

**SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI** : Mostly we discussed things like steel, cement, whether there is a delay on the part of BHEL, etc. About funding, we normally do not discuss because this was done by the Planning Commission.

**SHRI K. MALLANNA** : There are so many hydel projects which are held up because of inter-State disputes. One such project is the Hongal project which is situated in the Kaveri basin. May I know from the hon. Minister whether one of the Ministers pleaded in the said conference that it should be taken up by the Central Government through the agency of the National Hydro-Electric Projects Construction Corporation? In this context may I know from the hon. Minister how many projects are there which are held up on account of Inter-State disputes, what is the Government's reaction and whether the Government is going to decide the dispute and take up these projects to be implemented by the central agency?

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN** : We have been trying to persuade the State Government is to permit us to construct the projects where Inter-State disputes are involved so that while they keep on quarrelling, we can construct it for them in the meantime. From that angle we had suggested to the Government of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka to discuss about this project. The discussions are on. No final decision has been taken so far.

**PROF. P. J. KURIEN** : I would like to know whether Government is aware of any situation where the Kerala Government has reduced power supply to any other state on the basis of a boundary dispute? If at all there is any reduction it is because of the fact that the other Government had not made prompt payment of the electricity charges.

**MR. SPEAKER** : How does he know?

**SHRI K. A. RAJAN** : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may be very well aware that the wage structure as well as the service conditions of the electricity employees are governed and managed by the respective Electricity Boards. But in reply to this particular question in respect of wages the hon. Minister replied that he had instructed them to remove the disparity and have a uniform policy between technicians and engineers. I would like to know whether it is within the jurisdiction of the Board itself or is it on an all India level?

**SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHARI** : Sir, as the hon. Member is aware strike is going on in many places. What we want is that there should be peace on the power front. In that interest we want that a consensus should be evolved on the power front with regard to remunerations and other things and there should be an all India service.

#### **Stagnation in production of coal in E.C.L.**

\*500. **SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY** : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been stagnation in production of coal in the Eastern Coalfields since 1977; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and steps taken to break the stagnation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI VIKARAM MAHAJAN)** : (a) and (b). There was a decline in production in Eastern Coalfields Limited from 1977-78. Towards end of September, 78 large number of mines were flooded. Although mines were cleared of water production did not pick up. Production was seriously affected by shortfall in availability

of power, law and order deterioration and inability of State Government to give physical possession of land.

With improvement in power supply production has increased by about 9% during 1980-81 compared to the previous year.

Coal company continues to liaise with State Government to improve law and order situation and also handing over of land required to Eastern Coalfields Limited for new projects and reconstruction projects.

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Sir, the reasons given in the reply for stagnation are additional contributing factors. Will the hon. Minister be please to state whether it is a fact that investment in the development of coal field has been considerably reduced owing to the slackness in demand and also on account of the accumulation of stocks? if so, what steps have been taken to improve this position?

**SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN:** So far as the investments are concerned there is no decline in investments. In fact the investments are being increased. The production in the entire coal sector has gone up by 10 million tonnes this year as compared to previous year—it is a record production. In spite of the stocks we are still trying to raise production and we hope even in this particular company though there are constraints because the State Government is not cooperating to the extent we want yet we will continue to raise the production in this region.

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:** Sir, the losses in Coal India have mounted to Rs. 700 crores. I would like to know whether with better management these losses could have been reduced? Further what happened to the recommendations of Fazl Committee regarding winding up of Coal India Ltd. and also of the conversion of the four subsidiaries into independent institutions? I would also

like to know when the revamping of coal India will be done.

**THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI):** The Fazl Committee's recommendations are under the consideration of Government.

**श्रीमती कृष्णा साहू:** क्या यह बात सही है कि गिरिडीह के क्षेत्र में एक सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार सवा अरब टन कोयले की खान है, ऐसी सूचना मिली है? यदि हां, तो उसके विकास और उसके आधुनिकीकरण के लिए सरकार के पास कौन सी योजना है ताकि कोयले के उत्पादन में जो ह्रास हुआ है उसको पूरा किया जाय और इससे अधिक लाभ उठाया जाय?

**SHRI VIKARAM MAHAJAN:** I have already stated in my previous reply that coal production has actually gone up now. This has increased in 1980-81 by about 10 million tonnes. In fact coal production was actually stagnating in the previous four years. In 1978 it was about 102 million tonnes. In 1979 it was nearly 103 million tonnes. In 1980 it was 104 million tonnes. This year it is going to be 113 million tonnes. This is an increase of about 10 million tonnes. And I may say, this is a record production so far achieved in this country. So, there is no question of production going down or any such thing. In fact, this is one of the few sectors which have improve quite considerably. So far as Giridih is concerned, appropriate measures are being taken and in fact, CIL under whom this area falls, is doing the best as compared to any other companies in this regard.

**SHRI NIREN GHOSE:** I would like to know whether it is a fact or not that production is not shown in the registers. Actually, only some under-production is shown in the registers by the Company. The difference is a very huge amount. Lakhs and lakhs of tonnes of pilferage is going on. Thousands and thousands of bullock carts are engaged in this pilferage. An M.L.A.

of West Bengal has written to Mr. Gahani Kahan Chaudhuri about it. But nothing has been done by him so far. Coal is a free commodity. But the management has not fulfilled the promises made to the workers and they have developed a soured management labour relations there. I would like to know whether the Management is in fact, in collusion with those who indulge in such pilferage? Is it a fact or not. They do not take steps to increase production. May I know whether these are not the various reasons why production has gone down there

**SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI** : I have decided to request the Members of Parliament of the Consultative Committee to go round after the session and see things for themselves and give a report to us. They will be able to know what is what. And, regarding labour trouble, as the Hon. Member knows, in CIL there has been labour trouble; there is no doubt about it. The Management is not able to proceed with possession of land; unless they get possession of new land, they cannot open up new mining areas. If new mining areas are not opened up naturally, production can not go up. About his observation regarding corruption and all that, as

I have said, when Members of Parliament are going round and giving their assessment and report, we will know the correct position. I would only request him kindly to have some patience.

**SHRI NIREN GHOSH** : The West Bengal MLA has written to you.

**Development of A.I.R. and Doordarshan in Sixth Plan**

\*501. **SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA** : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the amount earmarked and to be spent during Sixth Five Year Plan for development of A.I.R. Stations and Doordarshan Centre (State-wise)?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING** : (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI) : State-wise break up of the the amount earmarked and expected to be spent for development of AIR Stations and Doordarshan centres during the Sixth Plan period (1980-85) is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House.

*Sixth Five year Plan (1980-85)*

Statewise allocation of the outlay

(Rs. in lakhs)

Amount

(1) AIR Schemes

Assam	480.01
Andhra Pradesh	308.60
Bihar	593.70
Gujarat	255.52
Haryana	Nil
Himachal Pradesh	18.00
Jammu & Kashmir	44.00