

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, March, 23, 1987
Chaitra 2, 1909 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at
Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

WELCOME TO THE BULGARIAN
PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

(English)

MR. SPEAKER : Hon'ble Members,
at the outset, I have to make an announce-
ment.

On my own behalf and on behalf of
the Hon'ble Members of the House, I
have great pleasure in welcoming His
Excellency Mr. Atanas Dimitrov, Deputy
Chairman of the National Assembly
of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and
the Hon'ble Members of the Bulgarian
Parliamentary Delegation who are on a
visit to India as our honoured guests.

The other Hon'ble Members of the
Delegation are :

- (1) MR. Viktor Valkov
- (2) Mr. Mako Dakov
- (3) Mrs. Tzvetana Maneva
- (4) Mr. Lazar Stamboliev

The Delegation arrived Delhi on 21
March, 1987 morning. They are now
seated in the Special Box. We wish them
a happy and fruitful stay in our country

Through them we convey our greetings
and best wishes to the President, the
National Assembly, the Government and
the friendly people of the people's Repu-
blic of Bulgaria.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(English)

Illegal mining in Delhi

*349. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANI-
GRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL
AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Govern-
ment has been drawn to the reports
about continued illegal mining in Delhi
resulting in de facto monopoly of sale of
red Badarpur sand ; and

(b) if so, the corrective steps taken
in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES
(SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) :
(a) and (b) Some instances of illegal mining
of Badarpur sand have come to notice.
Raids are being regularly conducted by
the Delhi Administration to check illegal
mining.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know
from the hon. Minister how many cases
of illegal mining in Delhi have come to
the notice of the Government and what
was the first occasion, when did it come
to the notice of the Government for the
first time, and, about the raids she has
mentioned, how many raids have been
conducted and when was the first raid
conducted and what are the results of all
the raids conducted against this.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :
Sir, the raids conducted during the last one-and-a-half years were on 48 occasions and 96 trucks found indulging in illegal quarrying/removal of minerals were intercepted. A sum of Rs. 1,85,600 was recovered from the truck owners as composition fee. In addition, a sum of Rs. 13,09,142 was imposed as price of minerals and royalty.

Sir, the raids were conducted by the Lt. Governor himself on 22nd and 23rd February 1987

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
Sir, my question was this. In fact, I wanted to know when did this illegal mining come to the notice of the Government for the first time. It is very important. The raids were conducted only one month before. But it is a serious matter because under the nose of the Government in Delhi itself illegal mining is continuing. That is why I want to know from the hon. Minister when was the first occasion or when did they know it for the first time and what action they took against illegal mining in Delhi, what action has been taken against the people who are engaged in such illegal mining, how many people were engaged in such illegal mining and whether licence has been given to some of the people for proper mining etc.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :
Sir these mines are minor mines and prior to 1975, Delhi mines were used to be mined by private owners through contractors and they were mining them. After 1975, when the illegal mining was detected, on the advice of the Union Labour Ministry, the work was entrusted to the Delhi State Industrial Development Corporation. But it was seen that they also did not cope with the situation and they were also mining through the contractors. So, in 1983, there were some accidents. And then again, the Union Labour Ministry came to our rescue. They set up one enquiry committee headed by Mr. Deshpande and some recommendations were made. Afterwards, the lease was taken from the Delhi State

Industrial Development Corporation and given to Delhi Mineral Development Corporation. From June, 1985 onwards, no accident has occurred so far and now there is no contract labour there. It is departmentally mined through the Delhi State Mineral Development Corporation.

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI :
There is a material difference in what she said...

Mr. SPEAKER : Shri Ananta Prasad Sethi.

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :
As this question relates to illegal mining, I would like to know whether the Government has any information regarding illegal mines in Balua mines in the district of Keonjhar in Orissa where chrome metal deposits are available. As you know, chrome is a very rare metal not only in India but also in the world. There is a lot of illegal mining going on and labourers are being harassed like anything and they are killed inside the mines. I would like to know whether the Government have any information regarding this and whether the Government will inquire about the illegal mines there. If there is any information with the Government, whether they have taken any action to stop this illegal mining.

SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA :
Sir, this question does not arise as the main Question only relates to Delhi Phatti mines. But as regards curbing of illegal mining we have taken many steps. Only last year, we have amended the Mines and Mineral Development (Regulations) Act and according to that it is suggested that a stringent punishment will be given to those who are doing illegal mining.

Issue of guidelines for Town and Country Planning

*350 **SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK :**
Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of States and Union