

sulted. The 'Dainik Asha' people went to the court of a Munsif. There the suit was dismissed. The whole thing is in dispute in the court. All the same, I would welcome a discussion with the hon. Member in regard to this case.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: The names are not similar. One is 'Asha' and the other is 'Dainik Asha'. Has somebody complained to the Government not to give registration to his paper? I would also like to know whether 'Asha' has been published regularly? If so, will the Government cancel registration of those papers which are not published regularly and their names can be given to those papers, which have got high circulation?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: So far as 'Asha' and 'Dainik Asha' are concerned, under the law, if the names are same or similar, registration cannot be given. The interpretation is that 'Dainik Asha' and 'Asha' are similar names. If a paper is not published regularly, there is a procedure for cancellation. If that procedure is followed and the declaration is cancelled, certainly, under the law, that name can be given to a new paper. I respectfully submit that I am willing to discuss this case with the hon. Member.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: I request Mr. Patnaik to ask a supplementary on this.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : उनके पड़ोसी पूछ रहे हैं। वे चाहते हैं कि इनको पूछने दीजिए।

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Sir, the Minister in his reply has stated that regarding the registration of newspapers there is no need of recommendation of the State Government. I know that in many cases the registration of newspapers is delayed very much for a very long time. I do not know what for. Is it that because they do not get recommendation from the ruling political parties, the registration is delayed or what are the reasons for the delay of those newspapers, those who are neutral papers and those who do not get any recommen-

dation from the ruling party. The Minister is reluctant to recognise the name of the paper Asha. Why? Is he reluctant to give recognition to that paper because it is in the name of his wife?

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Sir, I had originally submitted that the law on the subject is clear. The question of giving registration to a paper on the recommendation of a State Government does not arise because there is no provision in the law and therefore, the question of giving registration of declining the registration on the recommendation of the State Government does not arise. We are concerned with the legal provisions and we have not refused or delayed any issue of declaration on the recommendation of any State Government. For the information of the hon. Member, I might say that in this case about which the hon. Member is aware, under the law there is no provision. In this case probably the State Government also recommended but the law is taking its own course. Therefore, the question of any political consideration in giving a registration or not giving a registration or giving it delayed registration, does not arise. If the hon. Member has any specific case in his knowledge, he can bring it to my notice and I will look into that.

Pilferage of Coal from Dhanbad Coal Mines

*334. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that nearly 7000 tonnes of coal is pilfered every day in broad daylight from different Dhanbad coal mines;

(b) whether any inquiries have been made by Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, what steps are contemplated by Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c): There have been some cases pilferage of coal from the Dhanbad coal mines. Various security measures like joint patrolling by

CISF Personnel, cancellation of licences of coal depots near the collieries by the State Government construction of boundary walls around the coal dumps, opening of new Police Stations and outposts and black listing of trucks which were caught with stolen coal and other property of company inside the coalfields, have been taken.

KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH:

May I know from the hon. Minister that is it a fact that CISF personnel deputed on different coalmines in Dhanbad district, are already aware that from the colliery sidings, depots and railway yards in the Asansol-Raniganj coal belt and other collieries also, wagons are literally looted and they are unable to do anything because the CISF personnel on duty cannot take any action against such pilferage of coal by the miscreants as the Government have not given them powers? Secondly, the local youths and anti-social elements of the area who are taking wagons from the coal-belts, load the coal into the bullock-carts about which the hon. Minister has not replied. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that since April, 1982 to January, 1983 how much coal has been looted by the coal youths and anti-social elements in this way and how much loss of revenue Government is incurring daily?

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Dhanbad is a very vast area of 455 km. There are possibilities of pilferages because there are open dumps near the railway station; in some places the walls are also not there. Various steps have been taken to safeguard coal. Government have taken steps to have vigilance work in this area intensified. Coal companies have undertaken joint patrolling by police and CRPF.

श्री राम विलास पासवान : पुलिस और कोल माइन्स के जितने भी आफिसर्स हैं, सब मिले रहते हैं मंत्री महोदय को शायद यह नहीं मालूम की आफिसर्स ही चोरी करते हैं और करवाते हैं ।

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The Bihar Government have taken a decision that

they will not allow coal depots in those areas where there is too much of pilfering by anti-social elements. They are cancelling them in those area. Wherever there is a complaint or wherever anybody is caught, FIR is lodged with the concerned police station. 8 police stations and 14 outposts have been opened in those areas. During the year 1982-83, 1,962 metric tonnes of coal has been pilfered. The purchase centres and sale centres are vulnerable points. So, we have transferred them from there. We have ordered the transfer of so many people. 154 people have already been released. So, various measures have been taken. We are taking all possible steps to safeguard and check the pilferage in these areas.

KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: I would like to know from the Minister whether it is also a fact that similar type of pilferage of coal is done by anti-social elements in Madhya Pradesh and other States. Is it also a fact that the local youths are collecting money illegally from the truck-owners to allow them to go to the depots and are not permitting the normal operations of the coal mines if such payments are not made? Is it not a fact that the eastern coal belt is losing 2 million tonnes of coal through such open looting, because of which we are very much behind the target of production in the country? If so, what steps have been taken by the Government to check this?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): I agree that pilferage of coal has been taking place over a wide range of area and Madhya Pradesh is no exception. With regard to the steps that are sought to be taken to checkmate the pilferages, we have mentioned them in the main part of the answer itself. In the present circumstances, the fact remains that it is not possible to develop a foolproof measure. None the less, to the extent possible, action is being taken. In fact, the free sale system has been introduced only to avoid quite a lot of pilferage, which was otherwise taking place. I do not vouchsafe that the measures that we are taking are sufficient but, on our part, we

are taking the measure, that could possibly be taken. This is all the submission that I can make to the House at the moment.

SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH: Your predecessor had made announcements on numerous occasions about starting of satellite dumps in the coal field areas.

Workers at present are being given free supply of coal.

Now I would like to know whether the pilferage is done by the transporters, as you have not created these satellite dumps or are the workers in connivance with the local management and transporters cause of these pilferages.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: Satellite dumps have been created at various places. There are various processes through which the coal is pilfered.

श्री राम विलास पासवान : 2, 4 अधिकारियों को अपने विभाग के सस्पेंड कीजिये ।

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: I have suspended.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: How many officers have been suspended?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: I shall be most grateful to the hon. Members, if they are in the know of any specific cases they may kindly pass on the information to me. We have started taking stringent measures. As I said we have not been able to check it completely. The position that has developed is that this has been going on for quite a long time. The Mafia Gang has been operating. It is not possible to act in a short time and checkmate the whole thing. The system has got to be strengthened. We are also strengthening the vigilance system for the purpose of catching hold of the culprits. All the measures would be taken. I assure the House, on our part, we will not lag behind in any way.

श्री जमीलुर्रहमान : मोहतरम सदर साहब, मैं आपके जरिये मोहतरम वजीर से जानना चाहता हूँ कोयले का मसला निहायत संगीन है और इसकी पिलफरेज के जो आंकड़े दिये गये हैं वह मसला भी संगीन है तो मंत्री जी यह बतायें कि धनबाद एरिया में 1982-83 में चाहे माफ्रिया गैंग का हों, चाहे आफसर या ट्रक वाले हों या वर्कर्स की क्वाइबेंस से हो, कितने केसीज़ इंस्टीट्यूट किये गये और एक साल के अन्दर कितने लोग पकड़े गये ।

श्री पी० शिव शंकर : सि० सि० एल० में जहाँ तक अप्रैल 1982 से जुलाई 1982 का सवाल है 29 रेड्स हुए हैं और करीब 359 टन कोयला वसूल किया गया । साथ-साथ 15 साइकलें भी कबजे में ले ली गई हैं । इसी तरह 1981-82 में 43 रेड्स किये गये, 145 टन कोयला हासिल किया गया और 31 साइकलों को कबजे में लिया गया और 29 मुकदमें रजिस्टर किये गये हैं ।

जैसा मैंने पहले अर्ज किया यह सही है कि यह काफ़ी नहीं है मैंने यह बात कही है । लेकिन हमारी तरफ से पूरी कोशिश होगी कि जितना हो सके इस तरह की चोरियों को रोका जाय ।

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: A few months earlier one auditor was sent from Calcutta for audit — to know as to what has been happening in Dhanbad Area. That gentleman was killed. I would like to know not from the Home Minister but from the Minister Incharge of this Department — why was this man killed? What was the Audit Report because of which this man was killed? And what is their stand on those reports?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR: The whole matter is under enquiry and investigation. I agree with him. But I will be able to tell the House only after the enquiry is completed.

WRITTEN ANSWER TO QUESTION

Foreign participation in power projects

*335. **SHRI G. NARASIMHA REDDY:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 20 top power equipment generating firms had nearly two years ago submitted proposals for supply of equipment to India at a concessional rate;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with dwindling finances and steep cost escalation the power projects are moving slowly; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to reconsider the offers already made and take a policy decision with regard to foreign participation to accelerate power generation in our country?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Broad offers have been received from foreign countries/companies, expressing their interest to supply power equipment to India. Most of these offers do not indicate that the equipment would be supplied on concessional terms.

(b) Constraint on resources and cost escalation are among the factors affecting the commissioning schedules of power projects.

(c) Two projects, namely, Rihand and Vidhyachal thermal power projects have been approved utilising external assistance. No decision has been taken in other cases.

Expansion of IOC unit at Haldia

*336. **SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:**
SHRI ERA ANBARASU:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the scheme for the expansion of Indian Oil Corporation unit of Haldia;

(b) what are the details; and

(c) what is the programme of starting, running and completing the expansion programme of the Haldia unit of IOC?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) The Indian Oil Corporation has prepared a feasibility report for the expansion of the Haldia Refinery by three million tonnes per annum crude oil throughout to meet the country's demand for petroleum products. This contains four different processing schemes leading to four different product patterns: the alternatives comprise atmospheric residue fluid catalytic cracking, distillate fluid catalytic cracking, distillate hydrocracking and expansion of lubricating oil base stock manufacturing facilities. This feasibility report is already under examination in consultation with the departments concerned.

The expansion project of the Haldia Refinery has to be synchronised with the expansion of the oil jetties and handling facilities in the Haldia port, the feasibility report for which is under preparation by the Calcutta Port Commission/Ministry of Shipping & Transport. Both are scheduled for completion in the Seventh Plan.

कूजकोयला क्षेत्र में कुछ ग्राम पंचायतों के लोगों को विकास का लाभ

*337. श्री रीत लाल प्रसाद वर्मा :
क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सेंट्रल कोलफील्डस लि. के अंतर्गत कूज कोयला