

Students from J. & K. going abroad

451. { Bakshi Abdul Rashid:
Shri Abdul Ghani Goal:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students from Jammu and Kashmir who have been deputed for foreign studies during the past two years and to which countries; and

(b) how many of them have been sent on Government expenses?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

12 hrs.

RE: PROCEDURE

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Sir, on a point of information.

Mr. Speaker: Is there a provision in our Rules where you can have a point of information? That is something new.

Shri Hem Barua: This is about an adjournment motion I had given regarding the Delhi teachers having proposed to go on a hunger strike. You, Sir, in your wisdom have disallowed that. But, as I understood you on a previous occasion, you had said that adjournment motions can be converted into Calling Attention notices. And I wrote to you a letter asking you to be good enough to convert it into a Calling Attention notice. But then I am informed that you want me to put a question on that. Is that not against your previous orders on your ruling that an adjournment motion can be converted into a Calling Attention notice?

Mr. Speaker: Every adjournment motion will not be converted automatically into a Calling Attention notice.

There might be some that might not be so urgent or that might not form the subject-matter of an adjournment motion at all. That discretion would always remain with me. I have to find out really whether there is such a matter of urgent public importance that can be taken up either in the form of an adjournment motion or in the form of a Calling Attention notice. The hon. Member knows it very well. And if he has still any complaint he can come to me and we can discuss it. But, as has been said so many times, when once a decision has been taken, if the Member is not satisfied he may kindly come to me and give me his grievance or tell me what he has got and then I can change that afterwards, but not at that moment.

12.03 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTERS
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

INSUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF COAL TO
BIHAR

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Mines and Fuel, to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

The insufficient supply of coal in Bihar resulting in partial closure of a large number of industrial units.

The Minister of Mines and Fuel (Shri K. D. Malaviya): We appreciate that a certain amount of hardship may have been caused to industries in Bihar as in other States due to their full demand for coal supplies not having been met. But, by and large, the important industries have been ensured adequate supplies to keep them running. In fact the overall supplies of coal in 1961 to Bihar have been better, being 2,63,001 wagons as compared to 2,32,379 wagons in 1960.

No specific reports, except in one case of Rohtas Industries Limited (Cement Factory), were received by the government either from industrial units or from the State Government in Bihar complaining of reduction in working hours and partial closures on account of insufficient supply of coal. On receipt of reports of partial closure of Rohtas Industries Limited (Cement Factory), special assistance by way of allotment over telephone to the extent of 23 wagons in March, 1962 and 40 wagons in April, 1962 was rendered by the Coal Controller. The general supply position to this consumer has been of the following order during the past few months as against its consumption of 336 wagons per month during the period May, 1961 to October, 1961:—

Month	Total despatches
October 1961	375 wagons
November 1961	374 wagons
December 1961	314 wagons
January 1962	390 wagons
February 1962	330 wagons
March 1962	418 wagons

The situation in regard to production and movement of coal keeps on improving. The reason why shortages are still being felt is that the consumer demand far exceeds the present transport availability which includes movement by rail, road and sea.

Government are keeping a constant watch on the position regarding supply of coal to industries. Whenever reports about the difficult coal position are received from consumers, immediate steps are taken to rush supplies by way of special and preferential allotment and diversion from other consumers who may have adequate stocks.

Immediately after the formation of the new Government, the Ministry is giving new thought to all questions concerning increased production of coal, greater satisfaction to consumers by supplying more coal and deciding

on new methods leading to fulfilment of Government programme and policies in this connection.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether sufficient precaution has now been taken so that there may not be insufficient supply in future?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have already made a statement to the effect that we are taking all necessary steps to see that the coal reaches places where legitimate demand for consumption prevails.

FIRE IN REFUGEES' HUTS NEAR RED FORT

Mr. Speaker: There is another notice by Shrimati Maimoona Sultan, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Mani Ram Bagri and Shri Ram Sewak Yadhav. Shrimati Maimoona Sultan may put it.

Shrimati Maimoona Sultan (Bhopal): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon.

"Fire in huts of refugees outside Red Fort, Delhi, on the 30th April, 1962, resulting in loss of property and rendering about 1,000 persons homeless.

The Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I shall give in brief the information I have at present. Yesterday, it appears, at about 3.30 p.m., fire broke out in the colony of huts in Baghichi Madho Das situated near Red Fort. The fire started from inside a hut which was locked at that time and the occupier was away.

Two messages were passed on to the Fire Brigade in quick succession by 3.34 p.m. The Fire Brigade reached the spot at 3.40 p.m. and started fire fighting operations. Meanwhile, SDM and DSP reached the spot and made necessary arrangements to prevent chances of theft or any mischievous design.