visited that factory and stayed there for a day and night also and the next day he made a public statement praising the managing director to the skies. That has been reported in the papers. Is it not disrespectful shown to this House?

This factory has been functioning for the last 23 years. It started production in 1947 during pre-independence days. It should have been a model for the other public sector undertakings. Unfortunately it is a model for corruption, wasteful expenditure, favouritism and nepotism. It has been admitted here by Dr. Triguna Sen that there was wasteful expenditure, but nothing has been done to improve matters.

When we speak of the factory and its present management, some think that we have some personal grudge against somebody there. I have absolutely no grudge against any officer of that factory. How is this factory functioning after 23 years of commercial production? Its production is less than

[Shri P. Vishambharan]

fifty per cent of the installed capacity. When we raised this question two years ago we were told that steps were being taken to step up production. In fact production has gone down. In earlier days there was interruption due to power shortage in Kerala. The Ministry's report and the notes on important projects and schemes reveal that there was no power shortage during the last two years and yet production has gone down. It has been said on the notes on important projects supplied to us :

"The Udyogmandal unit has at present a capacity of 70,000 tonnes of nitrogen and 33,500 tonnes of P_2O_5 . . . Production during the year 1968-69 was 34,450 tonnes of nitrogen and 14,909 tonnes of P_2O_5 ."

That means nitrogen production is less than 50 per cent and in the other case it is about 45 per cent. Another revealing factor is that production during the last year was less than the previous year. In the report of the Ministry, it has been stated that the production for the period, April to December, 1969, was 76,704 tonnes whereas it was 80,000 odd during the corresponding period of the previous year. These facts should be taken into account when we level criticism against this factory.

Another point which I want to bring to the attention of the House is this. The present management of this factory corrupts the other industrial units around it, namely, at Alwaye. Recently, there was an enquiry by a member of the Board of Revenue of the Kerala Government against certain allegations made against the Travancore-Cochin Chemicals, a public sector undertaking under the Government of Kerala. In that enquiry report, certain facts have been revealed. For instance, it has been revealed that the Managing Director of FACT influences and exerts pressure on the management of the T. C. C. to sell T. C. C. products in an irregular way. Here is a statement by the Enquiry Commissioner. At several places it has been mentioned, "Supplied in deference to the wishes of our Director, Mr. M. K. K. Nair." The Managing Director of FACT is the Director of the other firm also. In several places it has been said, "Supplied in deference to the wishes of our Director, Mr. M. K. K. Nair,"

There is another point here. I do not know the correctness of this. But Mr. M. K. K. Nair has brought in the names of Central Ministers to pressurise the T. C. C. to sell their products in an irregular way to some people. I will read just a sentence from one of the letters written by the Marketing Manager of the T. C. C. to Mr. M. K. K. Nair. In it, it has been stated :

"Two gentlemen carrying a letter from the Minister, Shri Raghu Ramaiah, were waiting outside your office. You called me in first and indicated to me. Later, they were also called in and introduced to me. You wished me to supply them a tonne or two on the very same day."

In another letter, a photostat copy of the letter written by Mr. M. K. K. Nair himself, of course, no Minister's name has been brought in. I am reading out these letters just to show how he corrupts the other units also under the State Government. He writes to the Managing Director of the T. C. C. :

"Mr. Krishnan of Calcutta met me at Madras on 11th October, 1968. He mentioned that he has been completely cut off by the T. C. C. He has been the T. C. C.'s oldest representative. I feel that a person like Mr. Krishnan who has always been a good and faithful friend of the T. C. C. should not be thrown overboard. Will you kindly look into it?"

These are not private documents. These four letters were published in a leading Kerala daily under the caption **Four Letters—(Nalu Kathukal)**. They got wild publicity.

Mr. Speaker : He must conclude now.

Shri P. Vishambharan : I am concluding. You yourself know the full details of the working of this company. In spite of our best efforts to improve the working of this factory, nothing has been done. Only last week, a discussion was held here about the calling in of the Central Industrial Security Force. This factory is the first public sector undertaking among the four South Indian States to invite the Central Industrial

Security Force there while there is absolutely nothing abnormal in the law and order situation in that factory. These things have to be enquired into, and the C. B. I. inquiry is there. When the C. B. I. inquiry is there, what is the harm in transferring the officers responsible for this? It was reported in a section of the press several months back that the Managing Director was going to be transferred from that firm and one Dr. Mukherjee was being appointed in his place. What has happened to change that decision, I would ask the hon. Minister. Anyway, we, the Members of Parliament from Kerala and the entire people of Kerala are worried over these defects. Even now, it is running at a loss. There is a discrepancy. In this note on important projects, it has been said that during 1968-69 that factory was running at a loss. But the FACT's report for that year says it was running at a profit of Rs.32 lakhs. In a unit where the capital invested is Rs.45 crores, the profit comes to 0.075 per cent. No dividend has been declared since 1963, since the Government of India took over that firm and since the present Managing Director was appointed. Before that, it used to distribute dividends.

I conclude with the appeal to this ministry to see that this only public sector undertaking worth the name in our State functions properly.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals and Mines and Metals (Shri D. R. Chavan) : Sir, I have listened to the speeches made by hon. members with rapt attention. Many points were raised and criticism was made against certain things. It is but legitimate that M. P.s get an opportunity to criticise and also to make certain suggestions. The point is, criticisms have got to be made and the position has got to be explained.

My hon. friend Mr. Vishwambharan made a reference to the working of FACT—Fertilisers and Chemicals, Travencore Ltd. No effort will be made by us to hide facts as they are, because facts are facts. The position is, FACT has got an installed capacity of 70,000 tonnes of nitrogen and 33,500 tonnes of P_2O_5 . But what is the attainable capacity? During the last three years out of about 8 electrolyzers, on account

of power shortage, 5 were sold to Nangal fertiliser plant. Naturally, therefore, the capacity was reduced to 62,500 tonnes of nitrogen. On account of low steam efficiency and high conversion losses, the attainable capacity was 55,000 tonnes. Taking this as the capacity, we have to consider what was actually the production and whether any progress has been made or not. In 1969-70, the production went down as compared with the last year. Why? The management tells us that it is on account of mechanical troubles. It can be quite understood. What happened during the previous years and why were there persistent losses in this plant? Last time also there was a half-an-hour discussion concerning this. Several points were made by Mr. Viswambharan and others. The position was explained then also. At that time, the position was, there was shortage of power because certain hydel power projects which were to be commissioned in Kerala were delayed. There were also power interruptions. I had calculated the number of power interruptions during the past three years and the average works out to 165 power interruptions per year for the last four years. As a result of that, production suffers and the total loss during the period of four years was nearly Rs.10 crores. These were some of the things which are beyond the control of the management. This year the production has gone down and the reason that is given is mechanical troubles. It is true that there is scope for improvement. Improvements must be made and the plant must reach the rated or the attainable capacity. If it cannot reach the installed capacity, it must run to attainable capacity.

Some time back a technical committee called Sharma Committee was appointed to go into the matter. It saw the various aspects of the working of the plant, identified the areas of difficulties and made certain recommendations of a technical nature, which I understand the management is trying to implement. Some of the recommendations have been implemented and some are in the process of being implemented. The production in 1967-68 was 47 per cent of the attainable capacity. Immediately afterwards, as a result of certain steps taken by the management, it increased to 64.4 per cent in 1968-69. But it is true that it has

[Shri D. R. Chavan]

come down in the subsequent year. It is 58.6 percent in 1969-70.

Therefore, we are not hiding any facts. The facts are there for everyone to see. There is enough scope for improvement. Then capacity has been created by so much of capital investment, the plant must run to rated capacity. Most of our plants which are in production today, nearly about seven or eight plants, they are not running to their rated capacity. Since we have made huge investments on these plants, we have to see that all these plants are running to capacity.

A reference was made to fertilizer targets. I think the reference was made by Shri Kothari. In the Fourth Plan the fertilizer target of capacity is 3.7 million tonnes. If we succeed in building up this capacity, it is likely that this capacity when it is built up will produce nearly 3.2 million tonnes of fertilizers which would be the consumption requirement at that time.

The projects which are in production have a capacity of 1.3 million tonnes. Projects which are under implementation and erection have got a capacity of 1.2 million tonnes, making a total capacity of 2.5 million tonnes. When, there are a number of projects, both in the public and private sector which are approved in principle by the government, which will give a capacity of 2.1 million tonnes.

We are very keen in the department to see that the capacity planned for is being built up during the Fourth Plan. Otherwise, we would be in difficulties. We must produce in the country about 3 million tonnes of fertilizers and about 1.4 million tonnes of P_2O_5 to meet the consumption requirements of the country. Even assuming that we succeed in attaining the capacity by the end of the Fourth Plan, even then there will be a shortage of fertilizer to the extent of 6.2 million tonnes which would require Rs. 1,043 crores over a period of four years. Therefore, in the Department of Petroleum and Chemicals we are very keen to see that the projects, whether in the private sector or the public sector, come up so that the capacity planned for is being built up and the consumption requirements of the country are satisfied.

I have read somewhere that about 8 million tonnes of plant nutrients are taken out of the soil every year. Therefore it is necessary that about 8 million tonnes of fertilisers are put back into the soil so that the fertility status of the soil is maintained and food-grains production in the country could be increased.

An analysis has been made that had our fertilisers production target been fulfilled during the period 1963-64 to 1967-68, we would have been in a position to produce about 18 million tonnes of food-grains. But during this period fertilisers worth about Rs.411 crores and 40 million tonnes of food-grains at a total cost of Rs.1,841 crores were imported. This is the problem with which we are confronted. Therefore we in the Department of Petroleum and Chemicals are very keen to see that the fertilisers production targets which we have planned for are built up quickly so that we produce fertilisers, give them to the farmers of the country, the pace and tempo of our green revolution is maintained, developments in the agricultural sector are accelerated and the growing demands of the growing people are met.

In this light the fertiliser project which was licensed in 1966 has got to be viewed. That project is the Goa fertiliser project. It came under severe criticism both in the press and through questions.

Shri J. Ramapathi Rao (Karimnagar) : What about Ramagundam in Andhra Pradesh ?

Shri D. R. Chavan : The Goa fertiliser plant, which will cost Rs.56.60 crores, will produce fertilisers worth about Rs.38 crores. A point was made in the discussions as to what would be the outgo of foreign exchange for a fertiliser project costing about Rs.56.60 crores and producing fertilisers worth about Rs.38 crores. I calculated the figure and came to the conclusion that for the import of phosphoric acid about Rs.4.2 crores will be required and the amount of interest that is likely to be paid on the loan that has been taken from the International Finance Corporation Washington and the Bank of America will be Rs. 1.56 crores. Therefore the foreign exchange outgo will be Rs.5.8 crores. Thus there will be net Saving of about Rs.30 to 32 crores.

It was said that dividend will be required to be paid. But the dividend will be required to be paid when the plant goes into production and starts making profit. As I said, in spite of the fact that we succeed in building up a capacity of 3.7 million tonnes of fertilisers, we will be required to import fertilisers worth about Rs.1,047 crores unless we quicken up the tempo of building up fertiliser plants in the country. In that context it has got to be viewed. Nobody has criticized it but some passing reference was made to it. I hope and trust that Members will bear this in mind and understand it in case any reference is to be made to it.

A reference was made by my hon. friend, Shri Manubhai Patel, to what I said in the morning while answering the question today. Concerning the total availability of crude from Gujarat fields I had made a reference to the Ankleshwar field where about 200 wells have been drilled by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and which will give a total production of crude at a sustained rate of 3.03 million tonnes for a period of four or five years.

Shri S. S. Kothari : Is Ankleshwar likely to dry up ?

Shri D. R. Chavan : Then, gradually it is likely to drop down, so much so that by 1977-78 the production from the Ankleshwar field is likely to be 1.41 million tonnes. This is according to the recent estimate made by the experts in the O. N. G. C.

Again, from the north Gujarat oil fields, the peak production is likely to be reached later, after 3 or 4 years, say, 1.47 million tonnes in 1973-74 and, gradually, it will drop down to 0.50 million tonnes sometime in 1978-79. Therefore the total availability of crude from both Ankleshwar oilfields and north Gujarat oilfields to which I made a reference while answering the Short Notice question this morning, will be 1.91 million tonnes.

The present capacity of the Koyali refinery is 3.4 million tonnes. It has been found that after re-vamping and de-bottle-necking, it is likely to be 4.5 million tonnes. Then, a reference was made by Shri Manubhai Patel that around Koyali refinery a petro-chemical complex is being built up. We propose to invest about Rs.200 crores in

the petro-chemical complex—Aromatic, Naphtha Cracker ; etc. Then there is the Index plant which we have put at a cost of Rs. 2.44 crores which is likely to produce 33,000 tonnes of Benzene and 14,000 tonnes of Toluene. 60 per cent of this will be utilised in the Caprolactum plant for which the letter of intent has been issued to the Gujarat State Fertiliser Corporation. The detailed proposals for the purchase of technology, basic designs, plant and equipment not available in the country are expected shortly.

The question is, about the petro-chemical complex which is being created, whether naphtha which is the feedstock for this complex is likely to be available. The total requirement of naphtha in a peak period will be nearly 7,59,000 tonnes per year. The question is, when the output of these oilfields will go down, for the refining capacity that has been created, and if the crude is not available to produce petroleum products, from where the naphtha is to come.

As has been said by my hon. friend, Shri Manubhai Patel, Ankleshwar is considered to be one of the best oilfield in the world because it has nearly 48 per cent A. P. I. gravity and the yield of naphtha is also much higher which is about 24 per cent. I give an assurance here and now that for the petro-chemical complex which is being built up in which we are investing Rs.207 crores, for sustaining the petro-chemical complex, the feedstock naphtha will be procured and made available to the petro-chemical complex. If the crude is not available, the refining capacity that has been created will be fed either through import of by tapping other resources.

Then, a reference was made by my hon. friend, Shri Virendrakumar Shah, about offshore drilling in the deep-sea waters, called the Bombay high. He said that we have got so many proposals and why is it that we are not collaborating with Tenneco. The Tenneco proposal came in 1967. But before that the O. N. G. C., in a bid to achieve self-sufficiency in the country, started negotiating with some of the foreign firms. As a matter of fact, in June, 1967, the Tenneco proposal came and, along with that, we received six or seven other proposals. If all these proposals which were received are

[Shri D. R. Chavan]

classified, categorised, you will find that some of the proposals were for joint venture, some of the proposals were for contract drilling and some of the proposals were on the basis of assisted-owner operations, that is, providing financial assistance and technical collaboration from competent foreign firms who have got expertise in this line.

Now, it has been decided that deep-sea drilling will be done by the O. N. G. C. on the basis of assisted-owner operations by taking financial assistance and technical collaboration from some foreign firms. A dialogue is going on with some of the foreign groups for the purpose of getting financial assistance or technical collaboration. If the oil is struck there in a commercial quantity, I am sure, if not to the extent that the entire gap between demand and supply will be bridged up, but to a certain extent, the gap between demand and supply will come down.

Further, a reference was made by some Hon'ble friends that the gap between demand and supply is increasing. Today, we have in the country a refining capacity of about 20 million tonnes. It has been estimated by the Indian Institute of Petroleum—they have made certain studies—that the demand for petroleum products will be nearly about 32 to 34 tonnes by 1974-75. And then what is going to be the indigenous production at that time? It was earlier estimated that by 1974-75 the total indigenous production both in the eastern and western sectors would be nearly 9-10 million tonnes. Therefore, the gap between the demand and supply is going to be 22 million tonnes. The demand for petroleum products is increasing continuously. I have calculated and come to the conclusion that by 1978 the demand for petroleum products will be nearly 50 million tonnes. Therefore, the Government has understood that very great efforts have to be made on the exploratory front. A greater and greater effort will have to be made to explore and find out new structures through geophysical, geological and seismic surveys so that we can put in the drill in the area and try to find out whether there is any hydro-carbon present there or not. It is wrongly supposed by some hon. Members that there are oil deposits in Bombay High. Some hon. Members said that there are oil deposits in

shallow waters, where actually the drilling is being done. Actually we have to put in a drill to find out the structures indicate the broad possibility that there may be hydro-carbon. But, unless you put in a drill and actually go down and come across oil, it cannot be said that in a particular place you will get oil. Oil is found where it is struck. It is not that you know oil is there and, therefore, you put in a drill there and start getting it out. Geological and seismic surveys indicate the broad possibilities that in this particular structure there are possibilities and indications of finding hydro-carbon.

The other thing we have got to do is ; we have to put in a drill and find out whether it contains it or not. If it contains, you get the oil. If it does not contain, all your reports go wrong. It was said that a number of wells have gone dry. That is a normal thing. There is nothing unusual in it.

Only one or two points I would mention because of the short time at my disposal. A reference was made practically by all the Members to I. D. P. L. So far as I. D. P. L. is concerned, the position is not as happy as it should have been. As a matter of fact, all the three plants are losing. The Antibiotics plant has lost nearly Rs. 9 crores. Another plant has lost Rs. 6 crores. The Surgical Instruments Plant has lost about 4 crores. There was a total loss of Rs. 19 crores. Nobody is happy about it. No effort will be made to hide the facts. As I said in the beginning, these are hard facts. Therefore, efforts will have to be made to improve the conditions in these plants. Plants have been created and they are there in which we have put in Rs.53 crores. Now the question is : whether these plants have to be dismantled and thrown away. (*Interruptions*). It cannot be done. You have to face the facts. You are confronted with a situation and that situation has to be faced boldly. You have to find out some remedial measures to improve the conditions in the plants. As a matter of fact, at our instance, Russian experts came. Russian experts along with Indian experts went round the plants, saw all the aspects of the plants and saw the areas of difficulty. They have suggested certain remedial actions. As a result of these measures, the plants have started improving.

An hon. Member said if there had been no strike, probably excluding all these losses, there would have been a break-even in the Synthetic Drugs Plant in Hyderabad. This plant is improving. In Antibiotic Plant, Rishikesh as against sales of Rs.20 lakhs in the previous year, this year it has shown some improvement. The sales are Rs. 148 lakhs. In another plant Synthetic drugs it is Rs.347 lakhs this year as against Rs.65 lakhs last year. So, there is some improvement. In the initial stages there are bound to be teething troubles. All these equipments and plants are sophisticated type of plants where highly developed technology is involved. And therefore it is bound to take some time. My colleague and myself have not given up courage and we are looking into these things daily and trying to find out areas where improvement could be made and given some time, both the plants Synthetic Drugs and Anti-biotics will make improvement and I am confident there would be a break-through-break even some time by 1972-73.

A reference was made to the theft of mercury. That is a theft involving about Rs.2 lakhs. It was detected because the consumption of mercury was increasing. There are certain norms fixed for it. The mercury is used in the production of Ribose an intermediate required for the manufacture of Vitamin B. The management went into the question and it was found that pilferage had taken place and the matter was referred to the police and it is under investigation.

Reference was made about the strike. On account of the strike we are losing near-about Rs.1.25 lakhs every day in production. It is a matter within the purview of the management. The management is autonomous. My senior colleague had a talk with the Chairman and asked him to go and meet the workers there. I hope and trust that some good result will come out of it, and that the strike will end. That is all that I have to say. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री जी बेंकटस्वामी : स्ट्राइक से एक करोड़ ६० का नुकसान हो गया। इसके बारे में भी मंत्री महोदय कुछ कहें।

LS 22

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री बहुत समय बाकी है, इतनी जल्दी मत कीजिये।

18.38 hrs.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF EDIBLE OILS AND FATS

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Budar) :

As you know, Sir, the availability of Vanaspati is so very difficult now and in Delhi where the Government is sitting, people go in procession to Safdarjung Road, —especially women—and are demanding the resignation of the Prime Minister. This has happened because this Government has given so many false pledges to the people of India. They thought that the Green Revolution will bring about a condition in the country which will restrict imports. But what has happened? Instead of restricting the imports it has increased the imports.

It is a fact that to some extent, food-grains production has gone up but as you know, this groundnut is also a green crop. Cotton is also a green crop; mustard seed and other oilseeds should be included in the category of green crops. But the Ministry and more particularly top policy formulating people who go on trumpeting about green revolution do nothing about these crops. I do not know whether they will consider this as green or black. The price of Vanaspati has been increased 4 times since December. When that drama was enacted in Bombay and so many promises were made at that time on 24th December, the price was increased by 25 paise per kilo.

Again within two weeks, that is on 9th January, the price was increased by 25 paise; on 8th February it was raised by 20 paise, and on 7th March, soon after the presentation of the budget by the Prime Minister, because it was a millennium in the budget according to her, she said that this was the strategy of her Government's policy. Soon after that the price was increased by 30 paise. These increases were effected on one kilogram. But if you consider it by quintal, the price increase will be to the tune of Rs.100 per quintal. This chaotic condition has been created because no attention