

Pradesh and other adjoining areas so that they may be able to find out the resources available.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: As the hon. members might be knowing, before independence, these areas were not properly surveyed. No proper mapping was made. But after independence several important steps have been taken. Particularly in Nagaland, Directorate of Geological Survey of India has been established and in accessible areas efforts are being made to explore all possibilities to find out resources. As I said, in this area coal and limestone has been found on a large scale. Besides coal deposits, traces of nickel and chromite have also been found. Therefore, proper and extensive mapping is being made in that area. Exploration activities are also going on. The State Government and the Geological Survey of India are collaborating with each other and all necessary steps to find out resources are being taken.

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GO-SWAMI: It has been established by now that not only in Nagaland but in the entire North Eastern Region there are sufficient mineral deposits which have not been explored properly. One of the reasons is that infrastructure required for industrial set up in this region for these minerals is lacking. Infrastructure like power, communications and so on and so forth are lacking. Unfortunately the Finance Ministry and the Planning Commission have not taken much of initiative in this region. May I know whether the Ministry of Steel and Mines will make some comprehensive plan in consultation with our new Planning Minister who is definitely much in the know of the backwardness of this region and see that the infrastructures for creating climate of development in this region are taken up?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It is well known fact that these regions

are backward regions. Therefore, keeping in view the problems of these areas and also to explore all the possibility to develop this area, the Home Ministry, really speaking, under an Act of Parliament, has set up an Eastern Council and that Council has also set up a small group of experts in which people from Geological Survey of India, Coal Mines Authority and State Governments are there. They have taken certain decisions. Certain recommendations have been made and I am sure that the Planning Minister and the other Ministries concerned are interested in the development of this area. Necessary steps will be taken.

Alleged malpractices in Shipping

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*605 **SHRI K LAKKAPPA:**
SHRI M RAM GOPAL
REDDY.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Institute of Foreign Trade has suggested the establishment of statutory authority to prevent malpractices in shipping; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) So far as the Government are aware, the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade has not suggested the establishment of statutory authority to prevent malpractices in shipping.

(b) Does not arise

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Sir, what about the other suggestion made by the foreign pres. institute regarding the plugging of loopholes in shipping?

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI: The Hon. Member is probably referring to the study conducted by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in relation to the practices of shipping conferences for obtaining loyalty of shippers. One of the suggestions is that Government may consider suitable legislation to govern these relations.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Sir, is it not a fact that they made certain suggestions to plug loopholes and to put down the malpractices in the shipping trade? What are those actual suggestions? What are those malpractices? What are the specific proposals under the consideration of Government to streamline the system, in order to improve the system, and also to eradicate the malpractices in the system?

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI: As far as this particular study is concerned it was confined only to the relations between conferences and shippers and as far as the general question of malpractices is concerned, I may say this is a much wider question.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I asked: What special measures you are taking? This is a vital question and a wider question. I would like to know what are the malpractices being indulged in. Will you kindly tell us about these things?

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI: The question is whether the Institute has suggested establishment of a statutory authority for shipping practices. The answer is no. No such suggestion has been made.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि शिपिंग में मैलप्रेक्टिसिज हैं- सामान को कम दिखाया जाता है, उसकी कौरी होती है, उसका मिस हैंडलिंग होता है। मंत्री महोदय इन बातों को

ज्यादा जानते होंगे। अगर इस सदन में कोई माननीय सदस्य कोई प्रश्न पूछता है, तो मंत्री महोदय को उसका साफ जवाब देना चाहिए। पंडित जी के जमाने में अगर कोई मंत्री ठीक जवाब नहीं देता था, तो वह उसको पूरी सूचना देने के लिए कहते थे, क्योंकि वह चाहते थे कि सदन को कॉन्फिडेंस में लेना चाहिए। इस लिए मंत्री महोदय सदन को बताएं कि शिपिंग में कौन कौन से मैलप्रेक्टिसिज होते हैं।

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: He has take note of the feelings expressed by hon. Members that there are certain malpractices.

SHRI K. A. LAKKAPPA: He has admitted that there are certain malpractices.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, पंडित जी के जमाने में आप भी इस सदन में थे। पंडित जी हाउस को बताते थे कि किसी भी विषय में वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है। क्या मंत्री यहाँ चुपचाप बैठने के लिए आए हैं?

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI: So far as handlings of cargo etc. are concerned, there may be certain malpractices in delivery, surveys of damage etc. There may be malpractices in trading, such as underinvoicing and overinvoicing. Now, there are also some shipping practices. The question is whether there is, any statutory authority as suggested by him to deal with that, to that the answer is 'no.'

MR. SPEAKER: Let us go round the question list. Shri Shivkumar Shastri. Shri Shankerrao Sawant. Not here. Shri Parashar.