

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, January 29, 1980/Magha 9,
1901 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Under
rule 388 I have given notice....

MR. SPEAKER: This is without my
permission. Nothing should be re-
corded.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: **

MR. SPEAKER: I have not given
my consent. It has just been received.
Questions.

देश में कोयले की आवश्यकता तथा उपलब्धता

*17. श्री राम विलास पासवान : क्या
ऊर्जा, सिंचाई और कोयला मंत्री यह बताने
की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में इस समय कोयले की आवश्यकता
की तुलना में उसकी उपलब्धता कितनी है ;

(ख) क्या कोयले की वर्तमान उपलब्धता
पर्याप्त है ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो सरकार द्वारा इस सम्बन्ध
में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार किया जा रहा
है ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY
AND IRRIGATION AND COAL
(SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN
CHAUDHURI): (a) to (c). A State-
ment is laid on the Table of the
House.

Statement

(a) The demand for coal for 1979-
80 as assessed at the beginning of the
year was 118 million tonnes. As
against this the estimated production
during the current year will be 104
million tonnes. In addition on 1-1-1980
about 11 million tonnes of coal stocks
were available at the pitheads. For
operational reasons, only about half
the quantity of this stock can be des-
patched to consumers. Thus the total
availability by the end of the year
will be about 110 million tonnes.

(b) The present availability of
coal for certain categories of consu-
mers will not be adequate to meet
their demand. While stocks of coal
of the grades required for power
stations, cement plants and certain
industries are adequate to meet the
demand, there is a shortfall in avail-
ability of grades of coal required for
steel plants and certain categories
of industrial consumers.

(c) The following steps are un-
der implementation to step up pro-
duction and supply of coal to con-
sumers:

(i) Power supply to coal compa-
nies in the Eastern Region is being

** Not recorded.

improved through better generation by DVC.

(ii) Steps are being taken to increase the supply of diesel to the coal companies.

(iii) Explosives are being imported to make up the shortfall in indigenous availability.

(iv) Steps are being taken in consultation with the State Governments to bring about an improvement in the law and order situation in the Bengal-Bihar coalfield. A special Cell has been constituted for this purpose by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(v) A constant liaison is maintained with the Railways to maximise the movement of coal to the various consumers so as to reduce distress at the consumer end. Coal companies are also releasing coal by road to consumers in distress against their sponsored quantities.

(vi) The present organisational set up of the coal India is also being reviewed to make it more effective for the growth and development of the coal industry in the country.

श्री रामबिलास पासवान : अध्यक्ष महोदय, विगत 6 वर्षों में उत्पादन के जो लक्ष्य रखे गये, यदि आप आंकड़ों को देखेंगे तो आप पायेंगे कि हमेशा उस में कमी होती आई है। श्री मंत्री महोदय ने जवाब दिया है—खण्ड (क) के जवाब में उन्होंने कहा कि परिचालन सम्बन्धी कारणों से इस स्टॉक की लगभग आधी मात्रा ही उपभोक्ताओं को भेजी जा सकती है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ—परिचालन की क्या कठिनाइयाँ हैं, रेल डिब्बे नहीं हैं या रेलवे के पास कोयला नहीं है और इस से कितनी हानि होने वाली है? जब आप यह कहते हैं कि इस्पात कारखानों और कुछ अन्य वर्गों के औद्योगिक उपभोक्ताओं को अपेक्षित कोयले की कमी है—ये कौन-कौन से वर्ग हैं और इस का इस्पात के उत्पादन पर क्या असर होगा, तथा कितनी हानि होगी?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: The present availability of coal for certain categories of consumers will not be adequate to meet the demand. While the stocks of coal of the grades required for power stations, cement plants and

certain industries are adequate to meet the demand, there is shortfall in the grades of coal required for steel plants and certain categories of industrial consumers. Obviously, there is a positive shortfall in production.

There is a positive shortfall in the output, in production. But the difficulties have been aggravated due to certain other reasons like difficulty in the transportation of coal. We are looking into this problem. Only the other day, I had a meeting with the Railway Minister and we decided to spare as many wagons as possible for the transportation of Coal. I can assure the House that things will improve provided some time is given.

श्री राम बिलास पासवान : स्पीकर साहब, आप सुन रहे हैं। मेरा प्रश्न दूसरा था और मंत्री महोदय का जवाब दूसरा रहा है। मैंने सीधा सा प्रश्न किया था यह मेरा पहला प्रश्न चल रहा है।

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Khan, are you following him?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: Would he speak louder please?

श्री राम बिलास पासवान : मंत्री महोदय ने मेरे पहले प्रश्न के जवाब में कहा है कि परिचालन सम्बन्धी कारणों से इस स्टॉक की लगभग आधी मात्रा ही उपभोक्ताओं को भेजी जा सकती है। मेरा पहला प्रश्न था कि परिचालन सम्बन्धी क्या कठिनाइयाँ हैं। क्या रेल के डिब्बे नहीं हैं या रेल के डिब्बे हैं, तो क्या कोयला नहीं है और, यह जो आप ने कहा कि आधी मात्रा कम भेजेंगे तो इस से कितनी हानि होगी?

(बी) मैंने जो पूछा था, उस के बारे में आप ने कहा है कि इस्पात कारखानों और कुछ अन्य वर्गों के औद्योगिक उपभोक्ताओं की अपेक्षित कोयले की कमी है। तो मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस कमी के कारण इस्पात कारखानों पर क्या असर होगा, उन में कितनी हानि होगी और अन्य वर्ग कौन-कौन से हैं यह मेरा पहला प्रश्न था।

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: From the figures available with me, I can say that in some types of coal, there is obviously a shortage. For example, in soft coke, for domestic consumption, there is obviously.... (Interruptions).

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MR. SPEAKER: He wants to know, what is the difficulty in the movement of coal? Why is it that coal is not being moved? Are the wagons not available?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: The difficulty is that the wagons are not available. In the month of December, about 2700 wagons were used to be given daily for this purpose i.e. for power Sector Till 15th January, 2900 wagons are being given daily to power Sector. We have appealed to the Railway Minister....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: He is confusing the issues. He is giving the requirements, but he is not saying how much has been supplied. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let him finish his reply.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: Obviously, there is a dearth of railway wagons. We are trying to sort out this, as I have told you earlier. It always happens that some stocks are lying. Stock always, remains, that is the normal practice and that is the position. (Interruptions)

श्री राम विलास पासवान : अभी कोयला निकालने के जितने साधन लगे है, वे सभी पुराने हैं। प्रयास के बावजूद निकालने का वही पुराना तरीका चल रहा है। क्या सरकार के पास पहले से ही यह मामला विचाराधीन नहीं है कि प्रत्येक प्रदेश में कोल डम्पिंग यार्ड बनाये जाएँ? जब देश में ऐसी स्थिति है कि कोयला उपलब्ध है तो रेल के बैगन उपलब्ध नहीं हैं, अगर बैगन उपलब्ध हैं तो बिजली उपलब्ध नहीं है। तो क्या सरकार इस सारी समस्या को ठीक करने के लिए प्रत्येक प्रदेश में कोयला डम्पिंग यार्ड बनायेगी या बनाने की व्यवस्था करेगी? यदि हाँ, तो कितने दिनों तक यह व्यवस्था हो जाएगी?

क्या सरकार रेल मंत्रालय, उर्जा, मंत्रालय के बीच में कोऑर्डिनेशन कर के काम करेगी जिससे कि यह जो अभी बैगन की कठिनाई होती है, अभी बिजली की कठिनाई होती है, वह न हो?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: We have a liaison and that is going on. I do not think there is any difficulty in this liaison. But

the basic point is this that there is a dearth of wagons.... (Interruptions)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: To what extent?

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Member wanted to know the precise position about coal dumps.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: Coal dumps are being identified at the railway stations. This practice has been done.... (Interruptions)

SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: To what extent?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: We are required to feed all the power houses in the country with coal to the extent of 303 million tonnes a month. If we want to carry this coal to all the power stations, we require about.... (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: They would like to know whether you have got any proposal for putting up certain coal depots or coal dumps in the States.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: We are considering this aspect.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: It is not fair to blame the hon. Minister for the sad state of affairs in the coal industry because he has taken charge only recently...

MR. SPEAKER: You please come to the supplementary.

Don't try to defend him; he can defend himself.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: He is duty-bound.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Is the hon. Minister aware that it was admitted in this House by the previous Government that the Coal India was in the habit of giving bogus inflated

figures of coal production—this was stated on 3rd April, 1979—and, if so, what steps does the Government contemplate to end mismanagement and corruption in Coal India which are the basic reasons for the present sad state of affairs in the Coal industry?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: As the hon. Member has very correctly said, we are having the legacy of the past. (*Interruptions*)

We are thinking of changing the organisation, but I am not in a position to spell it out in this House at the present moment because various ideas have come up and we have not come to any conclusion as yet. After we decide this I will be able to spell it out.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Hon. Minister kindly tell us what percentage of the total coal movement is done by water transport which was recommended, time and again, by various Committees during the Congress regime as well as the Janata regime? How much coal is moved by water transport?

MR. SPEAKER: You will have to give notice for this.

श्री मोती माई शार० चौधरी: गुजरात में कोयले की कमी की वजह से बिजली में भारी कमी हो रही है। इसकी वजह से कृषि के उत्पादन में भारी हानि हो रही है। गुजरात को जल्दी से जल्दी कोयला दिलाने का क्या आप प्रबन्ध कर रहे हैं और यदि हां, तो कब तक ?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: There is a shortage of power and, obviously, we are looking into that. In Gujarat there is one of the best power stations we have in this country, but due to inadequate coal supply, there is trouble. I am already looking into the matter, and we will try to fulfil the quotas as far as is practicable in Gujarat.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: I would like to know whether it is a fact that

the coal supply position and its distribution deteriorated because of wrong working of both the authorities dealing with Coal production and supplies as well as the Railways, during the last two years.

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: The Hon. Member has asked a question which requires study.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

Ganga-Cauvery link up Scheme

*18. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are intending to take up Ganga-Cauvery link up scheme; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND IRRIGATION AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) and (b). Ganga-Cauvery Link Up Scheme is based on the limited transfer of flood waters of the Ganga for use in other basins, after lifting it by nearly 1300—1800 ft. In view of this, alternative schemes of interlinking various river systems are proposed to be studied.

SHRI P. RAJA GOPAL NAIDU: May I know the alternative proposals and whether we are going to get the same benefit out of them?

SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI: There is one scheme. Shri Dastur has canvassed his proposal for a Himalayan Contour Canal and a Garland Canal for Central and Peninsular India. This scheme envisages building up of reservoirs, pipelines etc., to interconnect the Himalayan and Garland Canals. The Himalayan Canal which will be at a level of 1,100 to 1,500 feet above mean sea level will have a length of 2,600 miles. It will be fed by 90