

दने के लिए कहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह जो ज्वाइंट कमेटी बनी हुई है उसको भी क्या आप ने मौका दिया है रेडियो और टी वी पर या भविष्य में उस कमेटी को प्रोग्राम देने के लिए कहने का विचार कर रहे हैं ?

श्री बसन्त साठे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे मालूम नहीं कि पार्लियामेंटरी कमेटी को कमेटी होने के नाते आप ऐसे करने की इजाजत देंगे। लेकिन उसके जो सदस्य हैं उनको अवश्य बुलाया जाता है और बुलाए जाएंगे। कमेटी के नाते से उनको बुलाना मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि उचित होगा।

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : I would like to know how many feature programmes and participating programmes that is Sangeet Sammelans and Mushairas were broadcast and telecast in 1981 and whether they were broadcast and telecast in all the Indian languages ? How many slogans in regard to evils of dowry system were broadcast and telecast in 1981 as it is seen in family planning broadcasting and telecasting ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : A separate notice is required for this. I will collect the information and pass it on to the Member.

#### Review of Coal Organisation

\*125 SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY :

SHRI B.V. DESAI :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether the entire coal organisation in the country is under review of the Union Government;

(b) whether this was one of the main recommendations of the Fazal Committee;

(c) if so, whether 80 per cent of the recommendations of the Fazal Committee have been accepted by Government so far; and

(d) if so, to what extent its recommendations which had been accepted have been implemented so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir.

(d) Instructions have been issued to Coal India Ltd. recently to implement the accepted recommendations.

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY : There are two Committees, one Sub-Committee and the other is the Committee headed by Shri Mohd. Fazal, Member, Planning Commission. I want to know, what are the recommendations of both these Committees, and whether they are contradictory or supplementary, to each other.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY) : The Fazal Committee has made 31 recommendations. Out of these 31 recommendations, 23 recommendations have been accepted by the Cabinet, three have been rejected by the Cabinet and five recommendations are pending before the Cabinet Sub-Committee.

SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY : I want to know if these recommendations are going to ease the situation in procuring the equipment. My information is that there is a lot of delay on account of certain difficulties. Though the Hon. Minister is very energetic and the production of coal has gone up 2% more than the targeted amount—it has gone up from 6% to 8% what are the specific things that the Minister has done to increase the availability of coal ?

SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY : Though this does not arise out of the main question or the information of the House I would like to state that so far as indigenous equipment is concerned, we are trying to procure the equipment from indigenous sources and if they cannot supply, then we are making efforts to import the same, and the equipment would be reaching us in the schedule time.

#### Serious Accidents in Subsidiaries of Coal India Limited

\*127 SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) whether Government are aware that fatal and serious accidents are increasing day by day in subsidiaries of Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) number of accidents (fatal and serious separately) that took place in the coal mines in Coal India Limited during the period from January to September, 1981; and

(d) reasons behind these accidents and steps taken by Government to prevent these accidents ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN) :** (a) No, Sir. The rate of fatal accidents per million tonne of coal produced in subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd. has declined from 2.68 in 1976 to 1.33 in 1980 and in 1981 (upto September) it is 1.29. In the case of serious accidents also, the rate per million tonne of coal produced has declined from 13.32 in 1976 to 11.15 in 1980 and in 1981 (upto September) it is 8.34.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The number of fatal accidents during January to September, 1981 is 104 and number of serious injuries during the same period is 671.

(d) The cause of such accidents generally are related to haulage, roof fall, movement of machinery, explosives etc.

The rules and regulations relating to safety are being enforced strictly to prevent such accidents. The recommendations of the committee on Coal Mines Safety are also being implemented.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** The reply to part (a) of my question is evasive. I would like to draw your attention to the news item that appeared in the Coal Field Tribune on 15-8-1981. The news item indicated that according to DGMS sources, 78 persons were killed and 28 others were seriously injured in 64 fatal accidents in Coal India's subsidiaries taken together during the period January to June this year as against 62 persons killed and 8 others seriously injured in 51 fatal accidents during the corresponding period last year, i.e. 1980. I would like to know, out of 671 seriously injured workers, how many had died, and the total number of accidents during the corresponding period last year, i.e. from June to September, 1980 and the number of deaths and seriously injured workers. I want to know a categorical answer from the Minister.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer has to be according to million tonnes. If, for example, we do not produce any coal today, the question of injuries or of fatal accidents would not arise. If we produce say 70 million tonnes of coal there will be a particular percentage. If a million tonne is produced and two are injured; then if we produce two million tonnes, it is possible that three might be

injured. So, it would not be correct to say that the number of injured has gone down without relating it to the level of production i.e. at the same time production has also gone up. That is why I specifically gave percentage of injuries by stating that rate per million tonne has gone down. Now, the Hon. Member wants to know in absolute term whether the production has gone up or not irrespective of whether the number of people injured has gone up or not. Now, so far as 1980 is concerned, the fatal injuries are 128 and serious are 1,075. Till September 1981, as far as the number of fatal injuries are concerned, I can only give in terms of million tonnes i.e. it has gone down from 1.34 per million tonne in 1980 to in 1981, so far 1.28 per million tonne during January to October in these two years. If the Hon. Member desires the figures irrespective of per million tonnes, then I will give this information later on.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** I never asked production and accidents. I wanted categorically the number of accidents, number of deaths, serious injuries etc. But he has tried to....

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** Kindly look at sub-para (c) of my answer. I have specifically given the number. The number of fatal accidents during January to September 1981 is 104 and the number of serious injuries during the same period is 671. But I have given the figure.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** But you have not answered how many deaths occurred out of 671.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** That I have specifically said 104 fatal accidents.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** That is not the end of it. It is the beginning of it.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** How can it be ?

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** Sir, the Minister, in his reply has stated that 104 fatal accidents occurred. But I want to know how many accidents occurred due to fall of roof and how many for other reasons and in how many cases inquiries have been completed and in how many cases, after the Inquiry Report, safety rules were found to have been violated and they were incorporated in the inquiry report ?

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** I can give some figure for 1981. In 1981, in ECL an accident took place on 11-1-1981. Bhajna was the name of the region. In that accident two were killed and four injured and the cause was roof fall. Five officials were held responsible and the DGMS also held two responsible. Their explanations have been called and the action is in progress. Similarly, I have got nine or ten cases. If the Hon. Member wants, I will read them or else I shall send them to him in writing.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Give him in writing.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** The question is in how many cases, inquiry has been completed and in that report the coalfield authority was found to have violated the safety rules. He should answer that.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** All right, Mr. Speaker, I will read out all of them. Three are due to roof falls.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Kindly give all the detail to him in writing.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** That is what I am saying. Enquiries are on. If permission is given to give it in writing, I will do so.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You give him the number of accidents, and the number of cases of violation of rules.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** I will give it. I have got the information. I don't mind giving.

**MR. SPEAKER :** You give him in writing. Now Mr. Samar Mukherjee.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** Sir, you should protect me. Why are you unkind to me? Lives of workers are involved.

**MR. SPEAKER :** That is why he will give you all the details. But it will take too long to read them. I am supporting you and saying that he should give you all the figures.

**SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER :** In how many cases have safety rules been violated? He should mention it.

**MR. SPEAKER :** That is what I have asked him to give you.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** I can give you the figures later on. I have got them.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He wants to know the number of cases where the safety rules were violated.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :** The number is large, and in certain cases enquiries are on; and there is no one responsible. About each mine I will have to read it out to you. I have no objection.

**MR. SPEAKER :** He will give you the number.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE :** From the nature of the question, you can understand whether the number of accidents has increased or decreased. There are comparative figures before us—in the figures supplied by the Director of Mines Safety. Here, the comparative figures of last year and this year, from January to June are given. From January to June during last year the figures are : 62 persons killed and 64 fatal accidents. I am reading out :

“Fatal accidents in the coal miners under Coal India Ltd. have gone high with higher fatality rate during the six months period from January to June this year, as compared to the corresponding period last year, as has been recorded by Directorate General of Mines Safety. According to DGMS sources, 78 persons were killed and 28 others were seriously injured in 64 fatal accidents in Coal India's subsidiaries taken together, from the period from January to June this year as against 62 persons killed and 8 others seriously injured in 51 fatal accidents during the corresponding period last year.”

The question is whether it has increased or not. He is evading the reply. Figures of production in terms of tonnes to show the accidents are declining are bogus. Accidents are not related to them. The main question is whether there is violation of safety rules or not. Here also, the question is : what are the reasons for this increase in accidents. The question asks for reasons behind these accidents and steps taken by Government to prevent accidents. We are concerned with the prevention of accidents. This is the main question.

I want to know whether the rate of accidents has increased or not. You must give an yes-or-no reply; and not these production figures. Secondly, if they have increased, what are the reasons and what steps have been taken to prevent them? This is a categorical question.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN** : As I have said earlier in my main answer—I cannot help repeating it, and reading it out :

“The rate of fatal accidents per million tonne of coal produced in subsidiaries of Coal India has declined from 2.68 in 1976 to 1.33 in 1980; and in 1981 (upto September) it is 1.29.....”

**MR. SPEAKER** : He wants to say that production in terms of million tonnes has gone up, and that is why accidents are there.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : I want to know about the number of violations of safety rules.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN** : In 1981 (upto September), it is 1.29. Therefore, the rate of accidents has declined. So, the question of reducing them and taking steps does not arise. One of the basic reasons why we have nationalised coal mines is that we wanted safety of the workers. Therefore, we are taking steps. They have appointed a safety committee. The safety committee has given certain recommendation and some recommendations have already been implemented. Certain recommendations are being implemented and certain other recommendations will be implemented; and that is one of the reasons why the rate of accidents has gone down.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : You know about the Chasnala accident. I visited there personally and went down into point of puncture.

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN** : It is connected with the Ministry of Steel; it is not connected with us.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : How do serious accidents take place?

**MR. SPEAKER** : It is due to violation of the safety rules.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : The Director of Safety Mines was with me; the Chairman of the mine was also with me. Both of them have given different explanations to me because at that time the Parliament was in session and Shri Chandrajit Yadav was the Minister at that time. The debate took place here. The complaint is that these safety directions are not being followed by the mines authority. That is why so many accidents take place. That is my question. There is a report in *Business Standard* which categorically states that the major number of these accidents are due to collapse of roof—40

to 60 percent; and without giving protection to maintain the roof, the coal is cut. This results in collapse of the roof. The safety of the people is a secondary thing to them.

**MR. SPEAKER** : The question remains that we should try to strengthen these safety rules and their implications should also be studied carefully.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : Therefore my question is whether they have gone through it and what are the steps taken to reduce these accidents?

**MR. SPEAKER** : you should try to enforce those rules more strictly.

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI)** : It is worth mentioning that the Committee on Safety in coal mines has set objectives of achieving this for a million tonnes of coal. It is not that we are doing it; it is the coal mines safety rules.....

**MR. SPEAKER** : He wants to say that the production has increased and along with it the accidents.....

**SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI** : It is bound to happen like that.

**MR. SPEAKER** : That is why the rate has gone down. But you must try to safeguard the lives of the workers.

**SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI** : That we have been doing. They have got a lot of recommendations and we are implementing those recommendations, but the ultimate answer to these fatal accidents is the total mechanisation of the underground mines: nothing else can save them. If you want total elimination of these fatal accidents, the answer is total mechanisation of the underground mines. Unless we can have that, it is bound to happen. What we are trying to do at the present moment is that we are trying to reduce the rate of accidents.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : Mr. Speaker, allow me to get one clarification. According to their reply, the more the production the more will be the rate of accidents.

**MR. SPEAKER** : Without mechanisation what can they do?

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE** : Then we can take it for granted that if there is more production then the rate of accidents will also be more.

**MR. SPEAKER** : No, no; you should try to minimise them.

**SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:** And it will go on increasing. That is the logic.

**Setting up of AIR Stations for working through satellite**

\*131. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up some more All India Radio Stations during the Sixth Five Year Plan to work through satellite; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI) : (a) and (b) There is no plan to set up new radio stations to work through satellite only. However, A.I.R. has planned the net-working of all the existing AIR stations through the INSAT to be launched in April 1982. As a result of this and through the facilities of uplinking with the satellite to be provided at Madras, Bombay, Calcutta and Delhi, the programmes broadcast from these stations could be relayed via the satellite by all the other stations. The new stations to be set up will also have receiver facilities.

**SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Mr. Speaker, the hon. Minister has stated in reply to my question that new stations will be set up. I would like to know where the stations are going to be set up before the INSAT satellite is in operation in 1982.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): No new stations are going to be set up only for the purpose of INSAT. All the existing stations will utilise INSAT. The existing 94 stations, including 85 regular and relay stations will utilise it.

**Oil Exploration in offshore areas by ONGC and Oil India**

\*133. **SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:** Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Commission and Oil India have chalked out comprehensive programmes to explore oil offshore areas and hope to find more oil in the North-Eastern belt ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

**Statement**

(a) Yes, Sir. An ambitious five year plan has formulated for exploration and production of oil in the country.

(b)

**I. OFFSHORE**

(i) *Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC):*

The ONGC will continue exploration in the Bombay Offshore basin and extend this to deeper waters. It also proposes to explore structures offshore of Saurashtra in the Gulf of Kutch, Andaman & Nicobar Shelf as well as the Basins in the East Coast such as Palk Bay and the Krishna-Godavari Basins. The ONGC plans to increase the number of offshore rigs deployed so as to drill about 95 exploratory wells in different offshore areas during the Sixth Plan period.

Apart from accelerating the development of the Bombay High field development of other structures, namely, R-12, South Bassein and North Bassein fields, B-37, B-39 structures, will also be carried out during the Plan period.

The ONGC is also pursuing an accelerated plan for increasing production from the Bombay High and adjoining fields to increase production from a level of 8.4 MT in 1981-82 to a level of 19.12 MT in 1984-85.

It may be mentioned that ONGC has recently discovered crude oil in two new structures, B-57, located about 35 Kms. to the east of the Bombay High field and in the Palk Strait. Further wells are proposed to be drilled to assess the potential.

(ii) *Oil India Limited (OIL)*

The OIL has conducted aeromagnetic and geophysical/seismic surveys in the 1200 Kms. area in Mahanadi basin offshore. Two wells have been drilled in the area but these did not yield hydrocarbons. The data collected in these surveys is being reinterpreted with the assistance of consultants to identify new drillable locations.