

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Dhabe, I have a record of all this.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: To recapitulate, emergency was supported by senior Members who are not in the Congress. It was proposed by Jagji. van Babuji in the other House...

AN HON. MEMBER: He was in the Congress.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: He was, but he is with you now. The fact is, let us understand, we are talking of a point in time and at that point of time, there was no doubt about it.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: It was a captive Parliament.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: CPI was also captive then... (Interruptions).

SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: He admitted that.

SHRI RAJIV GANDHI: And so were all the other people who wrote to the P.M. supporting the emergency! Were they also all captive then? Let us be a little honest about it. Let us be honest about it. We appreciate that the Emergency bugged you. But we must also remember that without the Emergency, you would not have got the Government for two and a half years. You must remember that. We will also remember not to make such a mistake again...of getting you in Government.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is now adjourned till 2.30 P.M.

The House then adjourned for lunch at twenty six minutes past one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty-five minutes past two of the clock. The Deputy Chairman in the Chair.

The coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1984-Contd.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think the discussion on the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Amendment Bill, 1984, had concluded yesterday.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): No, Madam, not concluded. He is to continue his reply.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You want to continue, Mr. Minister? I think he gave a very comprehensive reply.

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: He has not met many of the points raised. He was exposing the philosophy yesterday. In ten minutes, let him conclude.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If there are any points...

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: I had raised an important point about freight equalisation.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE): I will try to reply some of the points which the hon. Members have raised. Although while talking yesterday on the general issue, I did cover many of the points which are applicable to most of the issues raised by hon. Members, yet I will try to answer specifically some of the points which were raised.

SHRI S. W. DHABE (Maharashtra): For example, I raised the point about dues—how much you have recovered. Secondly about the detonators.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: The point on which I will have to collect facts, I will collect and convey them to you individually, because all those

facts and figures will have to be collected as to how much dues and from whom are to be recovered and what steps have been taken etc. I will do that.

As far as this freight equalisation problem is concerned, I would like to inform the hon. Members that under this scheme of the Act itself, there is a provision about the idea of this cess and use of this cess. One of the points to be covered by the cess is to see that the proceeds of the duty are applied for subsidy for conservation measures and protective works as also in subsidy on coal moved by rail-cum-sea route. So the idea is, for those distant points—like Tuticorin and the others mentioned by him in Tamil Nadu—if the coal is to be moved by rail-cum-sea route and it increases the cost, one objective of this Fund is also to use it for subsidising that cost. Apart from this general question of freight equalisation for distant points which has been going on in the country, coal in India, or for that matter steel also, at present is being produced in one area but it has to reach all the points and therefore, the points at distance have this problem of freight cost and there has been freight equalisation in steel, but there is no freight equalisation in coal. As for the Singareni coal, the production has yet to come up to the required level. It has stagnated at 12 million tonnes practically for the last three to four years, although the target was 16 million tonnes. That was mainly because in one year of 360 working days or less, there were 400 and odd strikes. This was the record for the last 3 or 4 years, apart from the change in the top management and all that. Now with so many strikes obviously you cannot have increased production. I was telling yesterday what workers participation, creating a feeling of belonging in the workers, can achieve and if proof of the pudding is in its eating, then Singareni is a standing example, of which we can be proud, of what

workers can do. When I took over this Department, I learnt that this was the phenomenon in Singareni area which is one of the key areas for producing coal and supplying it to the entire Southern sector. Being a man from the trade union field, Madam, within two months I personally went to the Singareni collieries. I met the representatives of the workers. There are more than one union but I met them. I addressed the workers in public meetings both at Kothagudem and Ramagundam. I discussed with them the problem and on the spot we took a decision. After all, strikes are there because there are grievances unresolved. So, we said, "All right, we will form a joint grievance machinery of the management with representatives of all unions in that and all decisions will be taken by this grievance machinery and there should be no cause for strike." We were talking of Mafia yesterday. I was told that one of the problems in Singareni was the so-called extremists—radicals—who are mostly unemployed youngmen—angry youngmen—who were trying to take advantage of the unsettled situations and creating problems. So, in the same tradition of the dialogue which our young Prime Minister has set for the country, in that tradition, we said to all these angry youngmen, "Baba, come along. We are willing to have a talk with you also; you need not go to the streets; you need not resort to violence at all. Whatever problems are there, we will try to resolve them." And the result is, during the last three months—this is the fourth month now running—from two lakh man-days lost in the same period in the last year, the figure came down to 9,000 man-days lost. You can see the remarkable, dramatic result of what a feeling of belonging in the workers can achieve. I am proud of our workers. Therefore, the production also increased by 20 per cent in just two months. If this record is kept up, I have no doubt

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

that the Singareni coal field will achieve its target and shortfall of four million tonnes and all the problem of coal supply to the southern States will be resolved by this one field and then this freight equalization problem will not remain. This is about freight equalization.

As far as other individual problems are concerned, one point raised was about safety.

SHRI S. W. DHABE: Not of pollution?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Pollution? Yes, enough is not done. It has to be done—I entirely agree.

Safety is one of the most important points and we are attending to it. I am glad to say that fatalities have come down and there is a substantial reduction in terms of percentage of fatalities although even one life lost is a loss. But, in terms of percentage of production, fatalities have come down substantially, the accident rate has come down too, but a lot more needs to be done. I am aware of it and I think this Fund will help us.

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA (Bihar): In all accidents in which more than two people died. Coal India was found responsible. This is a new thing to be noted.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Coal India what?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: In all the inquiries held by the DGMS the responsibility is of Coal India.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Ultimately it is bound to be. Whose else it is?

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: It is a serious thing.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I accept the responsibility of Coal India. We will have to account for it and we

will have to see that these accidents do not occur, and if it is a culpable responsibility, the officers responsible are taken to task. That is also a fact. So, I do not have to say more on this. On all other points which hon. Members have raised...

SHRI R. RAMAKRISHNAN: What about illegal mining?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Last time, while answering a question here, I said that since nationalization no private party can do coal mining. Legally they cannot, except some captive mines of some public sector undertakings. But no private person can do that. In Bihar some leases were given under some court rulings. We saw to it, and I wrote to the Chief Minister, and the Bihar Government agreed. Those leases even under the joint lease etc., all that has been stopped. They have agreed to that.

In spite of that in abandoned mines etc., as you said, some illegal work is going on. With co-operation of the State Government, we will do our best to see that illegal mining is not done. But here also I am not saying that it is a panacea. But the day you have genuine participation of labour, they themselves will see to it that all this illegal mining, illegal activities that are going on in this belt, a very valuable belt, will be stopped. After all, we cannot say that this is the tradition of Bihar. Mafia is not a tradition of Bihar. Bihar has glorious tradition of Bhagwan Buddha, Ashoka and all. How can we say that this is the tradition of Bihar?

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार):
आपका राज आते-आते सब बदल गया।

श्री वसन्त साठे : हम आपका राज आने तक भी तैयार हैं। इसी बिहार ने जय प्रकाश नारायण भी पैदा किये हैं। बिहार पर यह तोड़मट नही लगाई जा सकती। मैं तो यह चाहता हूँ कि बिहार की इज्जत और शान फिर से अच्छी तरह से वापस लाई जाय जिससे जो

ये सारी खराब चीजें हैं वह वन्द हों । मैंने कहा है कि जिस दिन सही माने में हम अपने मजदूरों को सहभागी बनायेंगे, भागीदार बनायेंगे, मालिक बनायेंगे . . .

SHRI S. W. DHABE: It is a very welcome suggestion. Have you got a time-bound programme to do it?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: We have. मैंने बताया कि हमने—यहां कुछ महाभाग बैठे हैं—दो तीन मीटिंगें ली ट्रेड यूनियन के लोगों के साथ ताकि कुछ रास्ता निकले । सुझाव भी आये वह सुझाव भी माने । एक राय से कान्सेन्सस बने वह भी मान लिया । अब मामला यह है कि कुछ ट्रेड यूनियन नेता—मैं नाम नहीं लेना चाहता—यदि इस बात को मान जायें तो मैं कल अमल में लाने को तैयार हूँ ।

श्री कल्पनाथ राय (उत्तर प्रदेश) : वे माने या न मानें, आप डिक्लेयर करिए टाइमबाउण्ड गेजर ।

श्री वसन्त साठे : मैं आपकी बात मानता हूँ लेकिन कल्पनाथ राय जी आप जानते हैं कि जब मेजर ट्रेड यूनियन के लोग उस कान्सेन्सस को नहीं मानते—यह कानून से लादने की चीज नहीं है—मैं चाहता हूँ कि वे माने और मेरा विश्वास है कि वह बात बने तो आपको कोयले के क्षेत्र में सर्वांगीण विकास में क्रान्तिकारी फर्क दिखाई देगा । इतना कह कर मैं फिर से धन्यवाद देता हूँ उन सब भाइयों को जिन्होंने बहुत अच्छी सलाह दी ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

“That the Bill further to amend the Coal Mines (Conservation and Development) Act, 1974, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause

consideration of the Bill. The question is:

“That clauses 2 and 3 stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 (Short title and commencement)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause 1. There is one amendment, number 2, by Shri Vasant Sathe.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This is only technical and clerical. I move:

2. “That at page 1, line 4 for the figure ‘1984’ the figure ‘1985’ be substituted.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put clause 1, as amended, to vote. The question is:

“That clause 1 as amended stand part of the Bill.”

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Enacting Formula

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the Enacting Formula. There is one amendment, number 1, by Shri Vasant Sathe.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I move:

1. “That at page 1, line 1 for the word ‘Thirty-fifth’ the word ‘Thirty-sixth’ be substituted.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Enacting Formula, as amended, to vote. The question is:

“That the Enacting Formula as amended stand part of the Bill.”

The Deputy Chairman.

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula as amended was added to the Bill.

The Title was added to the Bill.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Madam, I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The question was proposed

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : एक लाइन एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ ।

उपाध्याय : आपकी एक लाइन तो यहां से बिहार तक चली जायेगी । कहिये ।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : मेरी इतनी ही रिक्वेस्ट है कि बिहार में छोटी-छोटी कोल माइन्स गलत तरीके से चलायी जा रही हैं । इतना ही नहीं, दो वर्ष पहले एक गलत माइन में दुर्घटना हुई जिसमें सैकड़ों लोग मारे गये । उसके बाद भी कोई नोटिस नहीं लिया गया । आज भी वहां कुछ गलत माइन्स चल रही हैं । उन गलत माइन्स में मजदूरों के स्वास्थ्य का तथा उनकी सेफ्टी का कोई प्रबन्ध नहीं होता । उसका कोई निराकरण मंत्री जी ने अपने बिल में नहीं रखा है । इसलिए इस बात को उठाकर मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित करना पड़ा कि गलत माइन्स को रोकने के लिए वह कुछ करें और अगर उनको चलाना है तो वहां सेफ्टी के सारे प्रबन्ध करायें ।

श्री वसन्त साठे : एक कहावत है कि सारी रामायण पढ़ी सुनने के बाद कोई पूछता है राम की सीता कौन थी । अभी मैं इल्लीगल माइन्स की बात ही कर रहा था, हिन्दी में इल्लीगल को गलत ही कहते हैं, शायद आपको समझ में नहीं आया होगा । तो यह जो गलत, इल्लीगल माइन्स है उनके बारे में ही कह रहा था और उस पर पूरी कार्यवाही हम करेंगे । धन्यवाद ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now we will take up Special Mentions. Shri Kailash Pati Mishra.

REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED HARDSHIP CAUSED TO WORKERS DUE TO THE CLOSURE OF ROH- TAS INDUSTRIES LIMITED, DAL- MIA NAGAR

श्री कलाशपति मिश्र (बिहार) :
उपसभापति महोदया, चर्चा इस सवाल पर बहुत हो चुकी है जो उठा रहा हूँ । बिहार में डालमिया नगर में रोहतास इंडस्ट्रीज का कारखाना है । बिहार में जमशेदपुर के बाद डालमिया नगर का कारखाना आता है । पिछली 15 जुलाई 1984 को तालाबन्दी वहां पर चालू हो गई है । मजदूरों ने कोई हड़ताल, कोई मांग, कोई आन्दोलन नहीं किया और तालाबन्दी के एक महीने पहले से मजदूरों को वहां वेतन नहीं दिया गया । अब 1985 की जुलाई में आकर हम लोग खड़े हो गये हैं । अभी तक तो आशा थी कि सरकार कोई न कोई कदम उठायेगी, लोगों से बात करेगी और कारखाने को चालू करने की कोशिश करेगी । आश्चर्य लगता है कि इस कारखाने के आधार पर 15,000 की डालमिया नगरी वहां खड़ी है । वहां मिडिल स्कूल है, हाई स्कूल है, कालज है, कारखाने में काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों के आधार पर वह सारा तंत्र खड़ा है और अब महोदया, एक साल से ज्यादा तालाबन्दी रहने के कारण और उसके साथ कुछ अन्य और अत्याचार मजदूरों के साथ हुये । उन की बिजली काट दी गई, उनका पानी काट दिया गया । एक चलता हुआ अस्पताल था, बहुत अच्छा डालमिया नगर का अस्पताल था, उस अस्पताल को भी