

SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Yes, Sir. Is there any plan of the Central Government to allocate coal only for manufacturing units rather than for traders?

श्री श्रीप्रकाश जायसवाल : सर, मैंने दो बार जवाब दिया है कि ट्रेडर्स के लिए, फुटकर उपभोक्ताओं के लिए हम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को कोटा दे देते हैं और यह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स की जिम्मेदारी है कि वे अपने द्वारा नॉमिनेटेड एजेंसीज के माध्यम से उपभोक्ताओं के लिए जहां चाहे वहां कोयले का आबंटन करें। उसमें गवर्नमेंट ऑफ इंडिया की या हमारी कोल कंपनियों की कोई भूमिका नहीं है।

GoM on mining issues

*303. SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a Group of Ministers (GoM) is working on mining sector issues; and
- (b) if so, the details of major issues which are under consideration?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Government has constituted a Group of Ministers on 14th June, 2010 with the specific term of reference of considering the draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill 2010 and giving its recommendations in the matter. The draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill 2010, has been prepared on the basis of policy directions in the National Mineral Policy, 2008, and Hoda Committee recommendations after an intensive exercise of consultation with all the stakeholders including representatives of civil society concerned with environmental/societal impact. The major issues laid down in the National Mineral Policy, 2008 and Hoda Committee recommendations, and considered in the draft Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Bill 2010 *inter-alia* include:

- (i) making the regulatory mechanism more conducive to technology and investment flows and providing security of tenure to concessionaires.
- (ii) ensure transparency, seamlessness and security of tenure in the concession process.

- (iii) strengthening the role of Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM).
- (iv) developing and enforcing a framework of sustainable development that ensures that mining activity takes place along with suitable measures for restoration of the ecological balance, particularly in tribal and forest areas.
- (v) helping States in overcoming the problem of illegal mining and measures to discourage and prevent sub-optimal and unscientific mining.
- (vi) developing new concession instruments to attract high technology for quick prospecting of large areas.
- (vii) developing a cluster approach to mining of small deposits in a scientific and efficient manner.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: My first supplementary is regarding the growth of illegal mining. Illegal mining is a very serious issue and everybody is aware of that. My specific question is this. Will the Government suspend all the mining activities in the area where serious allegations came, including Obulapuram in Andhra Pradesh?

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, the question is about the proposed changes in the new Act. But I will address the question. The point is that I have to give the reply in a general way. Sir, as you know, it is with the GoM, so I cannot give you all the details. I understand the concern of not only the hon. Member who asked the question but all the hon. Members of the House.

The first thing that we have done in the proposed new Act is that there will be stringent deterrent action for illegal mining. Further, we have established a National Mining Regulatory Authority with overarching power to inspect, to detect, to investigate and to prosecute those involved in illegal mining. The existing Act does not contain such provisions. We have a new Act now. One proposal is to have stringent deterrent action. Other actions, which we will take, are as follows.

The Central Government will have the powers to terminate the lease if the State Government does not act against the leaseholder involved in illegal mining.

The lessee will be made ineligible for future leases of mines besides cancellation of all the existing leases.

Any citizen can become a whistleblower by filing a complaint against illegal mining.

Special courts for prosecution will be set up under this Act.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, illegal mining is already there, but nothing is being done. My second supplementary is not about this. This is regarding better realization of our minerals. Value-added product is good. Since India has the capacity to make good quality steel, will the Government take steps to ban export of iron ore? I would like to know whether the Government will ban the export of iron ore.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your question is about the Group of Ministers and its work.

SHRI K.N. BALAGOPAL: Sir, this question is very much related to my main question. This is about mining policy and mining issues. This time it is evident that the illegal mining is the basic issue. It is very much related to the question.

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, regarding iron ore, first of all, I would give an example. In 2009-10, total production is 218 million tonnes; domestic consumption is 91 million tonnes; and, export of iron ore is 117 million tonnes. But, Sir, our problem is, of this 117 million tonnes export, more than 70 to 75 per cent are iron fines, for which we don't have any technology in the country. That is the only reason that if we allow iron ores to be dumped in piles all over the country, there will be two problems. One, it will create environmental hazards. Second, it will seriously impede the mining process itself because of the heaps of piles of millions and millions of tonnes of iron ore. So, our approach to this is like this. We have kept an open mind that till the technology is found, iron ore fines will be exported. We have also kept in mind that a large number of people, thousands and thousands of people, are engaged in export and export-related trades. I can give you another example. The hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka recently in the National Development Council meeting said that there are only 30 per cent lumps. The State produces 49 million tonnes of iron ore and only 30 per cent are lumps and 70 per cent are iron ore fines for which we don't have the technology for processing. He himself brought in some plans. He said that they will try this technology 5-6 times. Definitely, we are watching that. We wish him good speed. Till then, what do we do? What do we do with iron fines?

Will you just let it pile on in millions of tonnes for creating environmental hazard? I till then, let those people, thousands and thousands of them, who are engaged in the trade, carry on with their living.

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, the principal issue in mining is the alienation of a very large number of people in tribal and various areas. That issue, unfortunately, does not find mention in the list of seven issues which the Minister has included in his reply with reference to the recommendations of the Hoda Committee and the National Mineral Policy. Sir, the question that I have for the Minister is: Could he please inform the House which of the seven issues that he has listed in his reply refer specifically to relief, rehabilitation and compensation for people who are uprooted because of mining activities, both legal and illegal?

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, the new draft Bill specially emphasises this point that justice will be done to the tribal population. ...*(Interruptions)*... I cannot give all the details. As I have already said, the matter is with the GoM. Sir, I am stating what we are proposing. The tribal people, particularly the vulnerable tribal people and also the people living in remote areas, will be given the share from the mining profits. I won't say exactly what percentage we are proposing. I won't say that. We have proposed. It's very difficult. But, it will be good enough so that they get shareholders' right and shareholders' money also.

They share the profit. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I urge the hon. Members to read this statement carefully, paras 4 and 5. "Developing and enforcing a framework of sustainable development which ensures that mining activities takes place along with suitable measures for restoration of ecological balance, particularly in tribal areas..." ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, he is talking about ecological balance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just a minute please.

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: We are proposing 26 per cent of profits for the mining. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this is a draft Bill; it is being considered by the GoM. Actually, I have made it clear to the hon. Deputy Chairman the other day that it would be difficult for me to come out with all the details. Twenty-six per cent of profits have been earmarked for the mining. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Sir, he is talking about the ecological balance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: It is already there. They can go and find out. They can come to me. I can show them the entire draft. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is 26 per cent. Not only that, there is also a share of 26 per cent profits from mining. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, it is not that we are not doing any justice to them. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Sir, this issue is agitating the whole nation. The Minister must come out with a specific reply relating to relief and rehabilitation of the affected people. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, I want to take forward the question asked by both the Members. But the issue is, the Minister was saying that we don't have the technology; that is why we have to export. This is unbelievable in this world because there are people who are ready to come, invest in joint ventures and everything. It is not at all necessary and they are not producing something of that quality which is really a patented technology. No way, Sir. It is the normal iron ore which is going to China and other countries who are importing from us and we are exporting to them, allowing the export, and we are losing in the bargain because we are exporting at a very cheap price, and importing the same. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सर, यह मेरा सवाल ही है। ऐसी कोई technological बाध्यता नहीं है कि हमें एक्सपोर्ट करना ही पड़ेगा। आप investment करके यहां लोगों को ला सकते हैं। इसलिए मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या iron ore के एक्सपोर्ट पर ban होगा या नहीं होगा?

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, I have already said that we are only waiting for the technology to come, and already, the hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka has said that he would bring it. But I want to submit one thing that the export and import policy is not decided by our Ministry. It is the Commerce Ministry who decides it.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: But you can ban it. Sir, he can ban it.

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: I cannot ban it. Only the Finance Minister can ban. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I have already said that I have kept an open mind. As far as the Commerce Ministry is concerned, if it takes the call and say that there will be no export of iron ore, then it can be done. I can't ban it.

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सर, मेरा जवाब नहीं आया और यह सदन के लिए misleading होगा कि यह कॉमर्स मिनिस्ट्री नहीं तय करती है कि एग्रीकल्चर का गेहूँ export करना है या नहीं, या import करना है। यह एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री तय करती है, वैसे ही iron ore का export...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not a discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: आप इसको बैन कर सकते हैं। इसका कॉमर्स मिनिस्ट्री से कोई लेना-देना नहीं है।

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Ultimately, it is the Commerce Ministry. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SAYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, whether the hon. Minister is aware that on 12th August, only four days earlier, in Bayyaram, Khammam district, all the borders were sealed including the national highway; and the Group of Ministers is actually considering to confiscate the properties of those companies which are indulging in illegal mining. So, what sort of action are you taking? Mr. Hanumantha Rao also talked about 1,46,000 illegal mining in Bayyaram, Khammam district, in Andhra Pradesh. Are you taking any sort of legal action as per the directives of the Group of Ministers? ...*(Interruptions)*... You don't know what is happening in the country.

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: Sir, I know what is happening in the country. That is why I have gathered the courage to reply to the question. Sir, it is true that I received a complaint, four days ago, signed by a few hon. Members of Parliament. We have taken it seriously and we are examining it. Sir, in Bayyaram case, I want to tell you that in section 178 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957, it can reserve the area. We have reserved the area in Bayyaram. It is about 566.90 kilometers. But, Sir, it is only reservation. When I gave the permission, it was only for reservation, not for any mining lease or prospecting lease. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SAYED AZEEZ PASHA: But they are ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE: If, after some time, they come back with a proposal that we want mining lease or prospecting lease, we shall again examine the merit of the case. Reservation is merely for blocking an area for a certain length of time. In the mean time, Sir, the question does not

arise. The Andhra Government have already decided to re-survey the issue and asked us that they needed a new area. So, I said, "All right, if you want a new area, all orders no longer exist". They asked for the survey of new areas. So, we are freshly examining the whole problem. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I just want to know ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am sorry. ...*(Interruptions)*... We can't have four supplementaries.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, I just want to have a realty check ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Keshava Raoji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: I have no question. ...*(Interruptions)*... What he is saying is ...*(Interruptions)*...

प्रो. एस.पी. सिंह बघेल: सभापति जी, बहुजन समाज पार्टी तीसरी बड़ी पार्टी है, आप सवाल पूछने का अवसर ही नहीं देते हैं।...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please ...*(Interruptions)*... Questions will be rotated around the House. There is no right on a supplementary question. Please understand this. It is a courtesy.

*304. [The questioner Shri R.C. Singh was absent]

Generation of wind power

*304. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country would add about 9,000 MW of wind power generation at the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan *i.e.* by 2012;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry proposes to generate 11,000 MW of wind power at the end of that Plan;

(c) if so, the hurdles that Government has to face in achieving the above target;