की अनुरक्षण अनुदान (मेन्टेनेंस ग्रांट) की सूची में रखा जाये तथा इनके आय-व्यय और आवश्यकताओं की समीक्षा समय-समय पर यू० पी० सी० के नियमों के अनुसार की जाये।

(घ) इन महाविद्यालयों के अध्यापकों, कर्मचारियों तथा छात्रों को काशी हिन्दू विश्ववद्यालय के अध्यापकों, कर्मचारियों और छात्रों के समान सुविधा और विकास के अवसर प्रदान किये जायें जैसे दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय से सम्बद्ध महाविद्यालयों के छात्रों, अध्यापकों और कर्मचारियों कोप्राप्त हैं।

अंत में श्रीमन्, इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इतने वर्षों से उपेक्षित इन महाविद्यालयों के अवरुद्ध विकास को गति देने के लिए अविलम्ब यथेष्ठ अनावर्तक अनुदान की व्यवस्था की जाए।

श्रीमन, इस उल्लेख के माध्यम से, मैं चाहूंगा कि शिक्षा मंत्री इस सम्बन्ध में उन महाविद्यालयों की जो दुर्दशा है, पूरी जानकारी प्राप्त करके सदन के माध्यम से अवगत कराने की कृपा करें। आप उनको इस बारे में निर्देश देने की कृपा करेंगे। क्या मंत्री जी इस पर कुछ कहेंगी?

श्री उपसभापति: उन्होंने सुन लिया है, वह विचार करेंगी। Statement by the Labour Minister.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Major accident at Topa Colliery of the Central Coalfields Limited in Hazaribagh District on the 16th July, 1982.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): Sir, I regret to inform the House of a major accident which occurred on 16th July, 1982 at 14.45 hours at the Topa Colliery of Central Coalfields Limited in the District of Hazaribagh (Bihar) resulting in the death of 16 persons and serious injuries to 4 others.

According to the preliminary information received from the Directorate General of Mines Safety, the accident occurred while loaders were engaged under the supervision of a Mining Sirdar in loading blasted coal in a depillaring area in and around a goaf. There was a fall of roof measuring approximately 10 metres by 25 metres by 0.25 metres thick from a height of about 2.5 metres. Sixteen persons including the Mining Sirdar were killed on the spot and 4 other seriously injured. The injured persons have been hospitalised. Director General, Deputy Director General and Director of Mines Safety are making enquiries.

Having regard to the magnitude of the disaster, it has been decided to set up a Court of Inquiry under subsection (1) of section 24 of the Mines Act, 1952 (35 of 1952) to enquire into the causes of and circumstances attending the accident. Sir, I would like, with your permission, to add a sentence. The Government have also decided that either a serving or a retired Judge of a High Court would be appointed as the Chairman of the Court of Inquiry.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would like to inform the Members that several Members have given their names for seeking clarifications. Perhaps, Members may not be aware or some may be aware of the fact that Mr. Chairman has been pleased

to accept the Calling Attention on the same subject for the 21st of July. So, I request the hon. Members to reserve their comments for that day. We shall have a full discussion on that day. Let us not have a double discussion on the same point. Hence my request. Otherwise, it will be a double discussion. If you seek clarifications, there is no use of having the Calling Attention.

SHRI KALYAN ROY (West Bengal): Sir, we have given the Calling Attention notice which, you have just now announced, has been admitted in relation to the employer, the Energy Ministry. The Labour Ministry has nothing to do with it. We will put questions on the basis of the statement he has made. The Labour Ministry is not the employer. He is also concerned with the safety of the colliery. He comes as a policeman later on. We will ask him strictly what the DGMS has got to do. These are two Departments under two different Ministries.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The accident is the same. Everything will arise out of the same accident. (*Interruptions*) Will you, Mr. Kalyan Roy, agree that any word that you will utter today, any clarification that you seek today, if you repeat the next, that will not be allowed? Not a word of that will be allowed to be repeated by any Member, not only by you; that will not be repeated.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: We will ask him about the DGMS. (*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I just wanted to save the time of the House. Otherwise, there is no use. (*Interruptions*) Mr. Ramamurti.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI (Tamil Nadu): Sir, it would have been proper had this statement been made by the Minister of Energy.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: Under the Act I have to do it. Therefore, I have done it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Under the Act he has to do it. The Energy Minister will make a statement on the 21st.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: The Energy Minister?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. On the 21st the Calling Attention is there.

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: Then, I do not want to ask him.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: The Energy Minister will be able to give more information. But under the Act I have to do it, and I have done it.

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा (बिहार) : उपसभापति महोदय, इस पर कालिंग अटेंशन भी है यह ठीक है । जो मंत्री महोदय ने स्टेटमेंट दिया है अगर मैं इस पर कुछ सवाल पूछता हूं तो यह कालिंग अटेंशन के वक्त कम्परीहेंसिव हो जाता है । यह देखा नहीं जाता आज क्या हो रहा है ।

श्री उपसभापति : यह देना इनकी ड्यूटी है । आप पूछिये ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : यह जो स्टेटमेंट दिया है इस बारे में मुझे तो कलेरिफिकेशन पूछनी है । उपसभापति महोदय, यह दुर्घटना नहीं हुई । इसे यदि कुछ कहा जाए तो यह मर्डर है ।

श्री उपसभापति : यह कोई सवाल नहीं है । यह सवाल इससे नहीं उठता ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि एक दिन पहले 15 तारीख को जहां पर मजदूर काम करने जाते थे उसे प्रोहिबिटेड जोन डिक्लेयर कर दिया था आपके अफसरों द्वारा ? प्रोहिबिटेड जोन डिक्लेयर कर दिया गया

था फिर भी मजदूरों को काम करने के लिये धकेला गया ? क्या यह बात सही नहीं है ? मेरे पास अखबार है ।

श्री उपसभापति : यह आप छोड़िये ।

श्री शिव चन्द्र झा : अखबार में आ गया है कि यह प्रोहिबिटेड जोन डिक्लेयर कर दिया गया था फिर भी मजदूरों को वहां काम करने के लिये कहा गया है ? क्या यह बात सही नहीं है ? दूसरी बात मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या ऐसी दुर्घटना पहले भी हुई है या नहीं ? जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है सन् 1975 में इस प्रकार की घटना वहां पर हो चुकी है । ऐसी हालत में मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि उस घटना के बाद अब तक वहां पर क्या सेफ्टी मेजर लिये गये ? तीसरा और आखीरी सवाल मेरा यह है कि जब इस प्रकार की दुर्घटना होती है तो खान मजदूरों की सेफ्टी के लिये कोई मशीनरी काम करती है या नहीं ? ये मेरे तीन सवाल है ।

SHRI KALYAN ROY: Sir, I have only five simple clarifications to seek. Firstly, is the Minister aware that there were five safety conferences and the last safety conference was held in Delhi under the Chairmanship of Mr. N. D. Tiwari and there it was decided that every underground mine will be inspected twice a year? Has it been done in relation to this colliery? Secondly, it is stated in the statement that work was going on in a depillaring section. According to the Mines Department instructions, according to the instructions of the Central Government, a depillaring area should be inspected at least three times a year. Has this depillaring area been inspected three times a year? Thirdly, when did the inspection by the DGMS take place, what were the violations of the safety rules which were observed and what follow-up action was taken in relation to these violations of the safety rules by the management of the colliery? Fourthly, regarding compensation, Mrs. Ram Dulari Sinha on the 26th February, 1981 stated in this House that "the matter of increasing the compensation to miners killed in accidents is receiving attention and some decisions are expected to be taken soon." That was on the 26th February, 1981 and today is the 19th of July, 1982. Has any decision been taken, because the maximum compensation that a miner can get after he dies is Rs. 30,000? Mr. Abdul Ghani Khan Chaudhuri said in a letter written on January 23, 1981: "I have again requested the Minister of Labour to expedite a decision in the matter of compensation as early as possible." So I would like to know what the Labour Ministry has done after one and a half years, in spite of repeated replies in Parliament that the matter is receiving the utmost consideration and soon a decision will be taken. Has not the time come to take a decision? The last question is, we have had several courts of enquiry—Chasnala, Jitpur, Keshargurh, Central Saunda, Silwara and lastly Jagannathpur—whose decisions are yet to be announced. We have seen the Energy Minister consider the recommendations as scrape of paper. Not a single recommendation, except in regard to Chasnala which happens to be an IISCO colliery, has been implemented. Therefore, will he assure us that once he has decided to set up a court of enquiry, the recommendations and decisions of the court of enquiry will be strictly implemented by the management? Lastly, before I sit down, in relation to the court of enquiry on the Silwara disaster in the Western Coalfields near Nagpur, Mr. Dhabe was made an assessor from the INTUC. The AITUC was also given representation. Unfortunately after that, only the INTUC is being taken as assessor. That is

[Shri Kalyan Roy]

wrong. I would request the Minister to have a good judge, retired or not, and a good technical assessor and so far as the union representation is concerned, let him take not only from the INTUC but also from other central trade unions.

श्री सदाशिव बागाईतकर (महाराष्ट्र): श्रीमन्, मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जिस कोलरी में यह दुर्घटना हुई है, क्या यह सही नहीं है कि इसी स्थान के बारे में इसके पहले वहां के जो सरदार थे उन्होंने अपनी रिपोर्ट में यह कहा था कि यह एक बहुत खतरनाक जगह बनती जा रही है? मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि यह बात सही है या नहीं, इसका खुलासा किया जाये। दूसरी बात मैं कम्पैंसेशन के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। कम्पैंसेशन के बारे में यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो मेक्सीमम कम्पैंसेशन माइनर्स के लिए एलाउड है वे 30 हजार रुपये देने के बारे में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है? मैं चाहता हूं कि इस बारे में साफ एश्योरेन्स दे दिया जाय कि इस पर आप अमल कर रहे हैं या नहीं? इस प्रकार की दुर्घटनाएं लगातार बढ़ती जा रही हैं? और होती जा रही हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि उनको रोकने के लिए आपका जो इंस्पेक्टोरेट है, वह माइनर्स की सेफ्टी को सुचारू रूप से चलाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाने जा रहा है?

श्री प्यारेलाल खंडेलवाल (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं कुछ स्पष्टीकरण मंत्री महोदय से चाहता हूं। जांच हर दुर्घटना की होती है और बहुत लम्बे समय तक होती रहती है। क्या मंत्री महोदय इसके लिये कोई समय निर्धारित करेंगे कि जांच की रिपोर्ट शीघ्र एक सीमित समय में तैयार करके दे दी जाये एक बात।

दूसरी बात, मेरे पास यह निश्चित जानकारी है कि यह खदान खतरनाक घोषित की जाये। वहां कभी भी दुर्घटना हो सकती है यह रिपोर्ट दे दी गई थी। इसलिये यह जानकारी जो मेरे पास है मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करें कि क्या यह सही है और क्या मंत्री महोदय इस बारे में जांच करायेंगे?

तीसरी बात, एक और जो जानकारी जो मुझे मिली है कि वह यह है कि जो चार लोग गम्भीर घायल हुए हैं उनको वहां से अस्पताल में हटाने के लिये काफी विलम्ब हुआ है। अगर उनको जल्दी हटा लिया जाता है तो शायद उनके बचने की संभावना हो सकती थी। आज चारों की स्थिति खतरनाक है। तो इन तीन प्रश्नों का स्पष्टीकरण मैं मंत्री महोदय से चाहता हूं।

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE (Maharashtra): The main question which I would like to ask the Minister is this. Is the Minister aware that it was found that the regulations made under the Mines Act are very defective in fixing the responsibility? I had experience as an assessor. Who is the person responsible under a corporation like the Coal India Limited? Secondly, this House had appointed a Joint Committee on Mines Act in 1973 and Mr. A. P. Sharma was the chairman—for amending the Act. We found so many defects. A report was submitted about six years ago. May I know whether and when the Minister will bring an amended Bill on the Mines Act so as to meet the situation today. There are so many lacunae found in this Act.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO (Jammu and Kashmir): There is a tendency among the labourers to go

into the mines, where extraction has already reached saturation point, for extracting coal because it is easier that way. I would like to ask if the Government is empowered with any Act to seal a coalmine which, in the opinion of the Government, is not safe for extraction?

श्री हुक्मदेव नारायण यादव (बिहार): श्रीमन्, एक सवाल मेरा है । मैं केवल इतना जानना चाहूंगा कि जो लोग मर गये हैं वे गरीब लोग हैं, कमाने वाला मर गया, उनके लिये कम्पन्सेशन है लेकिन श्रीमन्, जो लोग इसमें मारे गये हैं क्या उनके परिवार वालों को, जो काम करने के लायक हैं उन लोगों को सरकार नौकरी देगी और सरकार इस बारे में ध्यान देगी ?

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : उपसभापति महोदय, प्रश्न यह है कि मैंने अभी कोर्ट आफ इन्क्वायरी की स्थापना की यहां घोषणा की है । इस सम्बन्ध में इतने प्रश्न पूछे गये हैं और कुछ प्रश्न ऐसे हैं जिनके बारे में जांच कमेटी जांच करने के बाद ही रिपोर्ट दे सकती है, मैं उस पर अपनी राय नहीं दे सकता हूं । सेफ्टी नियमों का पालन किया गया या नहीं किया गया, इस तरह की सारी बातों के बारे में जांच इन्क्वारी के बाद पता चलेगा और उसके अनुसार जो सिफारिशें आयेंगी उन सिफारिशों पर अमल होगा ।

दूसरी बात कुछ सदस्यों ने यह कहा है कि यह जो माइंस हैं यह पहले से ही खतरनाक थी । इस बारे में भी मैं अपनी राय नही दे सकता हूं । डाइरेक्टर जनरल आफ माइंस और डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर जनरल आफ माइंस वहां गये है और जांच कर रहे है । उनकी जब मेरे पास रिपोर्ट आयेगी तभी इस सम्बन्ध में मैं जानकारी दे सकता हूं कि क्या हुआ । इस सम्बन्ध में अधिकांश प्रश्नों का उत्तर इनर्जी मिनिस्टर दे सकते हैं और इसके लिये आपने कालिंग अटेंशन भी स्वीकार कर लिया है । अभी मैं मान्यवर, इतना ही सदन में निवेदन करूंगा कि नियमों का पालन हुआ या नहीं, किस कारण दुर्घटना हुई, क्यों दुर्घटना हुई इसकी जानकारी रिपोर्ट आने के बाद ही हो सकती है । इस पर हम अपनी कोई राय नहीं दे सकते हैं । जहां तक कम्पन्सेशन और सर्विस की बात है यह घोषणा आज कर दी गई है कि उनके हर एक परिवार में जो नौकरी के लायक व्यक्ति है उनको नौकरी दी जायेगी इनर्जी मिनिस्टर ने यह घोषणा की है । जो और बातें इस सम्बन्ध में कही गई हैं देखेंगे कि उनके बारे में क्या किया जा सकता है ।

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE: What about the Mines Amendment Bill?

श्री भागवत झा आजाद : मैंने देखा नहीं है तो मैं इस बारे में कुछ नहीं कह सकता हूं कि क्या हो सकता है स्वयं मैंने नहीं देखा है । मैं एक बयान में समूची बात नहीं कह सकता हूं ।

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI: There was an assurance given by the previous Labour Minister that the rate of compensation, the amount of compensation, will be raised and it is engaging the attention of the Government. This assurance was given as early as February 1981. It is now one year and five months since. I would only like to ask this simple question. After all, it is his matter; it is not a matter concerning the Energy Minister. Energy Minister has written to you. So take a decision quickly on that. When will you take a decision?

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: I shall look into it. At the moment I

[Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad]

must plead my difficulty that I have not seen the statement made one and a half years ago. I would like to go into it and see what can be done about it.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE COURT OF THE ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Mr. Deputy Chairman, I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of item (xxiv) of clause (1) of statute 14 of the statutes of the Aligarh Muslim University, as amended by the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Act, 1981 (No. 62 of 1981), this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, four members from among the members of the House, to be members of the Court of the Aligarh Muslim University."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL OF MINES, DHANBAD

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL): Sir, I beg to move the following motion:

"That in pursuance of the provisins contained in clauses (ii) to (iv) of rule read with clause (vii) of rule 15 of the Rules and Regulations of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, one member from among the members of the House to be a member of the General Council of the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, in the vacancy caused by the retirement of Dr. Bhanindra Nath Hansda from the membership of the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd April, 1982."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE PAYMENT OF WAGES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1982

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Payment of Wages Act, 1936, be taken into consideration."

[**The Vice-Chairman (Shri Ladli Mohan Nigam)** in the Chair].

Sir, the Payment of Wages Act regulates the payment of wages to certain classes of persons employed in industry. It also ensures that wages payable to the employees covered by the Act are disbursed by the employers within the prescribed time limit and no deductions are made which are not authorised by law. The working of the Act has revealed a number of short-comings. Government also received suggestions for amending the Act to improve its working and to make it more effective and beneficial. It was also suggested to Government that the benefits of the Act should be extended to a large number of employees by enlarging the scope of industrial establishments as well as by enhancing the existing wage limit for coverage from less than Rs. 1,000 per month to less than Rs. 1,600 per month. Government have considered the various suggestions and decided to amend the Act.

The amending Bill now before the House seeks to achieve these objectives. It widens the definition of 'Industrial establishment' to cover