

■ [श्री भीष्म नारायण सिंह]

से अच्छा होगा कि गृह मंत्री जी आकर के सदन को सारी बातों से अवगत कराएं । मेरी आपसे यांग है कि आप अविलम्ब गृह मंत्री जी को निदेश दें कि वे आकर के सदन को इस स्थिति से अवगत कराएं ।

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I talked to the Railway Minister. I request you to kindly ask the Home Minister to tell the House whom he has consulted on this affair. He should disclose all the facts to the House and he should tell us the steps he has taken. Sir, both the Railway Minister and the Home Minister may be requested to come to the House and tell us the facts and what steps he has taken to prevent further deterioration of the situation.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Sir, only a few days back, with your permission, I mentioned about a certain situation developing in the Munirka area where something of a similar situation has developed. Therefore, I should like the Government to take precautionary steps so that the situation there does not go out of hand. I want the Government to be very careful about this thing happening in the capital.

Again, this thing has happened in the background of all that we discussed in the House some days ago. I do not want to reiterate all that has happened and take the time of the House. Therefore, it is necessary that he should immediately come and allay our apprehension and relieve us of the panic that has generated so much anger over this matter. That is why we are so much interested. We expect that he should have come by himself and made a statement. We are now pleading for it. I think you will agree and direct him to make a statement.

SHRI SADASIV BAGAIKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I have just to make a small submission in the context of this particular matter.

The situation is so sensitive that I think it is in the interest of all that a clarification is made. The Government should come out with a statement because there is a danger of chain reaction taking place. Therefore, my submission is that no question of prestige is involved. What is involved is a question of facts. It is incumbent on the Railway Minister and the Home Minister to come to the House and make a clean statement so that people can feel reassured and confident.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: He must have collected some information.

श्रीशिव चन्द्र झा : उपसभापति महोदय, यह बात निर्विवाद है कि यह एक गंभीर समस्या है । गृह मंत्री जी को आप बुलायें और वे सब बातों से सदन को अवगत कराएं... (Interruptions) इस की जानकारी हम लोगों को मिलनी चाहिए, नहीं तो हालत बिगड़ जाती है । यही मुझे कहना है ।

श्री भीष्म नारायण सिंह : धनो डा० राम कृपाल सिंह जी ने कुछ कहा था...

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA): I have conveyed the feelings of the House to the Minister concerned.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Government has taken note of it. Word has been sent to the Minister concerned. I hope, he would come.

DISCUSSION ON THE WORKING OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES— - continued.

श्री मोला प्रसाद (बिहार) : उपसभापति महोदय इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय के कामों के सम्बन्ध में जो यह रिपोर्ट है, उस पर जब हम विचार कर रहे हैं तो हम इसको, जो पूरे देश के अर्थ-तंत्र की स्थिति है, उसका उल्लेख किए बिना नहीं देख सकते हैं और जब पूरे देश का अर्थ-तंत्र बीमार है, तब हम स्टील उद्योग को स्वस्थ होना कैसे देख सकते हैं । इस सम्बन्ध में खुद एक स्टील धुप स्टील उद्योग के विकास

के, एक्सपैन्शन के सम्बन्ध में, प्रोडक्शन और प्रोडक्टिविटी के सम्बन्ध में, वर्कर्स पार्टिसिपेशन के सम्बन्ध में विचार और बहस कर एक गाइडलाइन, एक पालिसी ले बाऊन करने के लिए मंत्री महोदय ने तमाम ट्रेड यूनियनों के प्रतिनिधियों और स्टील और खान उद्योग से सम्बन्धित तमाम यूनियन के प्रतिनिधियों और मैनेजमेन्ट के प्रतिनिधियों को लेकर बनायी थी और उसने एक रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत किया था जो कि स्टील आथॉरिटी के जरिए प्रकाशित किया गया। अभी बक्त नहीं है कि हम तमाम बातों में जाएं। मैं सिर्फ इतना ही जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ, उसमें जो साइड लाइन किया गया, जो पालिसी उस में निर्धारित की गई है, एक सहमति के आधार पर, ऐसा लगता है कि उसको इस स्टील मंत्रालय ने दबा कर रख दिया है और उस पर अमल नहीं करना चाहता। उस का कोई जिक्र भी नहीं है कहीं। हम यहाँ पर सिर्फ एक तथ्य को उद्धृत करना चाहते हैं, स्टडी ग्रुप ने जो रिपोर्ट दी उस में से, एक्सपैन्शन आफ स्टील इंडस्ट्री के ऊपर जो रिपोर्ट है, पेज 7 पर—

"The Study Group noted that compound growth of Indian steel industry which was 12 per cent during the period 1955-56 to 1965-66, had come down to 2 per cent during the period 1965-66 to 1975-76 mainly due to sluggish growth of domestic demand for steel on account of recession."

मैं सिर्फ इतना ही यहाँ पर उद्धृत कर के कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह फैक्टर जिसकी वजह से पिछले दशक में, रिसेशन की वजह से स्टील के उद्योग के विकास में ह्रास आया, वह 12 परसेन्ट की जगह 2 परसेन्ट हो गया, वह कारण अभी भी मौजूद है और यह सही है कि 1975-76 और 1976-77 में कुछ एक्सपोर्ट को बढ़ा कर के, उसको बूस्ट-अप करके, उसके उत्पादन को थोड़ा बढ़ाया गया। लेकिन इस आधार पर हम अपने देश में इस स्टील उद्योग से सम्बन्धित तमाम दूसरे उद्योगों का भी विकास नहीं कर सकते हैं और देश को आत्मनिर्भर नहीं बना सकते हैं। इस मिलसिले में इस रिपोर्ट में एक जगह कहा गया है :

"Emphasis on export will make us dependant on foreign sources and, therefore, the main emphasis should be on development needs."

तो मैंने इस लिए उद्धरण दिया कि अभी जो सरकार की नीति है—हालांकि मंत्रालय की ओर से 78-79 की जो रिपोर्ट पेज की गई है उस में यह बताया गया है कि अभी जो स्टील के उद्योग में पैदावार का ड्रास हुआ है उस का कारण प्रधान तौर से कोकिंग कोल की कमी और बिजली का संकट

है—उस के कारण कोकिंग कोल का संकट, बिजली का संकट और इस्पात उद्योग का संकट सामने आया है जो कि मामूली संकट नहीं है। यह संकट पूरे देश के अर्थतंत्र को संकट में डाल देता है और डाल रहा है। इस से निकलने के लिए देश की सरकार के पास आर्थिक नीतियाँ या कोई टाइम-बाउन्ड प्रोग्राम नहीं है। खुद स्टील मंत्रालय की ओर से भी जो बताया गया है उस में भी कोई टाइम-बाउन्ड प्रोग्राम नहीं है जिस से कि इस संकट से हम स्टील उद्योग को निकाल सकें। अभी मुख्य तौर से स्टील का इम्पोर्ट कर के और दूसरी तरफ कोकिंग कोल एक मिलियन टन इम्पोर्ट कर के किसी तरह से काम चलाया जा रहा है। लेकिन इस आधार पर हमारे उद्योग का विकास नहीं हो सकता है और हम उस को संकट से नहीं बचा सकते हैं।

जब एक तरफ यह बात है तब हम देखते हैं कि आज हमारे देश का जो पूरा अर्थतंत्र है, वह गड़बड़ा रहा है, देश में बढ़ती हुई होम मार्केट का संकट है, अर्थ शक्ति का ह्रास है। और सरकार ने योजना को समेट लिया है रोलिंग योजना कह कर रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि काफी डिमाण्ड है इस साल और अगले साल 15 परसेंट डिमाण्ड बढ़ेगी और इस तरह से हमारी पैदावार बढ़ती जाएगी। लेकिन यह उसी तरह की धामधमाली है जैसे पहले भी कहा गया था और जिन आर्थिक नीतियों की वजह से पहले दशक में बहुत बड़ा ह्रास हुआ था। वह संकट आज भी बड़े पैमाने पर आने वाला है और वह बढ़ने वाला है। पहली सरकार की जो नीतियाँ थीं उस से भी ज्यादा जन विरोधी मौजूदा सरकार की नीति के कारण यह संकट ज्यादा हो रहा है हर क्षेत्र में, चाहे वह उद्योग का क्षेत्र हो, अथवा कृषि का क्षेत्र हो। इस में मैं ज्यादा नहीं जाना चाहता। इस को मैंने सिर्फ रेफर किया था। सरकार को इस को ध्यान में रखना चाहिए।

दूसरी चीज इसी सन्दर्भ में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह कि उद्योग में सरकार ने सिद्धान्त के रूप में माना है कि प्राइवेट ठेकेदारों को नहीं लगाना चाहिए और पब्लिक सेक्टर की जो एजेंसियाँ हैं उन के जरिए हम को उस का काम करना चाहिए। लेकिन यह मानते हुए, इस बात को कहते हुए कि ये टेम्पोरेरी नेचर के काम होते हैं और जब उस से भी नहीं होता है तो इस नाम पर कि प्राइवेट जो ठेकेदार हैं वे कम रेट पर काम करवाने के लिए तैयार होते हैं और पब्लिक सेक्टर की जो एजेंसियाँ होती हैं वे ज्यादा रेट मांगती हैं उस माने में वह मंहगा पड़ता है। इस लिए हम प्राइवेट ठेकेदारों को देते हैं। इस तरह से बड़े पैमाने पर मंत्रालय के जरिए स्टील के उद्योग के कंस्ट्रक्शन में ठेकेदारों की बढ़ती हो रही है जिस का नतीजा हो रहा है कि मजदूरों का शोषण बहुत ही काफी बढ़ गया है और जाहिर है कि जब प्राइवेट ठेकेदार कम रेट पर काम कराने की बात करता है तो वह ऐसा

## [ श्री भोला प्रसाद ]

मजदूरों का शोषण कर के ही करता है और यही कारण है कि जो मिनिमम वेज मजदूरों के लिए तय किया गया है वह उन को नहीं मिल पाता है। जो मिलता है वह बहुत कम है और तरह तरह से कम मजदूरी दे कर, उन का शोषण कर के उन से काम कराया जाता है और यह शोषण बढ़ता ही जा रहा है जिस के चलते हजारों मजदूर परमानेंट नेचर का जो काम करते हैं उन को बिठा दिया जाता है, उन को बेकार बना दिया जाता है। इसी तरह से हजारों मजदूर खानों में बेकार कर दिए गए और स्टील उद्योग में भी उनको बिठाया जा रहा है और उन के स्थान पर प्राइवेट ठेकेदारों से वह काम लिया जाता है। तो मजदूरों पर इस क्षेत्र में इस तरह से हमला हो रहा है। इस को बन्द किया जाना चाहिए नहीं तो बेलाड़ीला में जिस तरह की घटनायें हुई उसी तरह की घटनायें दूसरी जगहों में भी हो सकती हैं। ठेकेदारों द्वारा मजदूरों के शोषण को भी घटनायें हैं उनको सामने रखा जाना चाहिए और इस ठेकेदारी प्रथा को बन्द किया जाना चाहिए।

इसके अलावा जो मजदूर हैं उन्हीं का शोषण नहीं होता, बल्कि स्टील उद्योग में भी जो दूसरे मजदूर हैं, खानों में भी जो हैं उन के मिनिमम वेज के सम्बन्ध में सरकार की जो नीति है उसमें भूतलिंगम कमेटी की रिपोर्ट से गाइड हो कर सरकार वेज फ्रीज की पालिसी अख्तियार कर रही है। और उन के वेज रिवीजन की जो मांग है उस तरफ वह ध्यान नहीं दे रही है। न केवल कोल उद्योग में बल्कि स्टील उद्योग में भी मजदूरों की जो मांगें हैं उन को महीनों से टाला जा रहा है। नेशनल ज्वाइंट कंसल्टेटिव कमेटी में महीनों बहस चलने के बाद भी यह मजदूरों की जो मांग है, जो कि बहुत जायज है, उसको नहीं माना जा रहा है। जो तनकमाह जूट उद्योग में मजदूरों को मिलती है उसको भी स्टील उद्योग में नहीं दिया जा रहा है। तो इस तरह से मजदूर विरोधी रख अख्तियार कर के देश में स्टील उद्योग का विकास नहीं हो सकता है। इस नीति के कारण तो यह उद्योग और अधिक संकट में पड़ जाएगा और इस में नए नए प्राबलम्स पैदा हो जायेंगे।

इस सिलसिले में मैं एक बात और माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूँ, हालांकि एक आध बार उन्होंने खुद प्रेस में और अपने बयानों में कहा है कि टिस्को का राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाना चाहिए। वह क्यों नहीं किया जा रहा है? यह पता नहीं चलता कि वह क्यों नहीं किया जा रहा है जब कि 46 परसेंट पूंजी उस में राष्ट्रीय पूंजी है और उस का इस्तेमाल टाटा अपने मुनाफे के लिए कर रहा है। तो ऐसी सूरत में जब कि उस में 46 परसेंट राष्ट्रीय पूंजी है और वह ऐसा उद्योग है कि जिस सरकार अपने हाथ में लेकर दूसरे जो छोटे उद्योग हैं उन की मदद कर सकती है। सिर्फ टाटा के मुनाफे का ब्याल करके क्यों अभी तक उसका राष्ट्रीय-

करण आप नहीं कर रहे हैं, इसका स्पष्टीकरण होना चाहिए। हमारी मांग है कि आप टिस्को का जल्द से जल्द राष्ट्रीयकरण करें।

इन्हीं चन्द शब्दों के साथ मैं अपने विचार समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU (Himachal Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chair-man it is very unfortunate that the performance of the integrated steel plants has been unsatisfactory. The position has deteriorated in the last two years. Everybody admits that the hon. Minister is a dynamic person. I also know that he has been a successful businessman and industrialist. Somehow I was of the view that the Economic Ministries should be headed by a persons having experience of business and industry. It is an enigma that, when the Ministry of Steel and Mines is headed by such a person, the results are more unsatisfactory. There is an impression in the country that the Minister devotes more of his time to politics than to the affairs of his Ministry. I would like the hon. Minister to give his reaction to this impression in the country.

As has been said by my friend, though Mr. George Fernandes has no thing to do with the Steel Ministry, it was he who announced that the steel plant from Vijayanagar would be shifted to Mangalore. Another Cabinet Minister, Mr. Vajpayee, recently said when he was in the States that the Government has decided not to nationalise TISCO. I do not know their system of working. As far as I am concerned, I am against nationalisation of TISCO because their performance is much better than the public sector plants. That is entirely a separate question. But I am surprised at this state of affairs. Every Cabinet Minister is making state ments on behalf of the Steel Ministry. Are they all in charge of this Ministry? This may be one of the reasons why the results are most unsatisfactory during the last two years. I will quote from your annual report \_\_\_\_\_

श्री बीजू पटनायक : सब ने तो पढ़ दिया उसको रिपीट करने से क्या फायदा ?

SHRI GI AN CHAND TOTU: You can reply when you get a chance. But I have a right to bring to the notice of the House your inefficiency and incompetence.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: It is my report. I have myself quoted it.

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU: In the previous year 1977-78, steel consumption showed a rise of about 10 per cent over the consumption in 1976-77. Buoyancy in demand continued during the current year and it is estimated on the basis of actual offtake so far that the consumption of steel will show an increase of 15.8 per cent over 1977-78. That was their forecast for 1979-80. At another place, they say that the loss of production of saleable steel attributable to these factors during the current year is estimated to be 650,000 tonnes. Despite these problems, however, production of saleable steel of all the integrated steel plants in the current year estimated at 6.56 million tonnes will be less than the production of 6.89 million tonnes during 1977-78. They have given the reasons. There are three reasons. The first reason is the ash content of the coal. But they have not given a single line as to what type of coal they were getting in the previous year or what was the difference in the quality of coal in the two years.

The second reason given is that they did not have sufficient power. On the other hand, the Janata Government in this very House claimed that there has been an increase of 30 per cent in power production in the last year. But here they say that there was power shortage. But, again, they do not say how much was the power supply in the previous year and what is the supply position this year.

The third reason or alibi or excuse they give is uneasy industrial relations. Sir, we have not heard of any large-scale unrest in any of these

integrated steel plants, and if there has been deterioration in industrial relations, then the Steel industry and their officials are responsible for it. It means, they are not able to manage properly. This is one aspect that they had been anticipating the increased requirements of the country.

Another aspect is their profits. As far as their profits are concerned, in 1976-77 the Bhilai Steel plant gave a profit of Rs. 49 crores. Sir, in the next year, when the present Janata Government came to power, the profits went down from Rs. 49 crores to Rs. 39 crores. Sir, there was a loss of Rs. 7 crores in Durgapur steel plant in 1976-77. That loss went up to Rs. 17 crores in 1977-78. Sir, another alibi put forward is about floods. This is entirely wrong. I can understand if the production of steel plants deteriorated after the monsoons came. Their rate of production went down even earlier than monsoons. I will request the Minister to give the figures to show that their production is affected by floods or by rains. Likewise, Sir, I do not want to enumerate each. In all, Sir, while there was a profit of Rs. 67 crores in 1976-77, that profit came down to Rs. 46 crores. This is as far as their performance is concerned. But I ask another question, Sir. About Rs. 1800 crores is invested in the steel plants. Sir, till today they have not given any equity, they have not given any return. There is a cumulative loss of Rs. 40 crores. Sir, the integrated steel plants perhaps came into being in 1961. There is one aspect: Why should these public sector units make profits? Sixty per cent of our population do not get two meals a day, they do not have enough clothes, they do not have enough shelters. You will see lakhs of people sleeping during the night on the streets in big towns. Sir, this money had been realised by the Government by way of taxes.

There is another view. At the moment, 80 per cent of our people are dependent on agriculture. Such a

[Shri Gian'Chand Totu]

large population cannot remain dependent on agriculture. Sir, if these huge public plants which have come up because of the sacrifices of the whole population, including this 60 per cent who do not get two meals a day, and another 20 per cent who lead a sub-human life, do not show profits, wherefrom the capital will come? Is the Government thinking of printing currency notes and increasing the inflation? I want to know, when these public sector units are not going to generate profits, from where the money will come, from where the resources will come, so that these 10 per cent or 20 per cent can be shifted from agriculture to industry? Sir, today vast areas of the country do not have basic amenities of life. They do not have drinking water, they do not have roads, they do not have power, and whenever any question is put to the Government, they say that there are constraints on finance. The day before yesterday, it was said that there has been an investment of Rs. 13,000 crores on public sector units. They were in a loss of Rs. 18 crores. Such huge amounts have been invested since 1958 or 1957. Twenty years have passed. They are still in losses. The alibi of recession is also wrong. In

1972-73 there was a shortage of steel.

3.00 P.M.

This is a cycle. Every four or five years, there is shortage or there is surplus in the steel industry. What is the reason? Why are our steel plants undergoing a loss of 40 crores of rupees? One should expect 10 per cent return from them. What is the reason? I will come to the steel policy a little later.

While I have drawn attention to this aspect, I would like to compliment the Minister of another aspects, that is, about the mini steel plants. This is a very good thing. Mini steel plants are required in this country. It is a fact that there is shortage of scrap and also there is shortage of power. But it is also a fact that while you require an investment of Rs. 5000

per ton for integrated steel plants, you require hardly an investment of Rs. 1000/- per ton for mini steel plants. In this connection, I would draw his attention to the fact that the mini steel plants produce alloy steel. It is rather unfortunate that in spite of the fact that we have been producing steel in this country for the last 20 years, there are large items of steel for which we have still to depend on foreign countries. Still we do not have the capacity in this country to make medium sophisticated what to talk of highly sophisticated steel. For producing better types of steel, mini steel plants require rolling facilities. I know that rolling facilities in the country are surplus! It is for the Minister to see if he wants the mini steel plants to produce alloy steel then he will have to give this facility to those mini steel plants where these re-rolling facilities do not exist.

So far as this shortage is concerned, it started coming in the newspapers that there was going to be a shortage of steel even in April 1978. Therefore, I would ask again why the export of steel was being allowed. Not only was export being allowed, but a subsidy of Rs. 300/- per ton was also being given. Last week, the hon. Minister took pride in saying that they have banned the export and the prices have come down. I want to know that if they can ban the export now, why they did not ban the export last year when paper after paper wrote that there was going to be a famine and that there was going to be shortage of steel. Already, the consumption was 10 per cent more in 1977-78. I learn from their report that they had also forecast that the consumption of steel in 1978-79 would go up by another 16 per cent. Therefore, I would ask him that if he can ban the exports now, why he did not ban the export last year.

My next point is that these integrated steel plants are running into losses and as I said, the complexion of our population requires that these steel plants and the public sector as such should gene-

rate something. My friend just now said that there has been a generation of black money to the extent of 200 crores of rupees during the last six months in the steel trade. How is it that while the private trade is making profit to the extent of 500 crores of rupees in six months, the steel plants are accumulating losses of Rs. 40 crores? I would say that their own policies are responsible for it. Last year, they ordered a new scheme for sales. The stock-yards had some steel which was not being sold. So they clubbed two types of steel together and stated that if a person wanted one type of steel, he would have to take the other type of steel also. The two types of steel were so clubbed that one was easily saleable and the other type was not saleable. Then this premium appeared in the market. It is their own policies which have brought the premium in the market, their own sale policies, Sir.

I am glad the Minister realises now the importance of steel plants and they are taking steps in that direction, though a friend of mine just now showed that the money at their disposal is not sufficient. He, of course, pleaded for more money but the Government of India does not have more money. The Planning Commission cannot print notes. Unless these public sector undertakings generate wealth, there cannot be more money. This is the only way by which money will come. I am glad that at least now they are paying attention in that direction. What was the position two years back of the Janata Government? They started by saying that India does not require heavy industries. The whole stress was laid on cottage industries and small scale industries. In the process, they forgot all the steel plants, they forgot all the programmes. I would therefore say that the present position has arisen because of lack of farsightedness on their part, because of lack of planning on their part, as a result of wrong policies of production as well as of sale. The reasons advanced by the Ministry for less production are

excuses or alibi. There is something wrong with them. Either there is too much of control of the Ministry over the steel plants or the steel plants are too independent. I do not have the time to go into that question. But there is something seriously wrong with their practices, with their schemes. I do not agree with the proposition that we do not have capable managers. We do have capable managers in the steel industry. But there is something wrong either in the working of the Ministry or somewhere else with the result that they have not been able to show results. As my another friend has stated, compare the figures of production of steel by China with ours. Well, we pride ; that we are the sixth largest engineering country in the world and that we have the eighth largest number of skilled engineers in this country. But we put forward small excuses and small alibis, such as, this power is not there. Sir, whosoever cannot show results, just like an artisan, would blame always his tools and that is exactly what is happening in the Steel Ministry. All the three reasons advanced by them do not stand because their own Government has said that there has been 30 per cent more generation of power. The coal which they are getting now is not different from the one which was given to them in 1975-76 and 1976-77 and their own Ministry had forecasted a ten per cent increase in production on the basis of that very coal. Why did they estimate 10 per cent more production? Why did they estimate an increase in production this year and the next year when their coal is bad? They knew what type of ash content is there. Why did they estimate 10 per cent more production and why could not they reach even the level of last year?

I do not want to enter into any arguments. Nor did my speech have any kind of political overtones.- I would again request the Minister not to take shelter behind these arguments but say something which would improve the working of this Ministry.

**श्री जगदीश जोशी (मध्य प्रदेश) :** उपसभापति जी, पिछले दिनों जो बड़े फौलाद के कारखानों में पैदावार की कमी हुई है, आनुपातिक दृष्टि से पिछले सालों के मुकाबले, उस के बावत काफी जोरशोर से कहा गया है। उस में कुछ सच्चाई है लेकिन कुछ ऐतिहासिक स्थितियाँ भी हैं। इस बात को देखने के लिये देश काल की स्थितियाँ जो किसी चीज का संभालन करती हैं उन पर भी गौर करना जरूरी है। 1975-76, 1976-77 की जो राष्ट्रीय स्थिति थी 1977-78 और 1978-79 की बीच राष्ट्रीय स्थिति उस से भिन्न हो गई और उन सालों की परिस्थिति से इन सालों की परिस्थिति का मुकाबला करना बहुत न्यायसंगत, कम से कम उत्पादन के मामले में नहीं होगा। उस प्रकार की विशेष परिस्थितियाँ अगर बीजू पटनायक जी की क्षमता वाले व्यक्ति के पास आ जाएं तो शायद जो पैदावार 1976-77, 1975-76 में हुई उस की पांच गुना अधिक पैदावार वे कर सकते थे। मैं उस के ज्यादा विवाद में नहीं जाऊंगा। इतना जरूर कहूंगा कि माननीय इस्पात मंत्री जी इस मामले में जरूर बधाई के पात्र हैं। उन्होंने अपनी नीतियों के अनुसार मिनी स्टील प्लांट जो लघु उद्योग की श्रेणी में आते हैं उन के विकास में उनकी मोनिटरिंग में जोड़ दिया और उन की मोनिटरिंग में जोड़ देने का धनर यह हुआ कि मिनी स्टील प्लांट की पैदावार जो इंटिग्रेट स्टील प्लांटों से पैदावार में कमी आई थी उस को उन्होंने पूरा किया। मेरा कहने का मतलब यह नहीं कि बड़ी स्टील मिलों की पैदावार को बढ़ाना नहीं चाहिए। मैं मुस्तकिल तौर पर इस राय का हूँ कि बड़े स्टील प्लांट्स के इंतजाम में जहाँ जहाँ नुक्स है उन को दुरुस्त किया जाना जरूरी है। कुछ बहुत पुराने ढर्रे की मशीनें हैं। कुछ पुराने ढर्रे की टैक्नालाजी है और कुछ बहुत पुरानी मशीनें हैं जो आज के आधुनिकीकरण के जमाने में इतनी पैदावार दे रही हैं जो कि अपनी क्षमता से अधिक है। भिलाई स्टील प्लांट की जो मशीनें हैं वह काफी पुरानी हैं और बहुत पुराने जमाने की हैं। यह रूस से आई थी। यह हमारे यहाँ पहला फौलाद का कारखाना था। रूस ने भी शायद कई साल पुरानी मशीन मुधार कर के दे दी होगी, वह मशीन अपने यहाँ चोचक हालत में आज भी काम कर रही हैं। मैं इस बात पर जो लोग इस्पात में काम कर रहे हैं उन को मुबारकवाद देना चाहता हूँ जो पुरानी टैक्नालाजी से भी दुनिया में आज नये इस्पात और आधुनिक कारखानों का तकनीक है उस तकनीक का मुकाबला करने की चेष्टा कर रहे हैं जब कि मही मायनों में उन का मुकाबला करने की क्षमता होनी नहीं चाहिये। आज जापान या हुनिया के दूसरे देशों में जो नयी नयी स्टील मिलें बनी हैं उन में बहुत अधिक मजदूर नहीं लगते हैं। सारा काम आटोमेटिक है। हमारे यहाँ के स्टील प्लांट्स में 10, 20, 30 या 50 हजार आदमी काम करते हैं। हमारे यहाँ के कारखाने आदमियों को काम देने की गर्ज से नहीं उन्हें सारी सुविधाएँ देने की गर्ज से है। पैदावार होती है या नहीं होती है, यह हमारा लक्ष्य नहीं रहा। इस चीज को सामने रखते हुए पैदावार और लोगों को रोजगार दोनों को जोड़ कर के एक नयी तकनीक को हिन्दुस्तान को विकसित करना पड़ेगा जिसे फौलाद में काम में लाना पड़ेगा : मैं चाहता हूँ जो नये फौलाद के कारखाने मंत्री जी लगाने जा रहे हैं चाहे बिशाखापत्तनम में, विजयनगर में, सेलम में, पैरादीप

में हो या और कहीं हों वे केवल आधुनिक या केवल जापान वाली तकनीक न रखें। उस के साथ हिन्दुस्तानी तकनीक को भी जोड़ना पड़ेगा। बिना दोनों का जोड़े हुए अगर केवल एक तकनीक के सहारे रहेंगे तो न हमारे यहाँ स्टील की पैदावार हो सकेगी और न हम अपने उद्देश्य की पूर्ति कर सकेंगे। मोटे तौर पर जितना फौलाद हम बाहर से मंगवा रहे हैं, जो विशेष फौलाद मंगा रहे हैं ऐसे विशेष फौलाद का इस्तेमाल कम है। इसलिए हमारे स्टील प्लांट बना नहीं सकते। मेरा सवाल है कि सारे जो विशेष लोह जैसे हाई कार्बन स्टील, कार्बन स्टील और जलीय स्टील उन की मिनी स्टील प्लांट के दायरे में बांट दें। जैसे बहुत से ऐसे फौलाद हैं जो खास तौर पर फौजी बखतरबन्द गाड़ियों में लगते हैं, वे आप को इम्पोर्ट करने पड़ते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि डिफेंस मिनिस्ट्री के हर कारखाने को एक मिनी स्टील प्लांट के साथ जोड़ देना चाहिए जो कि इन कारखानों की सारी स्पेसिफिकेशंस के अनुसार स्टील तैयार करे तो हमारी फौजों को जो विशेष प्रकार का लोहा बाहर से मंगाने का आश्रय है, अब सम्भन है वह नहीं रह जायगा। इसी प्रकार से कई हमारे सोफिस्टिकेटेड कारखाने हैं जिन में विशेष प्रकार का लोहा लगता है। उन कारखानों को जो जरूरत है या उन कारखानों को जहाँ जहाँ जरूरत है उन के उपयोग के लिए हर वर्ष सेल या ग्रान्थ संस्थाओं के जरिये हम बहुत सा लोहा बाहर से आयात करते हैं। अगर सेल जो भारत सरकार का है या इस्पात मंत्रालय इस को नियोजित कर ले कि कितने हमारे इस प्रकार के विशेष धातुओं के ग्राहक हैं उन के निर्माण की जो टेक्नालाजी है, उन पर आधारित उद्योगों को मिनी स्टील प्लांट के साथ जोड़ देना है। जिस से एक समय ऐसा आये जब कि हमारे कारखाने या हमारे भविष्य की प्रगति किसी दूसरे पर आश्रित नहीं रहे। मैं इस बात पर सहमत हूँ जैसा श्री राजू ने कहा कि हमें अपने फौलाद के कारखानों को तारापुर नहीं बनने देना चाहिये कि हम स्टील विदेशों से आयातित कोकिंग कोल पर मुनहसिर रख कर निमित्त करें, उस का सारा विस्तार करें। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह दरअसल एक र तरनाक स्थिति हो गई है। हमें अपने रिसर्च और डेवलपमेंट विभाग के जरिये ऐसी तकनीक को खोजने की चेष्टा करनी चाहिये कि जिस से जिस प्रकार का कोयला हमारे देश में उपलब्ध है उस का अधिकतम हम बढ़िया से बढ़िया इस्तेमाल कर सकें। इस पर मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। माननीय इस्पात मंत्री जी इस देश के उस प्रदेश से आते हैं जहाँ आज से सैंकड़ों साल पहले बहुत ऊँचे किस्म का लोहा बनने की कला विकसित हो चुकी थी। कलिंग से यह कला विकसित हो चुकी थी। कोणार्क के सूर्य मन्दिर के पास लोहे के बड़े बड़े जहतीर पड़े हुए हैं जिन पर निरन्तर सालों से समुद्र की हवाएँ पड़ती हैं परन्तु उन पर कहीं का रेशा नहीं है। और फर्ना लीजिए आज लकड़ी की इतनी बड़ी जहतीरें नहीं मिल सकती हैं, सीमेंट की इतनी ऊँची चौड़ी जहतीरें डालना मुश्किल है जितनी वहाँ लोहे की मिली ट। आज पुरी के मन्दिर जगन्नाथ के जहतीरों को इंजीनियर देखे कि वे आखिर किचे चीज से बनाये गये हैं। अगर कलिंग के मन्दिरों को बनाने वाले पुराने लोग, उस समय के फौलाद का इस्तेमाल करनेवाले लोग आ स्ट्रेलिया से कोकिंग कोल मंगाते तो शायद इतने बढ़िया फौलाद का जहतीर नहीं

पाता। इसलिए इस में कोई न कोई तकनीक इस देश में रही होगी। यह कोई अलम्य चीज नहीं है। आखिर हम उस तकनीक के विकास की चंष्टा क्यों नहीं करते हैं। क्या यह जरूरी है कि हम हर चीज पर परमुखापेक्षा रहे। यह बड़े जोर शोर से कहा जाता है कि दुनिया के बहुत अच्छे इंजीनियर्स हमारे पास हैं। हैं, लेकिन अधिकांश हम लोग परमुखापेक्षा हैं। दुनिया में जसी भी तकनीक आ गयी हो हम उस का प्रोटो टाईप बना सकते हैं, में समझता हूँ यह अच्छी चीज है। जो चीज अच्छी है वह ग्रहण करना चाहिये। लेकिन ज्ञान का जो मापदण्ड है, विस्तार है मार्ग है वह बहुत लम्बा चौड़ा है और उस में निर्भय हो कर कुछ लोगों को चलना चाहिये। मैं समझता हूँ कि अगर फोलाद मंत्रालय प्लानिंग कमिशन से संपर्क करके कुछ सौ करोड़ रुपये अपने इस रिमचं डेवलपमेंट विभाग को दे, विशेष इसी प्रयोजन के लिये तो न केवल वह देश की रक्षा करेगा वरन् दुनिया के विज्ञान के इतिहास में एक नया अध्याय जोड़ेगा। ये जरूरी है और खास तौर से जब उन के सामने एक जरिया है। कोई विकसित देश जैसे अमेरिका कहता है कि हम न यह नयी चीज बनायें हैं। लेकिन उस की सभ्यता पुरानी नहीं है। आप की पुरानी सभ्यता रही है। बहुत चीजें आप सीख सकते हैं लेकिन सीखना नहीं चाहते हैं। मैं इसलिये यह कह रहा था कि यह सारी जो तकनीक है उस तकनीक को एक नया मोड़ देने की जरूरत है। आज स्थिति यह है कि हम एक विडम्बनात्मक स्थिति में हैं, न पूरा विकास कर पा रहे हैं और न दूसरों के मुकाबले खड़े हो पा रहे हैं। इसी दौरान एक बहस और शुरू हुई। जिस बहस का जिक्र अभी कुछ लोगों ने किया। मंत्री जी ने कुछ दिन पहले टिस्को के लेने की बात की, अच्छी बात होती अगर उस को ले लिया जाता। लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि जब आप को उस को नहीं लेना है और सरकार ने अभी कोई निर्णय नहीं किया है तो उस की शोहरत करने से कोई लाभ नहीं होता है उल्टे हानि होती है. . . . (Interruption) जिस समय राष्ट्रीयकरण करना होता है एक रात को आर्डिनेंस निकलता है और आर्डिनेंस निकाल कर कारखाना ले लिया जाता है ताकि उस कारखाने के मालिक को यह भुक्त न लग सके जिस से कि वह हिसाब किताब में गोल माल न कर सके और मशीन तथा पुर्जों को भुगत भुगत न ले जा सके। यह राष्ट्रीयकरण की एक तकनीक होती है। लेकिन अगर पहले से शोर मच जायगा तो बहुत से लोग, यह बड़े चतुर लोग हैं, यह तो सरकारी पैसे पर राज्य कर रहे हैं। 70-80 प्रतिशत सरकार का पैसा लगा है सारे आज जितने देश के बड़े-बड़े निजी क्षेत्रों में कारखाने हैं, कोई टिस्को या एक दो कारखानों की बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ, जितने बड़े-बड़े कारखाने हैं उनमें साठ प्रतिशत से कम किसी में पैसा लगा ही नहीं है। भारत सरकार की विभिन्न जितनी भी आर्थिक संस्थाएं हैं, उनका पैसा और ऋण उनमें लगी हुई है और मृनाफा सेठ जी का है, मालिक सेठ जी हैं।

असल में उन सारे बड़े-बड़े उद्योगों, जिनमें साठ प्रतिशत से ऊपर पैसा सरकार का लगा हुआ है, टेक्स-पेयर का लगा हुआ है, उनको एक रात में अध्यादेश निकाल कर भारत सरकार की अधिग्रहण कर लेना चाहिये चाहे उसमें आप मैनेजर उनमें से ले

लें या कहीं से ले लें, उनमें आप कोई भेद-विभेद न करें कि यह टाटा है, गोडका है या बिडला का है। सबको एक साथ ले लेना चाहिये। तब तो इन्टे-ग्रेटेड नीति होगी, तब व्यापक नीति होगी और उस नीति के सहारे पूरे देश की जनता में एक नया विश्वास पैदा करते हैं। मैं एक की बात नहीं कह रहा हूँ, आइसोलेटेड एक्ट से कोई फायदा नहीं होता है। जब तक आप सामूहिक तौर पर परिवर्तन न करें, मैं यह कह रहा था कि उससे कहीं-कहीं हानि हो जाती है क्योंकि वे लोग सचेत हो जाते हैं और सचेत हो करके अपनी बंदिशें लगा करके अपनी पैदावार गिरा करके या अपनी मशीन-गुज्र खसकाने के लिए दूसरी तरफ के हिसाब बनाने के पच्चीसों हथकंडे अपनाए रहते हैं और जब कभी आप लेंगे, तो वह चीज न मिल पायेगी जो आज उनके पास है।

इसके साथ-साथ जहां तक खदान मंत्रालय का मामला है, उस पर मैं दो शब्द और कहना चाहूंगा। अलौह धातुओं का भी संकट है पिछले दिनों एल्यूमीनियम को भी हम बाहर से मंगवाना पड़ा जबकि इस देश में जायद दुनिया में सबसे अधिक न हो, लेकिन अधिकतर भंडार बाक्साइट के यहां हैं। हर राज्यों में है, उड़ीसा के कोस्टल एरिया में है, मध्य प्रदेश में है और आन्ध्र में है। कई राज्यों में लगातार बाक्साइट बिखरा हुआ है, पहाड़ के पहाड़ बाक्साइट के हैं और उनके विकास के लिए कोई न कोई तकनीक का निकाला जाना जरूरी है। एल्यूमीनियम के निर्माण के लिये बिजली एक आवश्यक कच्चा माल है। लेकिन अलमूना अगर हम बनाते हैं, तो उसको बनाने के लिये बिजली कच्चा माल नहीं है। अलमूना बनाने में उतनी बिजली खर्च नहीं होती जितनी कि एल्यूमीनियम बनाने में खर्च होती है। तो जिन हिस्सों में बिजली की कमी है, वहां अलमूने का प्लांट खदानों के पास लगावे और जहां बिजली है वहां अलमूना भेज करके एल्यूमीनियम बना सकते हैं।

उसके साथ-साथ लोहे के काम में एक और बात मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि स्पांज आयरन ही हमारे लिये मिनि-स्टील प्लांट के लिये कच्चा माल है। स्पांज आयरन के सिलसिले में आज तक दुनिया में जो तकनीक निकली है वह यह है कि प्राकृतिक गैस के माध्यम से ही स्पांज आयरन बना करता है। प्राकृतिक गैस या तो असम में है या बम्बई हाई में है। जहां तक मेरी जानकारी है और जैसा मैंने अपनी आंख से देखा है, असम में पचासों कुओं के ऊपर गैस जला दी जा रही है। वह क्षितिज में जाकर राख हो रही है। उस गैस का क्या हम इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकते? गैस का लाना तो मुश्किल पड़ेगा। लेकिन अगर हम रेल से अपने यहां के जो धाऊ हैं, उनको ले जाकर वहां असम में प्लांट बना दें, तो क्या तकलीफ होगी? आखिर स्ट्रैप तो विदेशों से, अमरीका से, यूरोप से मंगवाते हैं। स्ट्रैप विदेशों से आता है, फिर रेल के जरिये अलग-अलग स्टील प्लांटों को बंटता है। इसके बजाय अगर हमारा धाऊ जायगा एक पूरी रेल-गाड़ी में और उसी में बतकर स्पांज आयरन बनकर चला जायगा तो उसका वितरण बराबर स्टील प्लांट को होता रहेगा। असम को भी एक अच्छा कारखाना मिल जायगा।



[श्री जगदीश जोशी]

मैं यह इसलिये कह रहा था कि गैस, कच्चा माल, नैचुरल गैस तो वहाँ से लाई नहीं जा सकती है। इस प्रकार बम्बई हाई में जो गैस समुद्र के बीच में जलाई जा रही है उसकी बावत यह जरूरी था कि अगर वह गैस डाईवर्ट हो गोष्ठा के किनारे पर तो गोष्ठा में स्पांज आयरन बनाने का आपका कारखाना बन सकता था और वहाँ से स्पांज आयरन लाकर के आप अपने मिनि स्टील प्लांट को दे सकते हैं जिसके लिए कि आपको विदेशों से स्क्रैप खरीदना पड़ता है। उसमें आपको बचत भी होगी। कुछ विदेशी मुद्रा बचती, थोड़ा सा कच्चा माल महंगा पड़ता। आज भी स्क्रैप कोई सस्ता नहीं पड़ रहा है।

इसके साथ एक चीज के बारे में और कहना है। हमारा गरीब देश है, पुराना देश है और बहुत सालों तक, शताब्दियों तक आगे चलने की इच्छा, महत्वाकांक्षा, जिम्बर पर बैठने की आशा रहती है। आज अगर हम सारा कच्चा माल विदेशों को बे-मतलब बेचते चले जाएं तो ठन-ठन गोपाल हो जायेंगे। दुनिया के सभ्य देश आज अपने यहाँ का कच्चा माल बेचने में अधिक कजूस हैं, अपना बना हुआ माल बेचने में सदाय हैं। इस बात को ध्यान में रखना होगा—उड़ीसा का आइरन और चला जा रहा है, बेलाडिला का आइरन और चला जा रहा है। जापान करोड़ों घरों रुपये कमा रहा है। हम उस का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। आज जो हम कर रहे हैं, आने वाली पीढ़ी, आने वाली शताब्दी हमें इस अभिशाप के लिए क्षमा नहीं करने जा रही है।

उपसभापति महोदय, हम अपने यहाँ की कीमती धातुओं की कौड़ियों के मोल पर लूटा रहे हैं। जरूरत इस बात की है कि चाहे पूरे देश से कर्जा मांगना पड़े लेकिन आप फौलाद के कारखाने डालिए, राज्य सरकारों को साझीदार बनाइए। अगर राज्य सरकारें भी नहीं आती हैं, आप ग्राम पंचायतों को साझीदार बनाइए, इस देश की जनता के सामने भीख मांगिए, आपको प्रसाद मिलेगा, आप एक फौलाद का कारखाना नहीं, आप 10 फौलाद के कारखाने बना सकते हैं, मैं आपको आशा में रोके रखना नहीं चाहता हूँ। मैं जानता हूँ, आपके अन्दर क्षमता है। अगर 11 साल में पिछली सरकार चार-पाँच स्टील प्लांट नहीं चला सकी तो आप चार-पाँच साल में 11 स्टील प्लांट लगाने की क्षमता रख सकते हैं। आप में है क्षमता लेकिन आज आप साहस नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। आप साहस करिए, इस देश की जनता आपसे साथ रहेगी। एक बार जनता का सहयोग इस देश के बुनियादी उद्योग को बनाने में लीजिए, यह जरूरी है। अगर आप फौलाद को अपने यहाँ बना लेते हैं तो यह एक बड़ी उपलब्धि होगी। गेहूँ के मामले में देश बहुत आगे बढ़ा है, लोहे के मामले में हम आगे नहीं बढ़ पा रहे हैं। दुनिया में किसी देश की ताकत

मानी जाती है गेहूँ और फौलाद से, गेहूँ और फौलाद जिस देश के पास है, वही दुनिया का ताकतवर देश है। इसलिए मेरा नम्र निवेदन है कि फौलाद की पैदावार को सुनियोजित विकास कर के बढ़ाने के लिए आप इस देश के कच्चे मालों का निर्यात बन्द करवाइए। उसकी जगह पर आपको तकनीकी जानकारी लेनी पड़े, अपने यहाँ उद्योग विकसित करने के लिए, और कारखाने लगाने के लिए आपको जन-जन से पैसा भी लेना पड़े तो उसमें किसी को हिचक नहीं होगी लेकिन आप कारखाने लगाइए, आप अपने अन्दर जो सोई हुई प्रतिभा और शक्ति है उसका अन्दाजा करिए, उसकी आवाज को सुनिए और आने वाली पीढ़ियों की आवाज जो आपके कान में टकरा रही होगी उस को सुनिए और एक बार इस फौलाद के कारखाने की हालत जो बिगड़ रही है उसको पुनरुद्धार कर देश को ताकत की चोटी पर आप खड़ा कीजिए।

SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY (Pondicherry) : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, let me also share my views with other on the working of the Ministry of Steel and Mines. One important aspect which I would like to point out here is that the position of steel production and supply was sound before the hon. Minister, Shri Patnaik, took charge of his portfolio. During the last two years, we see a disturbing decline in production. We see not only an acute shortage of steel supplies but we are also draining our foreign exchange reserves by large scale import of steel. Import of steel should cause serious concern to all.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (Shri Arvind Ganesh Kulkarni in the Chair) due to lack of dynamism and farsight during the last two years to increase self-reliance, the steel industry which was built on a sound base has been allowed to go into the doldrums, setting at naught ?ili our hopes for developing this vital industry on which a host of other industries depend and which is the life line for the rapid economic development of our country. In Tamil we have a proverb\*—"Once initially wrong eternally wrong." It is a matter for serious consideration by all those who are interested in the development of our country, whether the shifts and changes in the policy regarding steel during the last two

years, contribute genuinely towards the development of the industry to meet the formidable challenge posed by our economy.

Sir, an analysis of the staffing of the Ministry reveals that a certain number of high-ranking officers have managed to secure high positions with high emoluments, whereas no attention has been given to encourage officers from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. In the Ministry of Steel there are only 12 persons from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes occupying responsible positions as against the total complement of 138. The same position obtains in the Ministry of Mines. Out of 2,493 officers only 122 hail from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Is this an illustration of the much-boasted profession of the Janata Party to give adequate representation to members from the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes?

Sir, while the economy cries for intensive development of steel and mines, we see the strange spectacle of the Ministry using a big chunk of its resources for the development of Hindi. What is the compelling necessity of fostering one language at the expense of others and frittering away valuable time and resources?

A glaring example of neglect is the non-utilisation of an outlay of Rs. 2 crores of the United National Development programme for the survey and development of mines in Madhya Pradesh which was decided before the present Government came to power. That programme is in suspended animation. The manager of that project is said to have been transferred to Hyderabad two years back. A mining expert from France, Dr. Michael Atgar, is said to have been appointed but he is merely cooling his heels and is uncertain as to what to do.

At the same time there is a raging competition among the Indian Bureau of mines, the Hindustan Zinc, the Bharat Aluminium, etc as to how

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Hindi can be propagated more intensively and extensively, promising attractive rewards to those who can acquire proficiency in Hindi. Can there be a more shameful disregard of sense of priorities?

There is a Tamil adage "The little God became the biggest." The primary effort seems to me to be the enthronement of the Hindi language. In all the Ministries of the Janata Government, perhaps, the most efficient instruments are the Official Language Implementation Committee and the Hindi Salahkar Samiti. This Department has gone a step further by appointing one more committee and spending some more money from the Public Exchequer through this channel. I strongly deprecate such waste of public money. Let us not blind our eyes to the fact that English continues to be one of the link languages. Why should English get a stepmotherly treatment?

The present Government has shown an absolutely distorted sense of priorities. When the Government took charge, they took charge of an economy which was not only stable and sound but provided a strong platform for the take-off of the economy for bigger leaps to prosperity by dynamic, dedicated and far-reaching decisions. But what do we see? Our steel production has hardly been placed in a stage of meeting even our current requirements, not to speak of the increasing demand in the coming years. There is no foresight. There is no perspective. The foreign exchange reserves which have been carefully built up at such sacrifice are being thrown away. It is no excuse to say that demands have increased and that floods have caused ravages. Even ordinary managers will function with an eye on the future of the rising demands, but the Janata super managers seem to be without any sense of realism. They are more interested in finding scapegoats for their own inefficiency and lack of vision. They allow themselves to be subjected to different pulls and pressures but they

[Shri V. P. Munusamy]

miss one central point, the point as to how our steel and mining output can be geared to meet not only the current needs but the rising demands.

I hear that the Janata Party itself at its meeting on 12-4-1979 severely castigated the Minister on the inept steel policy for the fall in steel output, non-availability of supplies and the recent hike in prices which had pushed up prices still further. Sir, I am mentioning this not to show my satisfaction that the ruling party itself is at loggerheads within itself. (Time bell rings) Only two minutes, Sir.

Valuable time is being lost. Valuable resources are thrown away. The decline in steel production poses a great peril. It is high time for all the right-thinking people to wake up and arrest this dangerous trend towards defeatism and destruction of our fondest dreams of removal of backwardness of our beloved country. I "fcrust that the Minister is aware of the growing stranglehold of blackmarket-ing in steel. I cannot believe that he is not aware of the ramifications of this pernicious phenomenon. Perhaps he is the one Minister who can reduce the dimensions of this evil, if he wants to. I implore him to arrest black-marketing so that the unscrupulous elements do not continue to prey on the poor public with impunity.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): You have to conclude now.

SHRI V. P. MUNUSAMY: It is kigh time that the Minister gave a close look to improve profitable working of our enterprises. I am sure he can do it if he wants to do so.

Finally I would like to refer to the statement of Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister of U.K.

"I am not a consensus politician of a pragmatic politician but a conviction politician."

Let our super managers at the top also become conviction politicians with the conviction that the public sector should really attain the commanding heights of our economy. Thank your.

DR. MALCOLM S. ADISESHIAH (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman. May I preface my remark by saying that the two reports, the report of the Department of Steel and Mines and the report on the performance Budget aree very readable documents? And I thank the Minister and the Ministry for this good and frank appraisal and forecast of the working of the Departments.

I think, he knows with his long experience that in any review whether it be at the national or the international levels, we concentrate on the problem areas and take as granted whatever ls positive and good. And I follow the tradition. I have four broad areas with which I would like to deal briefly. Mr. Vice-Chairman, the first is the area, what I call, "perspective." My hon. friends, Mr. Surendra Mohanty and also I think my other colleagues here have already called attention to the fact that India and China Started at about the same level of steel production in 1948-49 at around 1 million tonnes Now, after 30 years China is producing between 40 to 45 million tonnes, varying with certain annual fluctuations. But we are producing between 6.5 and 7 million tonnes in terms of saleable steel and about 9.6 or 10 million tonnes in terms of ingots, if we take this into account the production of mini-steel plants also. In other words, on this first perspective, I want to say that there is something in the Chinese production pattern which has led them to increase their production by five to six times more as compared to India. I believe this is one area—the other area, according to me, is education—where we have probably much to learn from China, by visits to China, by learning their production pattern and structure, as we are learning from Japan, West Germany and the United States. That is my first point. As our relations get normalised, I

would request the Minister to explore the possibility of arranging for an exchange of our production patterns in of our experiences, our technologies order that we may follow a little more closely their break throughs in China.

The second perspective that I want to call attention to is a puzzle. In all steel-producing countries there is a close relationship between the rate of growth of steel production and the rate of growth of industrial production and of the economy in general. Roughly somewhere between 40 and 50 per cent is the ratio of this relationship. Now, I must say, Mr. Vice-Chairman, that when I study the Indian picture I see no relationship between the growth or lack of growth of the steel industry and industrial growth or economic growth. As the Minister knows, during his Ministership there was a slight fall. In the first year, 1977-78, the fall was around 1 per cent, and last year, 1978-79, the Report says that the decline is somewhere around 5 per cent whereas in both the years you have a small increase in industrial production. In the year before last, it was 4 per cent and this year it is double 8 per cent. And similar figures are available for the overall economic growth from the Economy Survey. I am really puzzled about the lack of relationship between the performance of the steel industry—growth or lack of growth—and the performance of the industry or the economy in general. The demand for steel has risen. In 1977-78 there was a 10 per cent rise, and in 1978-79 there was a 15.8 per cent rise. And he expects a rise of up to 20 per cent in the coming year is forecast. There has not been in the two years of his Ministership, an increase in supply. So, there were only these two sources to explain the increased availability Mini-steel plant production and imports. Whether this is a disturbing element, I cannot say because in other steel producing countries these two elements do not exist to this extent.

The third perspective that I want to call attention to was referred to by

my colleague here on the left. That is after 30 years of our independence, it is a matter of great regret that the export of our primary raw material, iron ore, should be at least 50 per cent more than the internal consumption. You have not really moved in the direction of value added exports. I am looking at it purely from the economic point of view, not from the nationalistic point of view. I think that the efforts being made by the Minister in the development of sponge iron, in developing pelletisation need to be pushed forward in order that this imbalance in our perspective might be corrected.

Lastly, under the perspective, the fourth point that I wish to make is with regard to the pricing and distribution policy. I think the Report here speaks about the change that has taken place in the pricing and distribution. It is a change for the better and I would associate myself with it. But I think he should know—probably he knows—that there are two steel markets: there is the official market and there is the unofficial market, or what is called the black market. And most small-scale producers who have not got access to the stockyards of the SAIL, have to meet their demand by access to the black market. With regard to small scale producers I am very glad that the report makes an important statement about the unsatisfactory nature. "It is, however, necessary."—I am quoting—"for the SSICs to gear themselves to a high levels of performance by strengthening their distribution networks and their service facilities to the small scale units while simultaneously streamlining their operations with a view to cutting costs." I think this is a very moderate statement, an understatement really. I must say that looking through the point of view of my State there is considerable room for improvement the way the Small Scale Industries Corporations in the States are handling this very important input for the economy and for small scale industries.

The second major area that I want to touch upon briefly is the very good

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performance in 1978-79 in regard to the private sector. I think the performance of 60 per cent increase by the mini steel sector is heartwarming and it makes up for the decline in the public sector to some extent. Its employment generation capacity needs to be underlined very heavily because steel constitutes heavy industry, very heavy capital intensive industry and we do not look upon it for employment generation. It is this area of steel industry that we would look up to for employment generation. Therefore, I think there is good suggestion about continued Government effort to consolidate and expand the ministeel industry in the interests of meeting the steel demands of the country and the employment demand, and this should be pushed forward.

The next satisfactory area is the private sector TISCO—Tata Iron & Steel Company—where the report refers to 90 per cent capacity utilisation. That is only true of the ingot capacity of that plant. When we turn to the saleable steel capacity we find that the increased capacity use was 105 to 115. I want to tell the Minister purely from the economic point of view, from the point of view of management of the ability to influence prices, from the point of view of controlling the supplies and so on, I regard nationalisation of TISCO as a non-issue. I think the issue will come up when the Government has an overall policy with regard to ownership of private assets. Then this question comes up. But as it stands today, as things stand today, in relation to facts set forth in this report, the question of nationalisation of TISCO purely from the economic point of view is a non-issue.

Then I refer the public sector where I would say two things very quickly. Bhilai and Rourkela—I think Bokaro is joining that group—are performing well at 90 per cent capacity use. Bhilai and Rourkela have themselves

generated Rs. 230 crores of profits over the years whereas Durgapur and TISCO are all loss-making units operating at 60 per cent capacity and their accumulated losses are over Rs. 300 crores. I think that the Minister is very well aware of this, their management problem and all that. Looking at the performance of Durgapur and TISCO it looks as if they will continue to be loss-making units in the coming years. Therefore, these plans for expansion and modernisation of Bhilai, Rourkela and Bokaro are the only means by which these loss-making units can be, to some extent, compensated.

The other point on the public sector that I wish to make is that for one, again from the economic point of view, regret the decision to turn Salem from an integrated special stainless steel making plant to one which will be responsible for coil rolling only. I think page 76 of the report gives the reason, the economic reason, that the best of way of making use of the facilities in Durgapur, the facilities in Bokaro and the facilities in Salem, would be to use these three as an integrated unit. Then only you can double the amount of saleable steel that can be rolled at Salem as a result of using the hot-rolling facilities at Durgapur and Bokaro. I want to say to the Minister that this three-stage operation is going to involve much more cost and much more delays. I am very-much afraid that the kind of outlook you have in terms of production of the integrated plant at Salem is very much a question mark in my opinion. Salem will have to follow production and work the schedules of the two other plant\*—Durgapur and Bokaro. It will have to follow the industrial relations scenery of these plants. Therefore I regret very much this integrated approach. I hope my fears do not come true. In three years or four years we will know whether it is possible through this kind of national approach which is proposed here to double the stainless steel production-

My last area is with regard to the metal division and here I deal with the iron-ferrous metals. I want to ask the Minister whether he has considered the question of copper. I think we have got the poorest of ores in the world in terms of copper which ranges from 0.77 per cent in the case of Maharashtra ores to 2 per cent in Rajasthan ores which, if I am not mistaken, is the highest. Is that so? This is what the report says. I am quoting from the report. I think the operating results, therefore, are not surprising. There are continuous losses in this field. In 1975-76 the loss was Rs. 2 crores. In 1977-78 the loss was about Rs. 31 crores and last year it was about Rs. 10 crores. My only question is whether in this case we should not import rather than continuing with, what I would call, the defective import substitution programme.

I see that in the area of zinc the picture is good. We are able to meet 75 per cent of our demands. I would request the Minister to encourage the expansion programme.

Finally, with regard to aluminium. In this area the reserves are still not completely mapped. The year before last some new reserves opened up for us. It is an essential part of our development programme. Yesterday we were dealing with the Energy Ministry where we had the same situation. Power is a major input in the economy of our country. And power input is very essential for the aluminium industry. This is not being realised in all departments of Government. The aluminium industry starts with power. Surely aluminium input is equally essential for power industry. Take the question of transmission. We talk of transmission losses of about 20 per cent. I think if the aluminium industry develops, it would be a major input for the power industry and, therefore, I hope very much that there would be a closer understanding of the Government's decision on aluminium and they would make power available to this

industry so that our very heavy dependence of about 40,000 to 50,000 tonnes of import of this input will cease. I agree with the Government's declaration in the report that aluminium is the metal of the future. This industry should, therefore, be given all the attention. Thank you.

SHRI L. R. NAIK (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak and to make certain observations on the working of the Ministry of Steel, Government of India. While doing so, I am quite aware of my own personal limitations. However, as I have some experience of this industry, not only as an administrator but perhaps also as a social worker, it would be possible for me to make certain observations which, I hope, the hon. Minister will weigh and take into consideration and see what best could be done to make certain improvements in the working of the Ministry.

Now, Sir, at the outset, I must say what raw materials are necessary to make steel or produce steel. It is a well recognized matter that for producing a tonne of pig iron, what is required is one and a half tonne of iron ore, one tonne of coking coal and half a tonne of other articles like limestone, dolomite and all that. It would be very clear that for locating a steel industry, whether it is integrated or otherwise, it should be at a place where iron ore is available in plenty. It is perhaps from this point of view, we find for the first time, that this was located in the area where most of these raw materials are available, and that also speaks for its success over the last hundred years... 1. Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Sixty years.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: Sixty years: I am sorry. It also speaks of the establishment of TISCO on the same principles. But what happened after the War and also soon after the

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Independence, is not a very satisfactory state of things. Some of the basic principles that are to be taken into consideration for locating the steel industry have come to be overlooked because of provincialism, parochialism and also politics. We find, after the War, Mr. Dalai was appointed as Chairman of the Planning Commission and he appointed a committee to report as to where these steel plants should be located, and accordingly the committee reported that these should be in Madhya Pradesh—one at Channana and another in Monghyr—and each unit was recommended for half a million tonne of steel production. But, in the meantime, the industrial policy of the Government of India was laid down in the year 1948, and then that industrial policy was laid down...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): If you are going to survey the last thirty years, there will be little time for you to touch on steel. . .

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I will come to the main points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): You have got only ten minutes.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: You kindly allow me to have my say.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATEO: You know the bell is there... (Interruptions)

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I want to make out a case. I should not be interrupted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Go on.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I do not want to go into details. But I must say that whenever integrated steel plants have been established, that has not

been done on sound principles and from the point of view of the nation's

requirements. This is my 4

P.M. first point. That is why even

integrated plants like Rourkela were not established on sound principles. In the case of Rourkela, the availability of the important ingredients which go to make steel was there, but while sanctioning the steel plant it was shown at that time that the plant will have a perennial source of water because of the vicinity of the river near the proposed site. But it has been found that it was not a correct state of things with the result that they had to build a big storage dam by spending a lot of money on that. The claims of Bihar, Bengal and Madhya Pradesh were ignored. You will find that Madhya Pradesh is a very suitable site for the establishment of a steel plant. But a sort of incorrect assertion was made that even coking coal was available in Korba mines. All these things will show, that provincialism, parochialism and politics have played a dominant role in the establishment of our steel industry and that is why we are in a soup today. My friend has very rightly said that both China and India started producing steel at almost the same time. Still we find that China has reached the goal of nearly 40 million tonnes while we are still not having even 10 million tonnes. In this connection, I am very happy that the study group that was appointed by the Steel Ministry has gone into this matter in detail and they have produced an excellent and a very sane report. I urge upon the hon. Minister to take into consideration what has been recommended in that report. The report was submitted in October 1957. At that time, there was a glut in the steel market. Even then, it is a matter of gratification to know that this study group has envisaged at that time that there was need for expansion of steel industry. But that report has not been taken into consideration by the present Steel Ministry. This is one of

the important points that I would like to make. It is from this point of view that I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that his handling of the Vijaynagar steel plant is not satisfactory. Had he taken into consideration all the important factors that go to produce steel and the economy of it, I am sure he would have taken very prompt action to establish a steel plant there. Let us look at the nature of the availability of material that we have in Karnataka. The iron ore available there is of a very high grade with 65 to 69 per cent Fe. This high grade ore is available in plenty in the area where this steel plant in Vijaynagar is to be located. The other things that are available are fire stone and dolomites. Water is also available. As regards electricity, our Chief Minister has made a categorical promise that as far as electricity is concerned, he would make a commitment and see that whatever power is required in the steel industry will be supplied by the Government of Karnataka. This I find from the correspondence that has taken place between the Ministry of Steel and our Chief Minister. And what is, of course, lacking is our coking coal. There is no doubt about it. We do not have the coking coal and it has either to be got from Bengal-Bihar belt or is required to be imported, but as many of our friends have already stated in detail, it is absolutely essential in the interest of the nation that some sort of technological development is made to see that our coking coal, the ash content of it, is reduced considerably. This is one thing and the other thing is how to make use of other kinds of coal to be used as a substitute. If that is not done, any amount of importing coking coal.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: Singareni coal.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: Singareni coal is very near to us. There is no doubt about it. Wherever coal, other than

the coking coal, is necessary, Singareni coal is very near to us, but as a substitute for this kind of coal, our Chief Minister has promised that he would give sufficient power that is required for the purpose and with the completion of Kalmadi project it would be quite possible for us to look to the needs of that country. (Interruptions) What?

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA (Karnataka): I said that you are correct, you are having plenty of power.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I am glad my friend agrees with me. So, there is no dearth as far as power is concerned, but as far as coking coal is concerned.....

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: You belong to the same State. Although you are sitting in the Opposition, you are supporting him.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: Orissa need not interfere. You have made a mess of it.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: It will make an independent statement.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: They are wasting my time, Sir. This is my request that they must be stopped.

As far as coking coal is concerned, I am sure that even if it is not imported from Madras but from Mormugao side, it will still work out to be cheaper. And in this connection, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the expert reports on the point. The one is about the Dastoor Committee report and the other is about Meco's report. They are all in the hands of the hon. Minister and I know for certain that they must have said good things about establishing the Vijayanagar steel plant instead of going in for some other plant. I do not want to enter into controversy about the Vijayanagar plant or the Salem plant, which is better, and all that. If they have already decided on some sound principles that are necessary for this»



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purpose, I have absolutely no objection, but if you go according to certain principles and the expert opinion, the hon. Minister will have to pay attention to this work, he will have to take all these factors into consideration. It is for your kind information that this steel plant was sanctioned by the Government of India in 1970 and the foundation stone was laid by no less eminent a person than our ex-Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, in 1971. And what happened afterwards? The Government of India had to enter into several controversies with the result that there has been undesirable delay in establishing this plant. Sir, the land required for this purpose is to the tune of 10,000 acres, out of which, at the instance of the Government of India, the Karnataka Government has acquired as much as, nearly 8000 acres of land and as for the remaining 2000 acres, the Government of Karnataka have stated to the Ministry of Steel that they would be sparing that Government land for this purpose. So, there is absolutely no land problem. And for this preliminary work the amount spent is to the tune of nearly Rs. 3-1 (2 crores). And with all these preparations, they have, as a matter of fact, established an office in Bangalore with the General Manager looking to these matters. (Time Bell Rings). I do not want to take much time but I take this opportunity of requesting the hon. Minister to pay full heed to this matter and see that the Vijaynagar steel plant work is under taken expeditiously and with all good intentions at this command I have no doubt about his dynamism \_\_\_\_\_

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA (Gujarat). No, what dynamism?

SHRI L. R. NAIK: He has that; I must say it and I do not want to chide myself about it. I am sure he will bring about his dynamism to bear on this subject of not only Vijaynagar steel plant but would also see that our steel industry makes a headway on

sound and excellent lines as is being done in other countries. After all, steel is the basic industry. Many other industries depend upon steel and, therefore, all care and attention has to be paid to develop this industry. Again, I earnestly request the hon. Minister to come over to Vijaynagar steel plant. I understand he is going to Kudremukh on the 11th and he will be meeting my Chief Minister and I am sure everything will be brought to his notice and, perhaps, he will get himself satisfied that if at all port-based plant is to be brought in, by recommending Mangalore, it would be far better if he takes up Vijaynagar steel plant. He has produced certain things for establishing a plant at Mangalore. I am sure he will be convinced when he goes to the spot that they are not correct. With these few words, I conclude.

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : अभी आपने बताया था थोड़ी देर पहले कि श्रीलक्ष्मण में जो लड़के वोट क्लब पर आए थे, उनको रास्ते में पीटा गया था। तो मंत्री जी को यहाँ आ कर के बयान देना चाहिए। पर अभी तक मंत्री जी यहाँ नहीं आए हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): How does it come in now during discussions on the Steel Ministry?

श्री रामेश्वर सिंह : उनको बुलवाइए ताकि वे यहाँ आ कर अपना बयान दें। लड़के पीटे जा रहे हैं...

(Interruptions)

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Sir, many friends who have participated have seen the dynamism of the Minister who is heading this Ministry and they expected much from him, and having not been able to see results as expected, they have felt disappointed. But let me say that usually I am not accustomed to speak about a particular person. I speak about the Ministry whenever I participate but since many Members have referred to the particular person heading the Ministry, I just incidentally speak about him. I know him as a great dreamer and as a person with great emotions. That has also something to do with his dynamism,

do not dispute it. I also know him as a person who is in the habit of sliding back, who is in the habit of climbing down and crash landing. I would just say how he has done here also in this Ministry. Sir, as I told you, he is a dreamer and soon after he came into office and took charge of this Ministry, it was but natural for him to have felt that he should do something, because he thought that if these two departments, Steel and Mines, came into the hands of a person like him, he should do something wonderful in this matter. He could have done it, he thought, and that is why, in his anxiety, he appointed a study group of all sections engaged in it. The study group went into the matter and has given two reports, one is on the possible expansion and the other is on productivity. Now, Sir, I am not going into the expansion part of it. Incidentally, I would only refer to the shore based steel plants, which at one time he proposed. I thank him for it. But I would just take you to the other part of it. As I told you, he is in the habit of sliding back and climbing down. Otherwise, it would not have seen our misfortune to see the two great tycoons in this country, the two big houses, the Birlas and the Tatas, behaving in the way they do. This has come in today's papers also. You must have also seen it. This is in regard to the Birla unit expansion. The other day, Mr. Fernandes came and told us that the Gwalior Rayons of the Birlas who were authorised to go up to the production limit of 20,000 tonnes only have been producing 78,000 tonnes without any permission from the Government. When he said that this was unauthorised, this gentleman, Mr. Mandala, on behalf of the Birla concern says that this is most unjust and untrue and that the earlier Government had permitted it. Now, there should be something said on this very clearly. I would like to know whether it is true that the earlier Government had permitted this. If it is true, how is it that the hon. Minister, Mr. Fernandes, says this? If this is untrue, he should proceed further. He cannot leave it at that. He

cannot allow Mr. Birla or his executive coming and saying that this is untrue and unjust. I, at least, as a Member of this House would not see my colleague, the hon. Minister, being treated like this. I cannot tolerate it. I would like the hon. Minister to act in the way he ought to and see that these people come down to sense. This is about Birlas.

In regard to Tatas, the other day, the Steel Minister has been very correct in saying that TISCO should be nationalised. Some people here said that this was a non-issue, I say 'no'. It should be nationalised as early as possible. My friend, Mr. Bhola Prasad, who participated in this discussion, told you that 46 per cent of the shares are held by us, by the Government. Sir, it is only the other day that the TISCO unit of the All India Steel Workers' Federation had, at their annual conference at Jamshedpur, demanded immediate nationalisation. They have given the reasons. You know, Sir, Comrade Kedar Das, who was a Member of the Lok Sabha and a Veteran trade union leader, who was himself an employee in the Tatas at one time, says that this should be nationalised because there is a growing tendency on the part of the Tatas to have their work done through what is called contract labour, through contractors because they come and employ people, quote low rates and pay low to the workers. Precisely, for this reason, this should be nationalised. This has been demanded not only by the Federation. This Task Force, the working group, which had been appointed, has said two things. I would draw your attention to only two parts. Now, para 5.3.1 says about productivity:

"Productivity depends on the state of the mind of the employees and cannot be treated in isolation. If the will in the employees is there, this technique can be mastered and applied. It is, therefore, essential that the economic needs, environmental and other conditions of working, expeditious redressal of grievances

[Shri Lakshmana Mahapatra]

settlement of disputes etc. are given top priority so that the employees are in a proper frame of mind to improve production and productivity."

I would also draw your attention to the other part, para 5.8.9 which says:

"Contract labour system is inimical to any system of productivity. Workers' representatives are very unanimous that all contract systems should be abolished and the existing contract labour should be absorbed. The management representatives, however pointed out that the abolition of contract labour system is possible only in respect of permanent and perennial jobs." The contract labour system should be abolished. The people who are employed in the steel industry should be in a climate which will help them to improve the productivity. What are you doing? The other day, there was a token strike and the steel workers are heading towards a big strike, because you cannot avoid your mentor, the Bureau of Public Enterprises. Every time we go for settlement of wages, you just ask us to go to the Bureau of Public Enterprises to help us. If you go in that way, not only you but also the coal and other major industries in the country which could not afford strike, will be facing strike throughout the country. And it is you who are imposing this thing on them. Therefore, I say you do not allow this any further. The Working Group which you have appointed have advised you to have immediate settlement to avoid this climate of tension, so that they could work in cool climate and give you higher productivity. Therefore, that is one of the important things that you will have to see to in the steel sector.

Then, Sir, they wanted to do away with these big contractors. What is the fate of this thing. The HSCL is there. One of the main objects of the HSCL is to end monopoly of big contractors in the construction so as to

avoid labour unrest. That was the intention and what has happened at last?. When the Members asked him as to what you have done about this, it is a great mess, it is facing great difficulties, the answer that he gives at some place is; Obviously the above point cannot be treated as the main point. Sir, you should have allowed that organisation to execute more work. There was so much of work that it could have achieved this object which you have in mind and that is the only way of ceding what is called, the exploitation by the big contractors and replacing the monopoly of the contractors in this construction work, but it is still going on. Then he says that he is not giving these contracts to the public undertakings, he is giving these contracts to the private contractors because they quote low. They will always quote low because they can pay less to the workers, they can do any sort of harm to the workers. That was exactly the thing envisaged or seen when this Construction Company was brought into being. Again in the Consultative Committee meeting held in the month of January 1979 the same reply was given that he was helpless, he was doing it because they are quoting low. How are you there replacing the monopoly or fighting with these big contractors who are so long having monopoly in this business and what is the point of having this organisation created? Therefore, these are two or three important things and you will have to come to the same irresistible conclusion as I have suggested. Sir, I know he is in the habit of climbing down. He professes good things, but unfortunately, he gets in the mess of bureaucrats, in the mess of others. (Time Bell rings) I am coming to the other part of it. The first part is over. The second part is minerals and mines, which has not been touched so far by any Member who has participated in this debate.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Mr. Mahapatra, if your Party has completed the time. ..(Interruption\*) All

right, I will give you five minutes more.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-PATRO: I would request you to kindly give me a few minutes more.

What is distressing and disquieting in this particular field of mines and minerals is, unfortunately, in this Ministry, as far as steel is concerned, not only has he got ore but also the plan to go in for finished products, if he wants to, but what is the position of mines and minerals except steel or iron? He has no say in the matter. If it is to be at all utilised indigenously, it is Mr. George Fernandes who has to say, yes, he should get the letter of intent and a licence and all that. Then only something can be done. In the result what happens? Somehow I feel and I leave it for the consideration of the Government that mines cannot be clubbed with steel. Mines should be under the Industry Minister because he knows how much is to be explored, he knows how much is to be taken out and utilised. Now what is happening is that we are exporting raw. The value added thing for which so much concern was expressed here by Mr. Adiseshiah that we do not have anything of a value-added product in the country. We are not even having small intermediates. We just send out products from the mines. It is because of this that illegal slaughtering is going on. Something is cut out and taken away without any authority. The mine lessees are doing all these things in spite of the law that you have for conservation. This is going on because they get good money by exporting. This should be immediately put under Minister of Industry. The private lessees should not be allowed to come in. In this respect also I have my sorrowful experience. Usually the bad and poor areas are reserved for the corporations—MMTC etc.—except in very rare exceptions and the rich areas are usually for the private sector or the private lessees. The reason is obvious. There is the chance of a percentage, a commission. Therefore, everybody involved in this

will be anxious to see that the rich mining area is given to the private sector whereas the poor area is reserved for the corporations, or the public sector. This has been my experience. Has there been any change? If there has been any change, he should also speak about that.

Lastly because you are again looking at the watch, I must also cooperate with you. As I was telling you, we have got an IBM. You have said that after 1976, you have reconstituted the Mineral Advisory Council. What type of advice have they given after re-constitution? You find that there is a decline. I will just tell you what they have themselves said in the Report:

"The value of mineral production in India during 1978 is estimated at Rs. 1313.88 crores. It remained almost at the same level as in the previous years...,"

This is about value. Let us go to quantity. The quantity itself was much less because in 1978 value was more for every particular item. I will just read out to you. He says, 'No'; he is nodding. I will take three important items which are very essential for us. We are using a large part of these. In fact some of the minerals we are using ourselves. I am just giving you about Barytes. In 1977, the quantity was 324,036 and in 1978 it was 315,379. Though it was more in 1977, the value was only Rs. 16,362,000. Though this quantity has fallen in the year 1978, the value is Rs. 17,610,000. That goes to prove it and he is saying 'No'. It is his own Report; it is his own Annexure which shows that with value being more in 1978, the quantity has fallen. What else is the reason?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Mr. Mahapatro, you have to conclude. I am sorry, I have not got any time. Mr. Lakshmana Gowda.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA;  
Sir...

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Sir, ultimately what has happened is that, as he has said in the Report itself, we are more and more going into what you call the foreign export in some minerals and thinking of imports of some other minerals. This is something very dangerous. Sir, we do not think of industries to consume the abundantly available minerals in our country and we think of importing. Here, again \_\_\_\_\_

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Please conclude.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: I am concluding,

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: Sir, is it Gowda speaking or is it Mr. Mahapatro speaking?

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Mr. Gowda will follow Mahapatro. Just one sentence more. Therefore, we should not think any further of import. We should say goodbye to all imports.

Now there will be one plea put forward, namely, how to meet the requirement? Sir, that can be met as is being met by many other countries which do not think of imports. Simply because you have enough reserves of foreign exchange, does it mean that you should go on frittering it away in this way? Sir, in a country like ours look at the vast reserves of bauxite. What have you done with this?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Now you conclude.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: You have bauxite and you have vast reserves of barytes. Therefore, for a change stop your imports.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Mr. Gowda.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: For the reserves not to be utilised is something of shame for us.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, I am not going to take much time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Please do not take. The train is already late.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: I will take about five minutes. I wanted to speak but most of the points have already been exhausted. Anti there is no point in repeating. To begin with, I will associate myself with the views expressed by my friend, Mr. Mohanty, and Dr. Adiseshiah with regard to the apprehension about the fall in production of steel in this country and the country being forced to import steel. I am quite apprehensive about the difficulties in the supply of raw materials to the steel industry which have landed the industry into this difficulty. Unfortunately, Sir, we see that for the last two years since the Janata Party came to power we are finding shortages all over. And steel is one such major item. I am only hoping that the dynamic Steel Minister, as he called him.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI (Uttar Pradesh): How is he dynamic?

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: I do not know. That is what was said from your Side. That is why I said "dynamic Steel Minister, as he called him" should make great effort to see that the production of steel is increased. You have him the compliment and I am just repeating it. I am neither your party man nor a Janata Party man.

Sir, I wanted to say something about the steel plant in Karnataka. The necessity for producing steel has been pointed out. And after the speech of my friend Mr. Naik, there is nothing for me to say in favour of the Vijayanagar steel plant. He gave a complete list of the infrastructure that is available both from

the State and the Centre. It is a fit case that the Vijayanagar steel plant should be taken up immediately. I do not know what he will do with the foundation-stone laid by the ex-Prime Minister sometime back. Probably unable to complete in time he might pass it over to the next Prime Minister as late Mr. Krishna Menon once said that he could ask the other Prime Minister to lay another foundation-stone. I hope he will not say that. Since already a substantial amount of money has been spent, it is necessary that the Vijayanagar steel plant comes up. I do not agree with my friend that Mangalore is not a suitable place.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I did not say that.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: The Industries Minister and the Steel Minister himself, both have spoken about Mangalore. It is a case to be considered.

Another point allied to that is with regard to our Kudremukh iron ore project and I must take this opportunity here to express my appreciation and also congratulate the Minister as well as the Chairman of the Kudremukh project Mr. Khanna and his excellent team who have done an excellent job. They have completed most of the work before the scheduled time and I hope, as expected, they will go into Production in the month of September.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: I join him in this respect.

SHRI U. K. LAKSHMANA GOWDA: On apprehension about that in the present situation in Iron because the main supplies are to be made to Iran. I do not know in the present situation what will the future be. It is a low grade ore which is accepted there.

Regarding the Minister's statement with regard to the Mangalore Steel

Plant, I am wondering whether consideration should not be given to have a steel plant which can make use of the ore from Kudremukh and allied areas of Baba Buden Hills, where a large potential is there. Initial work has been done there. But unfortunately for certain reasons the work has been stopped sometime back. He knows about it. I would request the Minister to give a thought to it and also let the House know the situation with regard to the Kudremukh project. I come from that area. I have personal attachment to that place. I am happy that an excellent work has been done there.

Other than that, I do not want to say anything, except only one point. This is about the allocation of steel and iron by the Iron and Steel Controller. So far as the southern States are concerned, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, transport bottleneck is there because the whole lot has to be moved from Calcutta area by train to these States. These lines have defence requirements and other bottlenecks are also there. They have not been able to supply these materials in time. They have decided that for 1978-79 the highest off-take plus 10 per cent will be made available. If this rule is enforced, the southern States will find it very hard. Actually, so far as Karnataka is concerned, an allocation of about 13,000 tonnes has been made on the basis of actual utilisation plus 10 per cent. The actual allocation they made in 1973-74 was 26,000 tonnes. Full utilisation was not possible because of these bottlenecks. It is the same case with Kerala and Tamil Nadu also. I would like the Minister not to stick to those rules and see that the allocation are made by a more rational estimate put up by the respective States.

Other than these, I do not have anything else to say. I hope the Minister would in his reply touch about Kudremukh and other projects.

श्री कल्पनाथ राय : उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, स्टील  
मंत्रालय पर यहाँ बहुत हो रही है . . .

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री अरविन्द गणेश कुलकर्णी) : इसी पर आप बोलेंगे।

श्री कल्प नाथ राय : मुझे केवल तीन प्रश्न करने हैं। पहला यह है कि the Ministers decision to cut the steel production by 8 per cent;

दूसरा यह है कि skyrocketing hike in the price of steel;

तीसरा यह है कि repeated calls for taking over of the TISCO.

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज पूरे देश के अन्दर लोहे का दाम इतना बढ़ गया है कि उसके कारण पूरे देश में हा हाकार मचा हुआ है। जिस समय जनता पार्टी सत्ता में आई उस समय 160 रुपये बिबटल लोहे का दाम था।

डा० भाई महवीर (मध्य प्रदेश) : 160 रुपये बिबटल ?

श्री कल्प नाथ राय : जी, हाँ। 161 रुपये बिबटल लोहे का दाम था। इस समय बाजार में साढ़े तीन सौ रुपये बिबटल लोहे का दाम है। यह साबित करता है कि बीजू पटनायक जो कितने निकम्मे और रद्दी किस्म के मंत्री हैं। जो लोग इनको डायनामिक मिनिस्टर कहते हैं मैं नहीं समझ पाता हूँ कि उनका सोचने का तौर तरीका क्या है (Interruptions)। टाटा के स्टील प्लांट की कंपेसिटी यूटिलाइजेशन 100 परसेंट है। जब कांग्रेस से जनता सरकार को सत्ता मिली तो 92 परसेंट कंपेसिटी यूटिलाइजेशन था। आज श्री बीजू पटनायक के मंत्रित्व काल में स्टील प्लांट का कंपेसिटी यूटिलाइजेशन घट कर केवल 50 परसेंट रह गया है। यह आंकड़े साबित करते हैं कि कौन मंत्री कितना निकम्मा है और कितना अच्छा है। श्री पी० रामचन्द्रन् ने कहा है कि हमारे देश में कोयले की कोई कमी नहीं है। हिन्दुस्तान में जितने कोयले की आवश्यकता है उतना कोयला उत्पन्न हो रहा है। श्री मधु दण्डवते ने भी कहा है कि स्टील मिनिस्ट्री को जितने बैगनों की जरूरत है उतने बैगनों की हम आपूर्ति करते रहते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में क्या कारण है कि कंपेसिटी यूटिलाइजेशन नहीं हो रहा है? मुझे तो ऐसा लगता है कि जान-बूझ कर मार्किट में स्केवरशिटी का एटमोस्फियर मंत्री के तरफ से बताया जा रहा है।

मंत्री महोदय ने यह ब्यान दिया है कि कि देश में स्टील की कीमत औरत ज्यादा बढ़ेगी और स्टील का प्रोडक्शन 8 परसेंट कम होगा। इस के विपरीत स्टील अथोरिटी आफ

इंडिया ने कहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान में आयरन का प्रोडक्शन 15 परसेंट बढ़ेगा। लेकिन मंत्री महोदय का कहना है कि प्रोडक्शन 8 परसेंट घटेगा। इसके साथ-साथ इनका यह भी कहना है कि बाजार में लोहे का दाम और बढ़ेगा। श्रीमन्, आप जानते हैं कि हमारे वर्तमान स्टील मंत्री जी मुख्य मंत्री भी रह चुके हैं और मंत्री भी रह चुके हैं और एक बहुत बड़े नेता भी हैं। ऐसी हालत में कोई भी मिनिस्टर क्या इस प्रकार का व्यवहार देगा कि लोहे का उत्पादन कम होगा और स्टील के दाम और बढ़ेंगे? बाजार में लोहे का दाम बढ़ेगा और प्रोडक्शन कम होगा, ऐसा कह कर श्री बीजू पटनायक पूरी कन्ट्री के अन्दर एक स्केवरसिटी की साइकोलोजी पैदा करना चाहते हैं और इस कारण से प्राइवेट ट्रेडर्स इसका लाभ उठाते हैं। मैं यह स्पष्ट रूप से कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में जितने दाम लोहे के बढ़े हैं उतने और किसी वस्तु के नहीं बढ़े हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि पिछले दो वर्षों में इतने दाम किसी भी अन्य वस्तु के नहीं बढ़े हैं। आप जानते हैं कि किसी भी माडर्न इकनोमी का निर्माण करने के लिए लोहा एक बहुत आवश्यक चीज है। रूस के अन्दर 45—50 मिलियन टन लोहे का उत्पादन होता है और इसी प्रकार से अमेरिका में 50 मिलियन टन लोहा पैदा होता है। हमारी प्रधान मंत्री श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी ने अपने समय में एक ब्लूप्रिंट, एक वाइट पेपर पब्लिश किया था जिसमें यह बताया गया था सन् 2000 तक हिन्दुस्तान 75 मिलियन टन लोहे का उत्पादन करने लगेगा। इसी उदाहरण और परस्पेक्टिव को मध्य-नजर रखते हुए हिन्दुस्तान में भिलाई राउरकेला और बोकारो जैसे स्टील प्लांट का निर्माण किया गया था ताकि एक नये हिन्दुस्तान और शक्तिशाली हिन्दुस्तान का निर्माण किया जा सके। लेकिन अब नये स्टील प्लांट्स बनाने की बात कौन चलावे? ये लोग धोखा तो तो कर देते हैं कि मंगलौर, पारादीप और विशाखापट्टणम में स्टील प्लांट्स लगेंगे, लेकिन उनके लिए कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की जाती है। श्री जार्ज फर्नान्डो स्टील प्लांट्स के सम्बन्ध में और स्टील मिनिस्ट्री के संबंध में वक्तव्य देते हैं और श्री बीजू पटनायक इंडस्ट्री मिनिस्ट्री के बारे में वक्तव्य देते हैं। जॉयन्ट रिसर्च-सिविलिटी जैसी कोई चीज इस जनता सरकार के अन्दर नहीं है। इन लोगों को रिसर्च-सिविलिटी का कोई ज्ञान नहीं है। यह पूरी की पूरी सरकार मानसिक दिवालियेपन का प्रतीक है। चापूलीसी किसी राष्ट्र का निर्माण नहीं कर सकती है (Interruptions)।

श्री डा जी, इस संबंध में आप लोगों को कोई नीति संबंधी वक्तव्य और कोई आदर्श प्रस्तुत करना होगा। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस प्रश्न के ऊपर स्टील मंत्रालय में और रेल मंत्रालय में कोई मेल नहीं है। इसलिए मैं श्री बीजू पटनायक के इस्तीफे की मांग करता हूँ और इनकी फौरन

स्टील मिनिस्ट्री से हटा देना चाहिए। स्टील मंत्रालय का काम करने में ये पूर्ण रूप से छुसफन रहे हैं। अगर ये इस इस मंत्रालय से नहीं हटते हैं तो प्रधान मंत्री को स्टील मंत्रालय को इनके हाथों से छीन लेना चाहिए। मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि श्री बीजू पटनायक जी भ्रष्टाचार की छाया में काम कर रहे हैं इसके ऊपर जनता सरकार के संसद-सदस्य श्री सारंगी ने भ्रष्टाचार के आरोप लगाये हैं। भ्रष्टाचारों के अन्दर ये बातें छपी हैं उनको बाप पड़ सकते हैं। इन्होंने प्रधान मंत्री के पास जा कर निवेदन किया है कि मेरे खिलाफ कोई जांच न कराई जाए और चाबूत वापस कराये जाए। प्रधान मंत्री ने सारंगी जी को बुलाया और इनकी आपस में बातचीत भी कराई है। जिस व्यक्ति और जिस मिनिस्टर के ऊपर इतने गम्भीर आरोप हों उसे अपने खुद हट जाना चाहिये। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, देश के हित में, जनता के हित में यह आवश्यक है। मेरा बीजू पटनायक जी से कोई व्यक्तिगत मतभेद नहीं है, लेकिन जब देश का सवाल आता है, जब जनता का सवाल आता है तो यह आवश्यक हो जाता है। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इन्होंने वक्तव्य दिया कि टिस्को का नेशनलाइजेशन कर दिया जाय। मैं आपसे निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि ये पब्लिक सेक्टर एकादमी के नम्बर एक दुश्मन हैं और हिन्दुस्तान की पब्लिक सेक्टर एकादमी को नष्ट करने का यह सारा पड़खंड कर रहे हैं। ये टिस्को के नेशनलाइजेशन की बात करते हैं। इनका टाटा से क्या मतभेद है यह टाटा ही जानते होंगे। लेकिन प्रधानमंत्री ने कहा है कि यहाँ सौ प्रतिशत कंपैनिटी से उत्पादन हो रहा है, यह सबसे बढ़िया उत्पादन वह कर रहा है तो फिर इस तरह की बकवास करने का अधिकार हमारे मंत्री को नहीं है, इस तरह की बकवास करने का अधिकार जार्ज फर्नेण्डीज को नहीं है। क्या ज्वाइंट रिसर्पांसिविलिटी है, क्या सिस्टम है और क्या कौन्सिल है कि जो मन में आया बीजू पटनायक बयान दे दें, जो मन में आया जार्ज

This is a directionless, rudderless, Government and Mr. Biju Patnaik is one of the Ministers of the Cabinet.

यह जनता सरकार दिशा-विहीन और नेतृत्व-विहीन लोगों की सरकार है। यह सरकार पूरे देश और जनता के हितों को नष्ट करने पर तुली हुई है। ऐसी स्थिति में इन लोगों से किसी अच्छे काम की अपेक्षा नहीं की जा सकती है। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जनता सरकार के आने के बाद दो मिलियन टन लोहा हम इम्पोर्ट करेंगे। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह पूरे की पूरी पब्लिक सेक्टर एकादमी को नष्ट करने का पड़खंड है और बीजू पटनायक जी इस पड़खंड के एक हिस्सेदार हैं और यह दो मिलियन टन लोहा इम्पोर्ट करना चाहते हैं उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सीमेण्ट इम्पोर्ट हो रहा है, कोयला इम्पोर्ट हो रहा है, लोहा इम्पोर्ट हो रहा है और चार सौ करोड़ रुपये का फारेन एक्सचेंज पिछली सरकार ने जो इनको दिया था वह उसका दुरुपयोग कर रहे हैं। हिन्दुस्तान की जो मजबूत धर्म व्यवस्था की उस अर्थ व्यवस्था को नष्ट करने पर तुले हुए हैं,

उसको नष्ट करना चाहते हैं। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जनता सरकार के आने से पहले कोयला हम एक्सपोर्ट करते थे। हम बेल्जियम और हालैण्ड को एक्सपोर्ट करते थे, हम दुनिया के और देशों को इसे एक्सपोर्ट किया करते थे पर आज हम कोयला इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं, सीमेण्ट इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं, लोहा इम्पोर्ट कर रहे हैं। यह सरकार पब्लिक सेक्टर एकादमी को नष्ट करके प्राइवेट सेक्टर को स्थापित करना चाहता है। इतना ही नहीं मल्टी नेशनल कम्पनियों के साथ मिल कर साजिश की जा रही है कि हम मल्टी-नेशनल कम्पनीज को कुछ चीजों का उत्पादन करने के लिए बुलायेंगे। दुनिया के किसी भी पूँजीवादी देश में या समाजवादी देश में भी प्राथमिकता इन्टरनल कैपिटलिस्ट को दी जाती है। लेकिन यह मानसिक रूप से दिवालिया सरकार अपने मुल्क का कैपिटलिस्टों को नष्ट करना चाहती है और उनके जो बड़े धाका मल्टी-नेशनल हैं उन्हें हिन्दुस्तान में बुला रही है। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज पूरा देश खतरे में है, इस मुल्क की जनता खतरे में है और यह पूरा मॉनिमंडल भ्रष्टाचार की छाया में काम कर रहा है। इन की देश की जनता का कोई ध्यान नहीं है। इनकी समग्र अन्ति कुर्सी की कान्ति में बदल गई है। जनता और देश की उन्नति इनका उद्देश्य नहीं है, इनका उद्देश्य केवल कुर्सी है और पैसा इकट्ठा करना है। करोड़ों रुपये की लूट हर मंत्रालय में हो रही है। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह आरोप मैंने नहीं लगाये हैं। श्री सारंगी जी कि गुजरात के मेम्बर पालियामेण्ट हैं उन्होंने आरोप लगाया है कि स्टील मंत्रालय में भ्रष्टाचार फैला हुआ है। श्री बीरन जे. शाह ने लगाया है जो कि जार्ज फर्नेण्डीज के मित्र हैं और जो मेम्बर आफ कामर्स क चेयरमन तथा डायनामाइड कोड के एक प्रमुख व्यक्ति हैं, उन्होंने आरोप लगाया है कि पूरी स्टील मिनिस्ट्री में भ्रष्टाचार फैला हुआ है और देश में इसकी आर्टिफिशियल स्केपरिटी पैदा की गई है और इस तरह से देश की जनता को लूटा जा रहा है इस तरह के मैन्युवेलेशन के तहत। ऐसी स्थिति में हम चाहते हैं कि स्टील मंत्रालय का काम ठीक इन से किया जाय ताकि देश में कोर सेक्टर एकादमी, जो कि देश में बिल्ड अप हो रही है उसका ठीक से विकास हो सके। उप-सभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जब किसी सरकार को किसी भी चीज का राष्ट्रीयकरण करना होता है — तो उसका निष्पक्ष कौन्सिल में होता है। बैंकों का राष्ट्रीयकरण हुआ, उससे पहले इसकी किसी की जानकारी नहीं हुई, राजा-महाराजाधिराजों का भिन्न पक्ष समाप्त हुआ उसकी जानकारी पहले किसी की नहीं हुई। जब आप कोई राष्ट्रीयकरण करना चाहें तो राष्ट्रीयकरण हो जाने के बाद देश की जनता को मान्य होना चाहिये कि राष्ट्रीयकरण हो गया है। आप कहते हैं टाटा का हम राष्ट्रीयकरण करेंगे। आखिर क्या मामला है ? क्या टाटा में आपका कोई तोड़ा नहीं पड़ रहा है ? आप कहते हैं बिरला का राष्ट्रीयकरण करेंगे। आखिर मामला क्या है ? क्या बिरला से कोई धानही पड़ रहा है ? फिर उनको धमकी दे रहे हैं

These blackmail tactics adopted by Mr. George Fernandes and Mr. Brju



[श्री कल्पनाथ राय]

Patnaik are highly reprehensible by any section of the society.

इसलिए देश हित में, जनता के हित में जब कोई समाजवादी कार्यक्रम आप बनाते हैं, कोई कदम उठाते हैं तो उस की दिशा में आपका काम करना चाहिये। आप तो मल्टी नेशनल कम्पनीज के समर्थक हैं। आप हिन्दुस्तान में पब्लिक सेक्टर इकोनोमी को नष्ट करना चाहते हैं और प्राइवेट सेक्टर इकोनोमी को मजबूत करना चाहते हैं। आप हेवी सेक्टर इकोनोमी और कोर सेक्टर इकोनोमी को नष्ट करने का आपका उद्देश्य है और आप इसलिए आए हैं। इसी को ध्यान में रखते हुए आप अपने मंत्रालय को चला रहे हैं। आप देश में ऐसा कानाबरेण पैदा कर देंगे कि लोगों की कचि राऊरकला, भिलाई और और बोफारो स्टील प्लांट में समाप्त हो जाएगी। इससे लोगों को उम्मीद थी कि वे नये कनिजाली हिन्दुस्तान का निर्माण करेंगे। किसी देश के निर्माण का आधार स्टील होता है, आप उसी को खत्म करना चाहते हैं। आप मुक्त में ऐसे मनोवैज्ञानिक कानाबरेण को पैदा करना चाहते हैं कि लोगों की कचि नेशनलाइज्ड सेक्टर से समाप्त हो जाए और पूर्णरूपेण प्रांशतिमें के कंट्रोल में, प्राइवेट सेक्टर इकोनोमी के समर्थकों के कंट्रोल में मल्टी नेशनल के कंट्रोल में मुक्त चला जाए। इसलिए यह आपका मंत्रालय, स्टील मंत्रालय बस्टे मंत्रालय है। आप अपने कामों को पूरा करने में पूर्णरूपेण असफल रहे हैं। आपको मंत्री बने रहने का कोई अधिकार नहीं है। 1800 से 2400 करोड़ रुपया इस सेक्टर में खर्च किया गया है लेकिन इसका लाभ नहीं हो रहा है। सारा कोर्पोसटो अप्रदरएट-लाइज्ड है। यह आपके निष्कमेपन्न का प्रतीक है, आपकी इनएफिशियेंसी का प्रतीक है, मिसमेनेजमेंट का प्रतीक है। स्टील मंत्रालय पलम इनएफिशियण्ट है। स्टील मंत्रालय जो है बिल्कुल पूरी व्यवस्था को नष्ट करना चाहता है। अगर स्टील मंत्रालय के मिसमेनेजमेंट को दूर करना है तो श्री बीजू पटनायक को फौरन इस्तीफा देना चाहिये और देश में एक नया स्टील मंत्री होना चाहिये जिसकी पब्लिक सेक्टर इकोनोमी में आस्था हो और जो देश में स्टील प्रोडक्शन को बढ़ा कर राष्ट्र का 2000 तक का टारगेट पूरा कर सके। जो देश को 7.5 मिलियन टन का टारगेट दे सके, हम लोगों को ऐसे स्टील मिनिस्टर की आवश्यकता है।

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Mr. Vice-Chairman, having heard a very illuminating speech from the last, but not the least, speaker, my young friend, Mr. Kalp Nath Rai, I do not know whether I should begin from him or I should begin from my colleague Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, who opened discussion on this subject.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Whatever you like.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Perhaps I would not have time to deal with Mr. Kalp Nath Rai. If I have to deal with some more important matters raised by my colleagues consisting of some constructive suggestions and pieces of advice which I and my Ministry must admit are of value in removing certain amount of incipient weaknesses that may have risen in the Steel Ministry and the Government apparatus, and so on.

Starting with what Mr. Pranab Mukherjee and some other senior colleagues stated, I find some contradictions and I would like to deal with them first so that my mind is clear as to what the House really wants.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee raised a point that you cannot do export-import trade just merely to suit your convenience. He said that if there is a commodity in shortage in our country and because of that you stop export, you cannot expect to recover that export market when you are in surplus. There is a great deal of validity in this. But Shri Totu raised the question: When you knew you are exporting and when you knew that there is going to be a shortage, why didn't you stop export at that time, since you have stopped now? Sir, there is much to be said on both the arguments. It is true, it takes a lot of time, a lot of energy, a lot of business acumen or expertise—leave alone steel in the public sector or in the private sector—whether it is machines whether it is food, potatoes, oil, goat\* or hoofs or whatever it is. It needs a lot of time to build up a market, it needs a lot of time to create contacts, to establish goodwill or quality. Suddenly because there is a demand here, you say: You stop it. Then, that is going to create a vacuum. That has to be filled up by somebody else. Therefore, there is such a thing as export and import trade. You have to export and you also have to import. Perhaps Mr. Mukherjee would not be surprised, but Mr. Totu would be surprised, to know that Japan is also'

importing steel—certain items Japan is the largest producer of steel. Its internal consumption is 70 million tonnes. They export about 30 to 35 million tonnes. Even they are now importing certain categories of steel. This is because they do not wish to lose their export market. However, I had to take the step because of a certain spurt in regard to certain categories of steel like bars, etc., which are used for construction purposes—private construction, Government construction, whether it is for bridges or railways or whatever you have. There was an outlay of funds in the Janata Government Budget for these sectors, whether it is Electricity Boards, whether it is the Central P.W.D. or P.W.D.'s of States. There were various housing programmes. All this required a lot more of steel and a lot more of cement than was planned for by Smt. Indira Gandhi's Government, whose exponent, Shri Kalp Nath Rai, spoke last. That did not allow these public beneficial works. There was no demand for steel or cement and, therefore, the Planning Commission did not plan for expansion of steel industry or cement industry. Shri Pranab Mukherjee dealt with one of the economic Ministries. He knows the answer. Bokaro, during Smt. Indira Gandhi's time, has taken 12 years, before it started production. Mr. Raju said that he would give me a sort of 'patra' or title if I can do it in 4 years—because this cannot be done in 4 years. From the time you make the real investment in building a steel plant, it should not take more than 4 years to go into production; in fact, it should take 42 months, if you are careful. But what is the system that has been left? The system that exists for the Government over the last thirty years. It continues. As Mr. Pranab Mukherjee knows very well and as the Leader of the Opposition knows very well—he has been in the Government—it is largely self-defeating. To take a decision it takes two years. Before you start implementing it, it takes several years. In 366 RS—9 »

1971 Shrimati Indira Gandhi laid the foundation stone for three steel plants. Mr. Naik, the steel plant foundation was laid in 1971.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: In 1970.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Well, that is better. Visakhapatnam?

SHRI V. B. RAJU: In January 1971.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: And she left office in 1977. It was there for six years. May I know what the most powerful Prime Minister of India as you call her, or the most knowledgeable, capable, intelligent Prime Minister, and a real, dynamic Prime Minister, as Mr. Kalp Nath Rai would like to call her—what was she doing for long 7 years 5 P.M. What was she doing for 7 long years after having put the foundation stone by her own two small glorious hands? Somebody said that it should not be done for said it. May I ask whether the foundation-stone laid in Vijaynagar was not a political foundation-stone? She also put a foundation-stone for a fertilizer plant in Paradip hoping that she would get votes. But the people there seemed to be a little wiser. No plant came up in six years and people did not vote for her. No plant came up although she got the votes in 1971. Mr. Naik, she put the foundation-stone and you got the votes. What more do you want? You really did not want a steel plant. I will not suggest it to Mr. Morarji Desai, my Prime Minister. But if you like, I may put a recommendation in my file that the next Prime Minister when he or she comes may put another foundation-stone on reconsideration.

AN HON. MEMBER: Will you ask your Prime Minister to put the foundation stone?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I will not ask him to commit the fraud. When your Prime Minister comes, he or she may do it. I will not commit a fraud on the people to get some votes,

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: That work you are doing.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: There are problems for Vijayanagar steel plant. You have excellent ore there. You have excellent lime stone. I do not take the problem of power very seriously because Kalindi would be on stream in time. But you need coking coal for a steel plant. For producing 3 million tonnes of steel, you will need 5.2 million tonnes of coking coal. To move that tonnage of coking coal from Jharia and other coal mines in Bihar to Vijayanagar will cost hundreds of crores of rupees. Besides that according to the estimate given to me by the Railway Ministry officially in writing it will take at least 10 years for such a long distance travel. Now, tell me, Mr. Naik, whether I wait for these ten years.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: Salem plant is also there. Both the plants are sailing in the same boat.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Salem is a 30 thousand ton plant. Your project is for 3 million tonnes. There is a lot of difference.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: But it has to be done in phases.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: That is only a 30,000 tonnes stainless steel rolling plant. Your integrated steel plant is of 3 million tonnes capacity. These are two vastly different things, Mr. Naik. Salem needs only 40,000 tonnes of material.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: But it has to be executed in two phases. That thing has to be taken into consideration.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The phase suggested by the Mysore Government, to my great surprise, is that we should produce only blooms and slabs at Vizag and nothing more. Will the Vizag chief man agree that he would produce only blooms

and slabs there and from Vizag these blooms and slabs will be sent to Madras and from Madras they will be sent to Vijayanagar because it has iron ore and has a plant for making bars, rods and structures. I am surprised that such a suggestion should have come either from you or from your State Government. I am really surprised because it is basically unsound and economically unacceptable. Now, if you are interested, Mr. Naik, I may tell you that the scheme for which I am working is this. Please look to the sponge iron experimental plant is being put up in Andhra. If that succeeds there should be production in another year's time. If that succeeds with Singareni coal and your ore, we can put up one million tonne, two million tonne or three million tonne sponge iron plants and with the same coal and your power plant we can convert that to steel. That is a possibility of the Vijayanagar Steel plant, which my Ministry is actively pursuing. So, have some patience.

SHRI L. R. NAIK: What a blind man wants is two eyes.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I suppose, you will get like Shiva three eyes at a point of time. You will get steel plants on the sponge route which will eliminate coking coal, which you do not have enough, which Mr. Pranab Mukherjee put it correctly, we must conserve. It has high ash. It is inferior. It is not enough. The route for India to pursue in the matter of steel is the other route, the route on which we have abundance of raw material, i.e., high grade non-coking steam coal, which is in abundant quantity in our country. This is what we are pursuing. We do not have enough natural gas. Somebody talked of natural gas in Assam. That is very little and dispersed. The Bombay High is too expensive. It cannot meet the cost of converting iron ore

into sponge. The Minister of Petroleum is trying to find out whether there is gas in the Godavari basin, whether it is in the Mahanadi basin and whether it is in the Sunderbans. They are looking for it. If my nation is lucky, which I hope, it must be lucky, some day we should also hit the gas wells which would be comparable to Indonesia or the Middle-East. Then our luck would turn. Then we can say that we have unlimited iron ore, we have unlimited gas. What we see is that we have unlimited iron ore but limited cooking coal. This is our problem. Therefore, I am diverting my attention also to <sup>u</sup><sup>TM</sup> our iron ore with added value by making pellets to be used in sponge iron plants in Indonesia, where they have got gas, or in the Middle-East where they have got gas, take my pellets there, and bring the sponge there for my mini steel plants. This is the line I am pursuing now, a complete departure.

We have consciously taken the decision to import coking coal which is of high grade. When I say high grade, it means with low ash content and blend it with our coal. There are a lot of problems of blending two different types of coal from two different parts of the world. There is the question of hardness, there is the question of ash, there is the question of sulphur, there is the question of phosphorous and there is the question of various other things. This is all done by our R. & D. You will be glad to know that we have raised our R&D effort and its budget by nearly six times than it was provided in the last two years. I have raised the status of our R&D effort, not only with Russia but with other countries. We are going ahead with the R&D effort so that our old plants can be modified for higher productivity and producing cleaner steel. To make our steel clean—we have high sulphur—we must desulphurise it. To make it clean—we have high phosphorous—we must dephosphorise it. Our blast

furnaces are 20 or 30 years old. Some of them have been revamped. They will need another Rs. 400 or 500 crores in the coming years to revamp their existing plants. Otherwise they will <sup>s</sup><sup>o</sup> decay like the IISCO and will <sup><</sup><sup>o</sup>ne continuously losing plants. The question was not taking over the Tatas. The question was whether the Government will again finance them another Rs. 400 or Rs. 500 crores through their various agencies? If the House is giving it to Tatas, I will be happy to do it. But then don't say that in 30 years the Congress made the Tatas from Rs. 25 crores to thousand crores and Biju Patnaik, by one stroke of pen, raised it from Rs. 1,000 crores to Rs. 1,500 crores. This I am not prepared to hear. This is a question of policy which is being discussed and debated both at the party level and at the Government level. No one wants to take over a project or a plant as something which is running well. Nobody wants to disturb it. We are not mad men sitting here. But for the purpose of a policy, we may take over their production in a short market and distribute it evenly where I am responsible for distributing it evenly to the country. I might consider doing that; I am actively considering that, but that has nothing to do with taking over production or allowing it. These are two different matters. If the Agriculture Minister takes over distribution of sugar, that does not mean he has taken over the sugar mills. So, whatever is good for the national purpose, we will certainly do and consider doing it without disturbing the management which is working well. Even if it were nationalised, I can assure the House, the same management will continue. In fact, for all practical purposes, the Government has already 46 per cent, whereas the so-called house of Tatas have hardly 4 per cent. If the House wants, you can change the whole board of directors today, not because of Government in defence, but because of 46 per cent. I do not propose to do that because that is not likely to improve matters. My problem, as I said, is, if the House, the Parliament,

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

the public opinion accept that another 400 or 500 crores of rupees can be handed over to the house of Tatas for revamping their Jamshedpur plant before it becomes as useless, as obsolete, as unproductive, as uneconomical as IISCO, you can do it. The IISCO plant was handed over to the Government and it was continuously losing. I do not lose if there is a whole lot of change, that means, totally new plant is put up there. Till the House and the public opinion accept that position, the question of taking it over or adding another 7 per cent to make it 51 per cent by the Government which I can always do, does not arise. To add 7 per cent to it I do not need to come to the Parliament or anybody. It is like any company which I can do. But I will not do that either to disturb the management or take a conscious decision of allowing Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 or Rs. 500 crores to go to their hands till a political decision is taken on that issue. And my party and my party committee is engaged in that exercise and till that exercise is complete and the Cabinet takes a decision one way or the other, this issue remains live. That is what I used to tell you. But that is not my interest to disturb any existing arrangement which is working well.

Now, having said of the lack of planning and for development of new capacities, I would only touch upon the point of not being able to produce according to the capacity. You would say that the Tatas are doing 100 per cent or somebody else is doing less or Bhilai did it 103 per cent. But that is not the point. Take the case of Durgapur plant. Its rated capacity, according to the Detailed Project Report, or the DPR, is 1.6 million tonnes. I have gone into that plant in detail. That plant can never produce more than 1.2 million tonnes. To produce 1.6 million tonnes or a little over, it will have to be filled in with so many other components which was not

done at that time. The product-mix in Durgapur has become obsolete. One of their major things is to make, what is called, narrow strips. Now you have gone to wider strips in Rourkela and widest strips in Bokaro. Who is interested in small-width strips? Nobody. So, that has to be scrapped or changed or something has to be done.

You have a new mill or something like that. Pig iron production has to be increased. There are various other things which have to be done. For increasing the production, we are introducing what is called the bottom blowing process. We are introducing new processes there. We are doing this thing. We are discussing with the British people, who would give credits, for revamping this thing and replanning it so that not only we are able to produce 1.6 million tonnes, but we are also able to go up to 2 million tonnes.

DR. MALCOLM S. ADISESHIAH: What the hon. Minister is saying is very serious. It was said in the report that 1.6 million tonnes would be produced.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have said about that. I am saying this now. The DPR has said that it would produce 1.6 million tonnes. We know that it will not produce unless all these other packings are done. The product-mix which has become obsolete needs to be changed. You cannot produce that. Where will you sell it? What will you do with it?

SHRI V. B. RAJU: This Durgapur plant is a modern plant. After Independence, it has been set up. It is not an old plant like the Tatas.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Not so modern. . . . (Interruptions)

SHRI V. B. RAJU: Along with these, there were the other two plants, Rourkela and Bhilai. Bhilai has been making profits. This Durgapur plant has

accumulated losses of the order of Rs. 236 crores. Now, is a discovery to be made only after you became the Minister? But what has been happening all these years?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am talking about the percentage of production and the annual losses. For a long time, it was producing only 30 per cent because of labour problems, it has gone up to, say, 70 per cent. This was because of the old things when, under a dynamic Government, it was producing only 30 per cent, Mr. Raju. You did not bother about it then?

SHRI V. B. RAJU: I am not referring to the political set-up or the political. . (Interruptions) What have these people, the administration, the planners and other people been doing? Is it necessary that Mr. Patnaik should come and discover that the Vijayanagar proposals were not sound after eight years?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am afraid so. I also say that the DPR is incorrect. I also say this.

SHRI V. B. RAJU: Then, we have to take it, I take it, that we did not have any administration at all.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: No. Not necessarily. People can make mistakes. As you said, as somebody said, people also may be politically frightened and motivated.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Mr. Minister, before you go to the other points, I would like to draw your attention to a very limited point, namely, the availability of saleable steel had been going down.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am coming to that. I was talking about the production.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: The main point is, consumer demand. (Interruptions)

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Sir, the problem is this. If, in our estimate, the

consumption goes up, on the average, by 15 per cent, it was not planned for by the previous planners and this is causing difficulties because investments were not made to that extent.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: We have planned.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: It would appear now that the previous Government or the planners whoever they may be, had planned for an economy of shortages.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Economy of abundance.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: You find steel shortage.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: You are doing it.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: You find cement shortage.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: It is your mismanagement.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: You find paper shortage.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: It is your mismanagement which has been responsible for all these things, Mr. Patnaik. It is your bankruptcy.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: There should be bankruptcy of Intelligence in him. I cannot contest with him. Mr. Kalp Nath Rai does not know that it takes five to six years to build a steel plant. It takes about four years or so to build a cement plant.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: It has been built by the Congress, not by you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Mr. Minister, you do not get distracted.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am answering, through him, certain questions raised by others. I said the planning was defective to that extent. Investments were not made. It requires a big investment in regard to cement,

[Shri Biju Patnaik] aluminium and so on. Sir, it is a shame that we have to import 75,000 tonnes of aluminium now. This is because there is no power. This was not planned for. I think, Mr. Kalp Nath Eai, was not born at that time. But nevertheless, the Indira Government was there for eleven long years. This is the planning. You know, Sir, the Korba Aluminium plant was to be there on the basis that from Ramakan-tak you will get bauxite ore for 50 years. Now certainly you find that it will not last for another five years. That is the planning of the great dynamic leadership of yesterday.

SHRI HARISINH BHAGUBAVA MAHIDA (Gujarat): You were also a partner.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I was not a partner at that time.

SHRI HARISINH BHAGUBAVA MAHIDA: You were the Chief Minister.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: No, that was long ago, in 1961. Anyhow, there are defaults in planning. But these defaults do not suggest that our men are not good. Everywhere men make mistakes, they slip down and there is nothing to be ashamed of if genuine mistakes have been made. But India's new finds of bauxite ore can make some day India a leader of aluminium in the world. The world today produces about 15 million tonnes of aluminium metal. With our bauxite ore in the Andhra-Orissa border belt, we can easily produce 20 per cent of aluminium of the world production if we can generate the necessary power and make necessary investment, because it is a big consumer of power. We have unlimited coal deposits both in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa for generating power. There is also in that area substantial capacity for generating hydel power. So, that could be a belt of India's great aluminium producer. We are seriously at it. ]

hope within this year I will be able to inform this House the major steps taken in this regard to make India one of the largest alumina and aluminium producers of the world in the coming five or seven years. And the initial steps would have been taken. Whichever Government comes in the future, if they only pursue this policy, India would be one of the leaders of aluminium producers of the world. Sir, I am only interested in preparing the policy structure of the nation.

Steel policy which will come in the policy paper, as some friends suggested to prepare a White Paper, will not be in terms of having high flowing 75 million tonnes, etc. that India shall produce without enough coking coal, without anything by the turn of the century. I would say that India should not, on the basis of its proven coking coal reserves, go in for more than 20 millions in terms of integrated blast furnaces, based on availability of coking coal. The rest of its requirements must be diverted to this sponge iron, by what is called, the solid direct reduction. This would be the policy of the nation, if we have to utilise very largely our own natural resources which we have in abundance of non-coking coal reserves and limited coking coal reserves that too of poor quality. Some imports we can always plan for. Five to ten million tonnes can be imported as you are exporting five to ten million tonnes of iron ore. That is not the problem. The international trade will also go on and we can also export non-coking coal as you have been exporting before. That can be exported now also. That is not the problem. But we have not enough handling arrangements. From Haldia and other places we are exporting our non-coking coal, but we have to create more facilities at our ports. Our harbours have to be modernised. Handling equipment has to be put there. We have some handling equipment in Visakhapatnam, but we are not able to use it. At various times various planners have thought of various components, but they have not been able to marry all the component as a whole.

Therefore, it appears there are some gaps here and there. You know in Madhya Pradesh nearly Rs. 40 crore worth of equipment is lying at Korba for making fertilizer from coal. There are two plants at Talcher and Ramagundam, but this third plant has not taken off. Rs. 40 crore worth of equipment has been landed there by the \* previous Government. It is lying there, rotting there for the last seven to eight years. I am not blaming anybody. I am only saying that the total picture of nation of this complex type, to organise, assimilate, and streamline is by no means an easy task... by any Government at any time. But we have to make the best of the situation. Now the Lok Sabha, the Rajya Sabha, the whole House demand that new steel plants should be put up. Yes. To start with, even the first phase of a 3 million tonnes steel plant—if we take 1.2 to 1.3 million tonnes as the first phase—will cost about Rs. 2000 crores. If we take all the other additional things, easily 6 to 8 thousand rupees a tonne today is the cost of a new steel plant, with all the paraphernalia that goes with it, as against probably Rs. 500 a tonne of the Tatas when they put it up, as against 4 to 5 thousand a tonne of Bokaro today. Bokaro plant was put up 12 or 15 years back, with certain \* parts coming in now. The original planning cost was planned long time ago. Today if you plan a plant, the market price varies from 1000 dollars a tonne to 1200 dollars a tonne—something of that order. It takes care of the integrated steel plant, with the power plant, with the coke oven, with the blast furnace, with the new continuous castings for making slabs and so on, for all the downstream products with all the additions—water power, transport and so on—that go to make a steel plant. So the cost mounts up. A low cost investment has low interest rates. A high cost investment has 10 times more interest rates. Naturally with ten times more interest, the cost goes up. To say that the plant the Tatas put up 60 years back is very efficient whereas what is put up now is less efficient, is not correct because

the cost difference is ten times. The financial cost will be a motivated one. We have to take the things as they are. You have seen from the Budget that no money was provided for the steel plan+s. So, I brought in what is generally known as the great price hike. I knew unless new steel plants are built in this country—and you agree with this; all of you have said so—and quickly too, this country will not only starve for steel, but very soon it will not get any steel from outside also.

When I took office, there was 1½ million tonnes of steel unsold. The industrial economy was dead. You will remember, Mr. Naik, that it had a total nose-dive. There was no buyer of steel, there was no buyer of cement. That was in 1976 and 1977. I had to export steel—more than 11 million tonnes—and still had 1½ million tonnes unsold. Now we are importing more than 11 million tonnes and with the loss in production, there is a gap of 3 million tonnes. That is nearly 30 per cent gap, which is tremendous. I am pleased in a way that my nation is picking up. I am proud of my nation that it is now trying to flex its muscles; it has gone on to the stage of economic recovery. I have now only the inputs, I will have to import. But I am tightening. I am trying to tighten my own production to see that it gets on at the maximum percentage of the existing capacity. I am not going to allow anybody to slip on that account.

Unfortunately, there are other factors which prohibit that. There are deficiencies in transport, there is deficiency in this and that—power or whatever it is—but above all the total deficiency in all these sectors is the incompatibility of the labour and the executive to put in their best. This House and all the nation must recognise that if the railways are defaulting, it is because of the incompatibility of the worker, if the power houses are defaulting in West Bengal or anywhere, it is the same story—work to rule, go slow, bad maintenance. A



[Shri Biju Patnaik]

wagon which used to take 6 hours for maintenance is taking 10 hours today. Why? If somebody says, as my friend Mr. Raju has said, there was too much of dictatorship and there is too much of democracy, both are bad. Perhaps, the nation has to find a way via media some day. If too much liberty is converted into too much of a licence for freedom or too much curtailment of liberty also leads to licence to persons like our friend there.. (Interruption) Everybody must demand something more, that is understandable. I am not against a little demand if they can increase their efficiency. If the Railways move instead of six miles an hour, 8 miles an hour on an average, they can have their bonus today. And I shall vote for it.

DR. V. P. DUTT (Nominated): Why do you not persuade your Railway Minister?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The Railways are not the handle of the Minister. They are not under anybody's hand. My friend, Doctor, you use the whip but whip only works for a while.

DR. V. P. DUTT: But on the advice of the Council of Ministers.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: It will be discussed. Whip can be used. Do not think that we do not know how to use the whip but it is only left to the lesser people to use the whip. I do not accept that story. Whip can always be used.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Wait a minute. I am a Whip of my group. But you do not have a whip to use against the Birlas and the Tatas. When it comes to something going wrong somewhere you immediately make labour the scapegoat.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: No. no.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Now he has come to use the whip.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have not come to use the whip. You were a party to that whip. Do not talk too much. When Mrs. Indira Gandhi used the whip you were her Chamchas. So you can use the whip for a little while only. Our workers are our backbone. We must help them. We must persuade them and must make them conscious, participants in the national's economy.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Why not ask the Tatas and the Birlas to go?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Please sit down. I know how you get all facilities from a plant in this country. I know that. Therefore, do not talk too much. I remind of Swetmal Nagarmal. Let us not talk too much. Let us not talk about persons. We know each other's story.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: What do you know, please?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: We know what your Union does.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Do not talk rot. I am talking something else. You said that labour is responsible. They are going slow and you made them the scapegoats. You are on a high plane. But I am sorry you have gone so low.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I think I am talking on a proper plane. I think I am more of a labour leader than you which you will never be all your life. Therefore, please sit down. Please do not disturb. I did not disturb you.

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: I was not defeated after becoming a Chief Minister in four constituencies. I retained my seat for twenty years and I am retaining it till today, you know that. In spite of your efforts I am retaining it for the last twenty-years.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I am not disputing your seat. I am only disputing your argument. I said that

when the whip was used you were also a part of the whip. This is what I am trying to tell you. You were a great supporter of that whip. That is all that I said. Why are you getting upset? We all make mistakes. I know you have corrected that mistake now. But that is a different story. Therefore, you have to work. And if the nation does not work what happened in Britain would also happen here. Too much cuddling, as Mr. Raju said, one way or the other does not help the situation. There must be a balance. What is the balance? This the nation itself will find out. It does not lie in my mouth to say what will be the right balance. Mrs. Indira Gandhi did try a sort of balance, total suppression. We are trying another sort of balance, total fearlessness in expression and action and everything. Both do not seem to be compatible to this nation's genius. What is this nation's genius is has to be discovered so that a proper norm can be established where everyone should know his duties and responsibilities as well as his gains. It is nobody's case that the Birlas, the Tatas and all such people are to be supported for whatever they are doing, that they should be supported even if the labour is oppressed and that they should be supported even if they do wrong things, this is nobody's case, certainly not the Janata Government's case.

But I would like to say that at all levels we should make up our minds and the apex bodies of the labour unions of this country must make up their minds on how they propose to run and administer the production units of this nation. Sir, is it possible for a big industry to run with 23 competing unions? The HEC at Ranchi, which has a model major plant established for making heavy equipments for various industries of this country, has 23 labour unions each competing with the other. Do you think anything is possible there of the standard that is expected of it? The answer is obviously no. There is inter-union rivalry-even in "the same union. I know that

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in the CITU in Durgapur there are two groups. In the INTUC there are several groups. In the AITUC there are several groups. Then there is ML, there is this, there is that. There are so many groups. Now a new thing has come, the BMS or whatever it is. They have got so many leaders. All kinds of assorted things are going on in the name of labour movement. And we cannot get a labour Bill through because everybody says that their little empires will be destroyed. Can a nation run like this the steel plants major units of production, the railways, the power plants, the coal mines or whatever you want, anything.

Sir (a year back, some of the union leaders deliberately closed down an explosives plant. They struck work. All the mining was closed; all the coalmining was closed. Naturally, the railways were closed and other plants and everything were closed because one explosives unit was closed. The House must be conscious of what is going on in this country. There is much more in the air than we see, I do not propose to apportion blame on anybody. Tagore said, "after hearing every-body my brother, whom do you accuse? The sin is your and mine." If we who are the rulers of India in both the Houses of Parliament irrespectively of the parties we belong to, do not decide collectively to bring this nation to work to produce, to compete with other nations who have made themselves great by sheer hard labour, disciplined labour, at all levels, and not each pinching, the other's pocket, neither will our industries grow nor compete. Korea can produce 10 million tonnes. We are still hanging on to 10 million tonnes. Everything is produced. Korea's exports are twice those of ours, double of India's. Korea's population is 3 crores or 2\ crores as against 60-odd crores of this country. Where are we? You are talking of China. China is a vast country I am talking of Korea. Its production by 1980 will be 10 million tonnes\* of steel. It was a backward country till yesterday. Therefore, we have to look UB.

[Shri Biju Patnaik]

sit up, think up and I do not know what up, and unless we can... (Interruptions)

SHRI PRAKASH MEKROTRA (Uttar Pradesh): "Thums-Up."

SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHAPATRO: Shoot people asin Bailadilla.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Why do they not sit down? They have done nothing and they will do nothing; such is the capacity of such people.

SHRI PRAKASH MEHROTRA- WiH that be the fate of West Benga'.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: That wiH not be the fate of West Bengal and of this country, I hope.

I think, I have replied to many points.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Ycu have not replied to all the questions.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I wi'l not be ible to meet all the points, but the major points I have covereL Somebody said about losses in the....

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Capacity utilisation?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: .... Copper plant. If I can make a forecast, in the current year the copper company should make a profit of at least Rs. 15 crores by the rearrangement of the plant and the management of production that we have done. An hon. Member from-Karnataka said thrit they have not got sufficient steel. As against their requirement of 13,000 tonnes last year, they have already been allocated 26,000 tonnes. And more will be given.

Then, it is ior the first time that we have decided to take steel to the villages and give it at the same price as at the yard. There are 5,000 Blocks in this country. This year we are going to cover 80 Blocks, and in the

next three or four years, we expect to cover ail the Blocks in this country. Steel will go to the service of the nation at the village level, at the cost of SAIL.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: Abov\* cost.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: It will not be only for the city people, but it will also be for the villages.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Don't reply to him. You please finish.

AN HON. MEMBER: He is a farmer.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I think, Sh, I have covered most of the points. I am grateful to the hon. Members who have given the Ministry support where necessary and criticism where neccessary, and I am sure- my Ministry and myself will gain by the criticisms and correct ourselves to the same end, to produce enough steel for this country, even if we have to raise the price and create a fund for building new steel plants.

SHRI KALP NATH RAI: And loot the country.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The Visakhapatnam plant, I hope, will be cleared by the Cabinet before the Prime Minister goes to Russia; and then work will begin. We have got offers from other countries for turnkey projects at Mangalore, at Paradip, at Haldia, because they are all interested in port-based plants. So far nobody has shown any interest in inland plants like Vijayanagar, I am afraid. But whatever comes our way will be examined carefully and will be built in this country so that in the next lour or five years, we can not only meet our requirements but give some assistance in steel to our neighbouring countries like Bangladesh, Ceylon, Pakistan, Nepal or whatever it is. Today we cannot do that. But I would like that some day India will be able to help

itself and the neighbouring countries as well as the ASEAN countries not only in steel but in other engineering goods based on steel based on aluminium and based on other metals that we have got like Chrome; and some other metals which we do not have, we will have to get from those countries. Thank you.

**REFERENCE TO THE REPORTED  
ATTACK ON A.M.U. STUDENTS—  
contd**

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, Mr. Deputy Chairman gave a direction to the Government that the Home Minister should come and make a statement on the incident that took place this morning at 8-30 at Dadri station, where many students, hundreds of students, belonging to the minority community, have been injured while they were coming from Aligarh to Delhi to stage a demonstration against the Aligarh Muslim University (Amendment) Bill. I would like to know.. (Interruptions)

DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA: Regarding this, a statement will be made tomorrow. (Interruptions)

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: If the direction is not fulfilled, it amounts to contempt of the House.

(Interruptions)

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I understand the problem .... (Interruptions)

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: The Minister is not here. (Interruptions)

SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH: You have promised in this House about it. (Interruptions)

DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA: Sir, I have said... (Interruptions)

DR. V. P. DUTT (Nominated): Sir, the point is...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): I understand it. Please take your seat (Interruptions) Would you please take your seat?

DR. V. P. DUTT: The point is whether the Government will comply with your direction or not.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): Just now I have been supplied with some information which I will read out for you. This information I got just now, because there was, I think, a directive from the Deputy Chairman...

DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA: I intimated the Chair that I was informing the persons concerned.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI ARVIND GANESH KULKARNI): The Minister has informed that it will not be possible to, make the statement today as information is still being collected.

SHRI G. C. BHATTACHARYA: Dadri is not very far. Dadri is part of Delhi. It is so near. This incident took place around 8.30 in the morning.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE (West Bengal): This piece of information could have been given by the Home Minister on the floor of the House at least to show courtesy to the House, to show respect to the directive given by the Deputy Chairman. The Home Minister could have himself come and said, I am not in possession of sufficient information, I will make it available as soon as I get it.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: This is exactly what I wanted to point out, how much careless the Government has remained over this incident. In the afternoon when I raised this point,