

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA**

I have stated that there were certain minefields which were not properly cleared. It could be because of inefficiency but not because of any mischief, they did make honest efforts to clear the mines. On our side there have been no complaints about such inefficiency or anything of that kind.

**MR SPEAKER** They are mostly in Punjab and they have given wrong information about the location of their mines completely wrong information. I think it is deliberate.

**SHRI N K P SALVE** It is his opinion about their inefficiency.

**MR SPEAKER** I gave the information as a Member of Parliament to the Minister. That is in my constituency. And, wherever the mines were, the information given by Pakistan was in many cases wrong and the result was there was loss of life. I too wanted to get more information because it is in my constituency. The whole battle was fought in my constituency.

**SHRI R P ULAGANAMBI** I am not only interested in Tamilnadu; I am interested in Punjab also.

**MR SPEAKER** It is far away from Tamilnadu. We know what it is. Thank you very much for asking the question.

**SHRI MUHAMMED KHUDA BUKHSH** I want to know the approximate number of mines left uncleared by our men, Indians.

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA** Our DMO wrote to Pakistan DMO. In Punjab almost equal amount of territory changed hands. What we left were 237 anti-tank and 1370 anti-personnel mines. What Pakistan left were 2821 anti-tank and 18,835 anti-personnel mines.

**Shortage of coal in Gujarat**

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\*146 **SHRI ARVIND M PATEL,**  
**SHRI PRABHUDAH PATEL,**

\* Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether there is acute shortage of coal in Gujarat;

(b) if so the reason therefore, and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S MOHAN KUMAR-MANGALAM)** (a) to (c) There has been a shortage of coal in the State of Gujarat for the following reasons

(1) Adverse repercussions on rail services for about seven days during the Electrical Engineers' strike in UP in January, 1973.

(2) Locking up wagons in the Southern region due to agitations from December, 1972 onwards in Andhra per cent.

(3) Heavy movement of food grains from the Northern states to drought affected areas in Western and Southern India and the resultant shortage of wagons for coal loading.

There is no shortage of coal in the country. There are adequate pit-head stocks. The Ministry of Railways have been approached to ensure adequate movement of coal to Gujarat.

**श्री अरविन्द एम० पटेल :** कोयला और अन्य वस्तुओं को ले जाने के लिए बैगनों की कमी दिखाना और बताना एक पुरानी बात है। मेरी कलिट्दयुएँसी में—में राजकोट की बात करता हूँ—हर महीने पांच सौ टन कोयला की जरूरत होती है जबकि पिछले छः महीने में राजकोट को कुल 760 टन कोयला मिला है। इस तरह से 2240 टन उसको कोयला कम मिला। वह कमी सिर्फ राजकोट तहकर में रही। इसकी वजह से उत्पादन में कमी आई, बेरोजगारी बढ़ी और सरकार

को करों के रूप में कम घनराशि प्राप्त हुई और फारेन एक्सचेंज भी कम मिला। वेगनों की शिकायत रही है तो क्या खान और इस्पात मंत्रालय न अधिक वेगनों के लिए रेल मंत्रालय के साथ मिल कर कोई कारवाई का है क्या आपन उससे इस मामले का लिया है और लिया है तो उसका क्या नतीजा निकला है ?

**SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM:** We have been continuously in contact with the railways, asking them to improve the position as far as the provision of wagons is concerned. Recently, the general manager of the Coal Mines Authority who is in charge of the Sale Department and is a senior officer from the railways had been down to Ahmedabad in order to discuss this and work out what programme was possible to improve the position. Next month, we are calling a meeting of the representatives of the different State Government in order to be able to rationalise the movement of wagons for the purpose of coal transport in particular, following on the take-over of the management of the collieries by Government

**SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY:** May I know whether after the take-over of the coal mines by Government, the production in the mines has increased by five per cent, and to that extent the coal availability in the country has improved but there is scarcity of domestic coal and brick-burning coal all over the country and this scarcity has been created by vested interests to create public opinion against nationalisation?

**SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM:** I would not be able to say categorically if there has been an increase in coal production by 5 per cent.

**SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY:** Five per cent.

**SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM:** ... or even by five per cent. In fact, I think possibly the increase may be by just a few per cent, as a result of actual increase in production, and the increase may be even more than five per cent as a result of production that was not brought on the books at all earlier, that is to say, not a real increase in production but a statistical increase in statistical production.

So far as scarcity of domestic coal and brick-burning coal is concerned, I do not think that there is any scarcity in terms of production, but we are even now facing difficulties so far as transport is concerned, and that is why, a special effort is being made to utilise the fact of the emergence of a single authority for running of the mines for production, to rationalise the transport system itself. Various steps are being taken now, which I mentioned a little earlier.

**SHRI P. M. MEHTA:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that two textile mills of Saurashtra, namely the New Jehangir Vakil Mills Ltd., Bhavnagar, and the Mahalaxmi Mills, Bhavnagar are on the verge of closure for want of coal supply and nearly 4000 workers will be thrown out of employment due to this closure. I would like to know whether he will take immediate and appropriate action to arrange coal supply without even a day's delay.

**SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM:** I am not aware of the position regarding the coal supply to the two textile mills mentioned by the hon. Member, but I shall immediately investigate and see what the position is and what remedial steps are possible.

**SHRI VEKARIA:** We have put this question to the Railway Minister or the Steel and Mines Minister several times and the reply that they are giving is one of the same. I would like to know whether Government propose to supply coal to the Gujarat State by sea-route, in case wagons are not available.

SHRI S. MAHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM: I do not think that any great amount of coal is moving by the sea route; I do not think it is feasible. But since the hon. member has raised it with me, I will investigate it again and see whether any possibilities are there.

श्री भगोरथ भदर : मंत्री महोदय ने बताया है कि बैंगनों की कमी की वजह से गुजरात में कोयले की कमी हुई लेकिन रेल मंत्री का कहना है कि कोयले की कमी की वजह से वैसर्न रेलवेज ने दो तीन लोकल ट्रेन्ज बढ़ कर दी हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन दोनों में से कौन सी बात सत्य है—क्या बैंगन्ज की कमी की वजह से कोयले की कमी हुई या कोयले की कमी की वजह से वैसर्न रेलवेज की दो तीन रले बढ़ हुई हैं ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM: I am quite sure that so far as the production of coal is concerned, it is not in short supply. The reason is that the pit-head stocks are very substantial. If we increase the production of coal, it would only mean an increase in the pithead stocks being retained near the pits. But it is possible that the shortage of coal which has led to the closing down or cessation of running of trains on the Western Railway is also due to shortage of wagons because the coal did not come in the wagons to be put into the locos to run the trains. I do not know, but I will investigate it if he wants.

**Appointment of a Committee for Promoting ties with Zaire**

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\*147. SHRIMATI SAVITRI

SHYAM:

SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Zaire have entered into various agreements to

promote ties between the two countries as a result of recent visit by the President of Zaire;

(b) whether Government are considering to appoint a Committee to go into the details of such matters; and

(c) if so, the composition of the Committee and the time by which it will start functioning and the location of its headquarters.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH):

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. A Protocol providing for joint committees on Economic, Commercial, Technical, Scientific, Cultural, Aviation and Maritime Cooperation was signed during the visit of the President of Zaire. These joint committees will attempt to identify specific areas of cooperation and draw up formal agreements. Preparatory work is being done in India and Zaire for the first meetings of the Committees and determine their compositions. The Committee will meet either at Kinshasa or in New Delhi at a time to be determined through diplomatic channels once this work is completed.

श्रीसती सावित्री श्याम : मेरा प्रश्न दोनों देशों में वाणिज्य के सम्बन्ध में है। जैरे में मिनरल्ज, डायमंडेंज और कापर उपलब्ध हैं और हमारे यहां चाय और जूट हैं। मैं यह जानना चाती हूँ कि क्या दोनों देश एक दूसरे के यहां से रा मैटीरियल मंगायेगे या फ्रिनिशड गुड्ज मंगायेगे। क्या यह बात जायंट कमेटी द्वारा निश्चत की जाएगी या दोनों सरकारों द्वारा ?

श्री सुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह : कमेटी इन सब मामलात पर गौर करेगी कि किन किन फ्रील्ड्ज में कोआपरेट करना है, क्या भेज सकते हैं और क्या मंगा सकते हैं। कमेटी वन जाने पर ही ये बातें तय होंगी।