

MR. SPEAKER : आप आधा आधा क्यों करते ? सब को बांट कर दे दीजिए ।
Don't be squeamis about congratulations.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :
This is after to-day's performance.

Now, Sir, we are happy that there is going to be a saving of Rs 972 crores. Naturally, I am happy and we congratulate all concerned including the Minister.

May I know from the hon. Minister whether this saving will benefit the consumers by the reduction in prices directly ?

SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA :
Not directly. But, indirectly, it is very much beneficial to the country. I hope the hon. Member will appreciate it.

MR. SPEAKER : Question No. 314.
A.K. Roy.

Cancellation of Waiting List of Displaced Persons for Jobs in D.V.G.

*314. SHRI A.K. ROY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the waiting list of the displaced persons in the Damodar Valley Corporation kept for future jobs, has been cancelled creating great resentment in the area, if so, facts in detail ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the fourth grade employment in the nearby Bokaro steel Ltd. has been kept reserved for the displaced persons only; and

(c) whether the same norm is proposed to be followed in the Damodar Valley Corporation, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir. The policy of the Government is to fill up vacancies in posts having a maximum basic pay of Rs 800/- per month through employment ex-

changes. Besides, the scope for fresh employment in DVC is very limited owing to large number of surplus persons emerging from the completed works in DVC. Waiting lists would mean hope without fulfilment. Hence, it was cancelled.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI A.K. Roy : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the answer is horrifying. Apart from that it is incorrect- The jobs in the Bokaro Steel Plant were kept reserved for the displaced. So, the question definitely arises here as to why it should not be so in regard to the D.V.C.

Sir, a great injustice has been done to the displaced people of D.V.C. I want the support of the House for some positive and sympathetic answer from the Minister, When the D. V. C. started its operation displacing the people, the then Minister in charge of D.V.C. Shri N.V. Gadgil, gave a solemn assurance in the House to the late tribal leader, Shri Jaipal Singh that all these displaced people would be taken care of. After that, as per the D.V.C. Data Book for March 1965, with the construction of the D.V.C. 304 villages were uprooted and 4,979 houses were demolished and 20,310 families were displaced. I would like to know from him as to what has happened to those people and what percentage of these people got jobs in the D.V.C. I want to know why, when you could not give them jobs, their names which were kept in the waiting list had been cancelled taking the plea of the Employment Exchange.

MR. SPEAKER : What is the question ? Mr. Roy, you are strict about the rules. And you always violate the rules. I want you to put a straight question and not harangue about like this.

SHRI A.K. ROY : My straight question is this. What is the policy of the Government towards the displaced persons who are getting displaced due to this project, with particular reference to the DVC in the nearby coal fields ?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Sir, as regards those who were displaced by the DVC scheme, the position was that to many of them, as far as land was concerned, compensation was paid in money. In many a case, land for land, house for house and also jobs were provided to these persons to be rehabilitated. This was going on right upto 1977. In fact, many people who got jobs have retired, many of them are still in service.

Actually the position is that in 1977, there had been an agitation not only of the people who were uprooted, but also of those who were temporary employees and so on. as a result of this the DVC issued a circular then so that the persons who come within these categories could be absorbed. I give the number so that the position is made clear they numbered 2,792 at that time. It included also the persons who were uprooted and also the persons who were temporarily employed and so on.

The DVC issued a circular categorising them and prepared a panel. But then the employment exchange of Bihar took note of this and said that no recruitment can take place except through the process of the employment exchange. They threatened the DVC with prosecution. As a result of this we had a talk with the employment authorities and we requested that this type of persons about whom we prepared the panels, may be given preference. As a result of the whole process which has happened only at the time of 1980 about 1,058 persons, who were uprooted, were the persons who could not be provided a job. But they were assured preference from the employment exchange. And the Employment Exchange people did say that the preference will be given to these persons. On this basis the process had been continuing. Apart from that some social welfare schemes were also taken up with reference to these persons. These were the subsidiary schemes intended with the assistance of the DVC to help these people to start small industries.

SHRI A.K. ROY : Land means not only a place for stay, but also a means of livelihood. Once land is taken away, definitely there is an obligation of the Government to give them employment. If your answer is that

the employment opportunity of a Power plant is limited I would say that the power of the DVC is taken by many other industries. Even coal industry is under you. So, if you cannot give them jobs in the DVC and its power plants, why can't you consider to give them job in coal and other industries which are benefited by the power generated by the DVC ?

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : Sir, the problems of coal by themselves are numerous. In fact many of the friends who come from Bengal, will bear me out that in the coal sector, those who have been displaced, they by themselves have not been accommodated, because of the difficulties. And then there had been an agitation by the local people. So, these difficulties had been there. In fact, the Ministry has sorted out and you have been informed as far back as in 1981 in the Consultative Committee meeting at Bangalore that the process as to the preference has been with the Employment Exchange and wherever there are going to be vacancies, it is these people who are continued to be given preference.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my Constituency - Durgapur - DVC thermal power stations are there and thousands of people have been evacuated for the construction of thermal power stations.

I wrote many letters to DVC Chairman and to others to absorb those displaced persons, particularly those who are qualified also. So, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister at the time of recruitment for the DVC thermal power plant at Durgapur and at other places, whether those displaced persons will be given preference ? Not only preference I want a categorical answer whether these displaced persons will get a job in DVC and other places. Since West Bengal has acute unemployment problem, there, I want a proper answer from the Hon. Minister.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : In these matters certain norms are provided. And when it is a case of people who have been uprooted from the land, the land is reckoned

for the purpose of giving employment for each and every family Member.

In fact, so far as the ECL is concerned the norms that for 1 or 2 acres of land which have been acquired by the authorities, we have tried to see that one member in that family is provided employment.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : It is not done.

SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR : In many cases, it so happens that those who have been uprooted from the land of half an acre also have been trying to agitate, in West Bengal, for the purpose of employment. In Bihar, it is not less than three acres. The norm is slightly different there because the norms have been differing from place to place, having regard to exigencies. But I must submit that by and large these norms are followed in Bengal, and the hon. Member has asked the question about the persons to be employed in DVC itself. Subject to the qualifications, I assure the House that we will certainly give preference to these persons, subject to their answering the qualifications for the job naturally, for those who have been uprooted. It solves two problems for me: one, in giving employment- if there is a person better qualified and if we give the job to that person, we need not give it in the ordinary manner which we do. In fact, the preference has necessarily to be given to such person. And I will take care of it.

श्री रामप्यारे पनिका : यह बात सही है कि जहां एक तरफ टैक्निकल इंडस्ट्रीज लगाने की बात है; वहां प्रधान मन्त्री जी ने देश में रीजनल इम्बैलेन्सेज को दूर करने के लिए बैकवर्ड इलाके में इंडस्ट्रीज लगाने की व्यवस्था की है। क्या मन्त्री महोदय सदन को आश्वासन देंगे कि जहां यह प्लान्ट लगते हैं, वहां के किसानों की जमीनें जाती हैं, वहां उन लोगों को ही भर्ती किया जाएगा? मैं यह बताना चाहता हूं कि मेरे क्षेत्र में दो सुपर थर्मल पावर स्टेशन लगे, जब वहां भर्ती होने लगी तो मेरे कहने के बावजूद भी विहार के लोगों को भर्ती किया गया। मिनिस्ट्री से कोई ऐसा सर्कुलर नहीं है।

क्या मन्त्री महोदय सदन को एश्योर्ड करेंगे कि जहां यह इंडस्ट्री लगे वहां के रहने वाले लोगों के लायक जगहों पर उन्हीं लोगों को अनिवार्य रूप से भर्ती किया जायेगा? यदि वहां उस तरह के लोग नहीं हैं तो क्या पिछड़े इलाके के लोगों को लेंगे।

श्री पी० शिव शंकर : माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न विधान और विधान से सम्बन्धित है। उन्हें अच्छी तरह मालूम है, जहां तक मुआवजे का सवाल है, वह खुद बीच में थे और बातचीत करके मुआवजे की बात निर्णय हुई है।

जहां तक मजदूरों को बाहर से लेने का प्रश्न है, अगर वह कन्ट्रैक्टर के अन्तर्गत काम करते हैं तो कन्ट्रैक्टर मजदूरों को बाहर से लाते हैं। जहां तक एन०टी०पी०सी० या हमारी जो आर्गनाइजेशनज हैं, उनमें हमने हर वक्त जब भी कोई जगह खाली हो तो वहां के लोकल लोगों को ही प्रेफरेंस दिया है और विशेषकर उनको जिन्हें डिस्प्लेस किया गया है। माननीय सदस्य भिल भी चुके हैं, उनको मालूम है, मैंने आदेश दिया है कि जिन लोगों की जमीन ली गई है, उनको पहले नौकरी पर लगाया जाये।

National Communications Policy

*316. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any national communications policy has been/would be evolved during the year 1983, which is being observed as the International and World Communications Year ;

(b) if so, broad outlines of this policy alongwith the names of the Ministries and Agencies, which have participated or are participating in the evolution of this policy as also the association of representatives of people like Members of Parliament ;

(c) whether any specific targets have been adopted for the expansion of various