

मंत्रालय से इस बहाने पासपोर्ट बनवाया हो और वह मंगोलिया गये हों ?

**श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल :** हर तरह से जांच पड़ताल कर ने के बाद ही यह जवाब उत्तरदायित्वपूर्ण तरीके से दे रहे हैं, पूछताछ करने के बाद ही जवाब यहाँ दिया जा रहा है कि इस तरह का कोई व्यक्ति या कोई दूसरा व्यक्ति हमारे सुरक्षा मंत्रालय से संबधित कार्यवश कभी मंगोलिया नहीं गया ।

**अध्यक्ष महोदय :** ठीक है जबर्दस्ती थोड़े ही भेज देंगे ।

### Efforts made to maximise Coal Production and Streamline its Distribution

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\*62. SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZALPURKAR:

SHRI RANABAHADUR SINGH:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state what measures have been taken by Government to maximise coal production and streamline its distribution so that domestic consumers, brick burners, small-scale industries etc. may get it at reasonable price and in adequate quantity?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH HANSDA): All the Coal Mines have been nationalised except for a few captive collieries of two peival sector Steel Plants, with a view to meeting the coal requirements of essential industries and developing the coal resources in a rational and scientific manner. Investment plans are being formulated to increase the production of coal from the present level of 76 million tonnes to 143 million tonnes per annum by 1978-79.

The Railways are making special efforts to provide more wagons for the movement of coal to domestic consumers, brick burners and small scale

industries. Movement of coal for these consumers in block rakes is being encouraged. Scheme for the opening of dumps at important locations all over the country under the aegis of the State Governments is being pursued. The Coal Mines Authority have opened a dump at Calcutta. This Organisation and the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. intend opening servicing centres at all important cities. Round the clock loading in trucks for movement by road is freely permitted. The State Governments are being advised to take action under the Essential Commodities Act to check the rise in price of coal.

SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZALPURKAR: According to the statement, "all the coalmines have been nationalised". That is a good thing, but after the nationalisation of the coalmines, the small industrialists and other persons are not getting the coal as per their requirements. But here, the statement has disclosed that "investment plans are being formulated to increase the production..." I want to know how many months and how many years it will take to increase the production and supply the requirements to the needy persons.

THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI T. A. PAI): Sir, I know and I am fully aware of the difficulties in the availability of coal for the small industries and the consumers for soft-coke and the brick-making coal also. The railways had given a low priority for this last type of coal that I mentioned. But I am requesting the railways to give considerable importance to the movement of this also, because it affects the lives of the common man and we are very much interested in seeing that the availability of coal to the small scale industries and to the people at large is assured.

So far as the investment is concerned it will take time. If we have to double the capacity we have to take

urgent action in the matter because in five years we propose to double it but within the existing coal supplies. we shall try to ensure a more equitable distribution than at present.

**SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZALPURKAR:** During the budget session, the Railway Minister promised to supply wagons wherever necessary. But here, the statement given in reply to the question says that "the railways are making special efforts to provide more wagons." When the railway department is supplying wagons to other countries, within the country many departments and many persons and big merchants and industrialists are not getting the wagons and the coalmines are not getting the wagons. What are the reasons, and why the railway department is not taking any serious steps in this matter?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** Before the nationalisation of coalmines, we used to move about 5800 wagons a day from Bengal, Bihar and there was considerable stock at the pitheads of coal and the railways were not able to move it fully, and therefore, there was a shortage at that time. After nationalisation, there is fall in coal stock at the pitheads. We are now trying to see that a high level committee is constituted with the Member, Transport, in the Railway Board and the Deputy Minister in charge of coal and also the authority connected with coal supplies, so that they ensure the regularity of transport also.

**SHRI RANABHADUR SINGH:** May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a major reason for the breakdown of coal production in the nationalised coal fields is the fact that the agreement that has been reached between the small contractors and the erstwhile owners of the coal fields has now, since the nationalisation, broken down and there is complete standstill of the operations where such agreements had so far operated?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** While it may be true, I should say, that the production

for the five months from January to May this year has been 33.52 million tonnes, compared to the production of 30.85 million tonnes for the corresponding period in 1972. It is quite possible that this may not reflect the correct state of affairs, as in the past, many of the mines might have not been showing their accounts correctly.

With the result that, production was also not shown correctly. Since the Government taking over, these figures are accurate and they show that production has not fallen as such but it may not be commensurate with the demand in the country.

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** मंत्री महोदय ने यह दावा किया है कि पिछले साल की तुलना में कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ा है, उन्होंने यह भी दावा किया है कि रेल के डब्बों की कमी नहीं है। अब अगर कोयला भी कम नहीं है और रेल के डब्बे भी कम नहीं हैं तो बाजार में कोयला कम क्यों है और उस के दाम क्यों बढ़े ?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** It is possible that with the private sector the movement was made by all kinds of means. The Railways have been insisting upon moving coal by block rakes which is a more scientific way of doing it. All the same until that is done I have requested the railways to see that there is no breakdown and I hope that all the deficiencies that are now found will be rectified.

**SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA:** I want to know from the Government whether they are aware of the fact that coal required by the Assam Oil Company at Dighoi and the Oil India at Duliajan in Assam are not being supplied and if so what action is the Government taking to give the amount of coal that they require?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** I thank the hon. Member for the information; I shall look into it and see that it is rectified.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA:** With regard to the reply given by the hon. Minister I have to point that his statement that all the mines have been nationalised except for two collieries of the private sector does not seem to be completely correct, because there have been statements made by the former Minister of this Department that Petty Mines in Santhal Parganas and some other areas have been exempted. He has not mentioned them. Would he kindly throw light on this? Secondly with regard to the quality of coal, what steps is he taking to ensure good quality coal being made available? We learn 32 trains have been cancelled due to non-availability of good coal. What steps is he going to take to ensure supply of coal to the railways so that these trains are restored?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** So far as the first point is concerned, all that I know is that the Captive Mines belonging to the Tatas and the Indian Iron and Steel have been left out, if there are others I should like to get this answer corrected. So far as the other thing is concerned I am fully aware that the proper quality coal has not been or is not being supplied sometimes to the power plants in required quantities. We have taken over a big responsibility after nationalisation and our effort would be to see that proper quality coal is made available to the right type of consumers. (Interruptions). That includes the Railways also.

**SHRI D. N. TIWARY:** May I know whether Government has devised any machinery to find out whether coal is available to the consumers at proper price? Because before nationalisation it was selling at a lower rate and after nationalisation the price has gone high and consumers are getting coal at a high rate. Has any machinery been devised to see that coal is made available to the consumers at the proper price, and not at an exorbitant price?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** The very restriction in giving low priority for coal

consumed by the ordinary people, brick burning coal, soft coke and hard coke for small industries was partly responsible; so the prices went up. We used to feel that it is a small percentage of coal but it affected a large percentage of people. I shall certainly take care to see that the needs of these people is also given the same priority and that is one way of bringing down the prices.

**SHRI DAMORAR PANDEY:** Is I know whether it is a fact that collieries are carrying 4 to 5 million tonnes of stock at pitheads for a long time and that the wagon supply from the railways has not appreciably improved to remove this pithead stock?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** That heavy stock has been cleared long ago. We used to have 5800 wagons per day at least during the first three months.

**SHRI DAMODAR PANDEY:** Is there still a pithead stock of 4 to 5 million tonnes to be cleared?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** I am not fully aware of the availability of stocks at the pithead waiting for wagons, I shall certainly take that into consideration.

श्री मधु लिवले : दिल्ली से 150 मील की दूरी पर फिरोजाबाद नम का महार है। वहाँ बहुत बड़ पैमाने पर बुड़िया बनाने का उद्योग चलता है। मेरे पास कम से कम 50 टाट और पत्र फिरोजाबाद से प्राये हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ बुड़िया बनाने वाले जो कारखाने बूझा मर रहे हैं, क्या उन को जल्दी में जल्दी कोयला दिलाने का इन्तजाम बह करे ?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** I shall certainly take care to see that the needs of these people are ensured first.

**SHRI S. B. DAMANI:** The minister has said that coal supply is scarce. It is going to affect the economy of the industries. May I know by what time arrangements will be made for sup-

playing coal to all the industries, thermal plants and railways?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** I have been collecting all the complaints. I shall compile them to see what best I can do to solve them. If individual problems are brought before me, that will help me to see whether the policies now being followed are effective and what modifications are necessary. I am anxious to see that the needs of all the industries are met fully.

**SHRI K. S. CHAVDA:** Is the minister aware of the fact that there is acute shortage of coal in Gujarat and industries are starving? If so, what steps does he propose to take to meet the demands of coal there adequately?

**SHRI T. A. PAI:** The needs of Gujarat also will be taken care of. I shall certainly look into the problems of Gujarat.

**MR. SPEAKER:** That applies to all other States also!

#### **Pak Military's Border Activities**

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\*63. **SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:**

( **SHRI V. MAYAVAN:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether signs of Pakistani Military activity have been noticed on the border with India; and

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that there has been a change in the attitude of Pakistan towards India?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA):** (a). There are no reports to suggest any abnormal Pakistani military activity along the border with India.

(b) Pakistan maintains that it continues to adhere to the principle of settling their differences with India by

peaceful means through bilateral negotiations.

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:** Pakistan is really adhering to the settlement given by one of our Ministers....

**MR. SPEAKER:** There is no activity and there is no need for any supplementary.

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:** it is a matter of happiness that Pakistan is really adhering to the principle of mutual negotiations to settle their differences with India. May I know whether it is a fact that China is supplying very heavy TU-16 jet bombers with all facilities of training and maintenance, with the capacity of carrying heavy bombloads?

**MR. SPEAKER:** How is it relevant to this question?

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:** According to reports distant targets in Bombay and Hyderabad can be attacked with these weapons. If so what is the action that the Government is going to take?

**SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:** Does it arise out of the main question?

**MR. SPEAKER:** He can ask a specific question about the border activities.

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:** I am saying that these activities are taking place because of the aid which they are receiving from China.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Then he can ask a question about supply of arms by China.

**SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR:** May I know whether US aid is behind these activities?

**MR. SPEAKER:** I am sorry, it is not relevant.