

श्री महावीर त्यागी : इस गिरावट की तो उम्मीद नहीं थी। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि गवर्नमेंट इस नीचे लेवल तक आ गयी है. . . . . (Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What do you want?

श्री लाल आडवाणी : मैं यह उम्मीद करता हूँ कि जैसे ओम् मेहता जी ने कहा है कि उन के यहाँ से कोई इस्ट्रक्शन्स नहीं दिये गये तो इस विषय पर दो घंटे की बहस करा दी जाय तो मैं दिखा दूंगा कि किस तरह के और किस किस को इस्ट्रक्शन्स दिये गये हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is the end of the matter. He has replied. I have heard you. I am ruling it out of order. Mr. Malaviya.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: I am protesting against the gross abuse of governmental machinery.

सब का दुरुपयोग किया गया है, शिक्षा मंत्रालय का दुरुपयोग किया गया है और इस प्रकार से जो लोकतंत्र का आधार है उस पर कुठाराघात किया गया है। इस के विरोध में मैं और मेरा दल वाक आउट करते हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Minister.

(At this stage Shri Lal K. Advani and the Members belonging to his Party left the Chamber).

SHRI OM MEHTA: No दुरुपयोग has been done.

श्री राजनारायण . मेरा एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है कि श्री ओम् मेहता न गृह मंत्री हैं, न प्रधान मंत्री हैं, न रेल मंत्री हैं, और न पुलिस मंत्री हैं तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार इस पर जुडिशियल इन्क्वायरी बैठाने के लिए तैयार है? अगर सरकार इस बात के लिए तैयार नहीं है तो हम सब लोग

इसके विरोध में 5 मिनट का सदन त्याग करते हैं।

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

SHRI M.S. ABDUL KHADER (Tamil Nadu): The Government machinery is being used for the existence of the ruling party. So we too join the walk out.

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let us be very quick about it so that we can get on with the other business.

### THE COAL MINES (CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT) BILL 1974—contd.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA): I hope they will come back to listen to my speech which is very useful.

SHRI A.G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra): Do not worry. They will come back.

SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, yesterday we had a very useful discussion on the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Those Members who are going out may go out silently.

SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA: Yesterday we had a very useful discussion on the Bill which was put before the House by me regarding the conservation and development of coal. While moving for the proposal for the consideration of the Bill I mentioned certain salient features of the proposal before the House. The most important point which I want to repeat here was that the Coal Board which was constituted under the 1952 Act was abolished mainly because the coal industry as a whole has been nationalised and the Central Government is now responsible not only for the production and distribution but also for the conservation and development of the coal mines. A certain point was raised yesterday that the conservation and development of the coal mines is such a fundamental por-

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gramme in coal production that it can be and should be handed over to some sort of an independent authority which should be made responsible for this. Sir, the Government has taken over all the responsibility of production, and production envisages development. Without applying the principles of development conservation and technical examination of the questions of production involved, it is not possible to increase production. Therefore, the Central Government proposes to create proper authorities also within its own spheres, whether they may be separate from the Coal Mines Authority or they may be a part thereof will be considered. But I want to assure the House that so far as the conservation and development is concerned Government is pledged to take full care of it, and in the next few months it is proposed that a picture will be put before the House as to what measures we are taking with regard to conservation and development.

Yesterday, and elsewhere also, it was stated by the critics that with the closing down of the Coal Board the quality of coal supplied to the various parties would suffer.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about thermal plants?

SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA: I am coming to that. It may be clarified that the Coal Board has nothing to do with the determination of the quality of coal despatched. When coal was decontrolled—it was done in 1967—checking the quality was left between the producer and the consumer and the Coal Board was only checking the samples of the coal in the seams and allot quality to it and thereafter on that quality price was paid by the consumer. During the pre-nationalisation days what was happening was that the proprietors of the coal mines managed to undergrade the coal supplied to them and pay less for what they should have paid higher.

That evil practice was in vogue when coal was not nationalised. We are now changing that system. We will now see that coal will be despatched with the producer giving a self-declaration of the quality and that declaration

of quality would be subject to joint sampling, that is, by the consumer and the producer. The consumer will then have to pay for the quality of coal as received by him and not on the basis of any certificate. Thus, you will see, Sir, that quality was not controlled by the coal Board. It was only specified by the Coal Board. We are now taking adequate measures with regard to the supply of proper quality of coal. I will come later on to the quality of coal supplied to thermal power stations. Let me deal with the points raised by hon. Members *serialim*.

The question of sand-stowing was raised yesterday. As hon. Members are aware, this aspect of safety of the coal mines is very important. Without sand-stowing, the life of a coal mine cannot be assured. Previously it was not done properly. Now the cost of transport having increased very much, the finances available to the public sector organisation are not at all adequate. Hence the necessity of increasing the cess to an average of something up to Rs. 10 per tonne. This money will be utilised satisfactorily and in a proper manner for conservation of the mines in which sand-stowing forms a very important programme.

I would not like to refer to the various failures of the previous owners of these coal mines. But generally speaking, the hon. Members who criticised the Government for taking over, know more than what we know what the private sector owners of these coal mines were doing, whether it was under-rating of quality in order to make more money, or preparing a fictitious muster roll in order to save money in collusion with the contractors or utilising contractors to share the loot between themselves and the contractors. All those things are known even to those people who are to-day criticising us and they know that those practices are almost disappearing, if they have not disappeared; and if they have not disappeared, they have to thank those people who were and who are still a problem for us in the coal mines. It has nothing to do with the law and order problem. The remnants of those days and those evil practices are still posing a problem for us.

Mr. Kalyan Roy raised the question of devastating fires in the coal mines. Unfortunately there are fires in the coal mines. As a matter of fact, there are about 48 places where fires are raging in the entire Jharia coal mines. So far as underground fires are concerned, they have been completely controlled, and I am glad to state here that the underground fires in the coal mines are no more any problem for us. But the surface fires are still raging and they are admittedly out of our control. Because of the availability of air and oxygen, it is not very easy to extinguish those fires. And whatever we might do, the fires go beyond our control. No methods has yet been found out so far as our investigations are concerned, to control those fires. But still we took some steps and we spent about Rs. 12 to Rs. 13 lakhs, to see what can be done to control those fires. I would only like to inform the House that we are as much concerned with these surface fires as the honourable Members opposite are. Unfortunately these fires have been continuing for more than two decades, and they were not created by us; they came there due to neglect by those people who owned those mines. We took some steps to improve the situation. I hope, therefore, the honourable Members will not blame us for trying to control the fires.

**श्री राजनारायण (उत्तर प्रदेश) :**

क्योंकि हमारा वहां जाना रुक गया इसलिए आग ज्यादा लगी।

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय :** यह ऐसी बात है कि दिमाग में कोई बात आ गई है हमारे मिव के, अब कैसे मैं निकालूं? अभी उसके बारे में बात करूं तो शायद इसका प्रयत्न करूं। थोड़ी बात मान भी लूं तो सभी बात नहीं मान सकता हूं—मेरा दुर्भाग्य है। लेकिन कुछ बातों को मानने का प्रयत्न करूंगा जब उनके मामले पर आऊंगा।

**श्री चक्रपाणि शुक्ल (मध्य प्रदेश) :**

वह समझेंगे क्या?

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय :** अगर नहीं समझ में आएगा तो बदकिस्मती उनकी है।

I was just mentioning in reply to Mr. Kalyan Roy and some other Members that some sort of a separate body is needed in order to look after the problems of conservation and development. How much we can separate it from our integrated organisation of the public sector, that is, the B.C.C.I. and the C.M.A., I cannot say. I admit the logic of it, that the programme of conservation has to be entrusted to a responsible body which will have to act under the guidelines of the Central Government and the scientific method of doing it, and as far as possible, it should be separated from the functions of the production units.

Now, Mr. Kalyan Roy referred to the element of price of coal. This is a complicated question. What he says is thoroughly justified. It is right that the price of Indian coal is the lowest in the world. And unfortunately, tragically, the working condition, the living condition, of the wage-earner in coal production is also most tragic and unsatisfactory. I make that admission. But then I will go to the history of it and will say something which, perhaps, may not please my friend, Mr. Ragnarain. This coal price, in my personal opinion, has to be increased. Let us now fully understand the implications of increase in price, because the difficulties that are involved in the increase of this price must be known to the honourable Members. I must share that knowledge with them. It is perhaps known that after the take-over of textile mills which are under contemplation of the Government, which are about 109, and most of them are perhaps being run or will be run ultimately, by coal and not by furnace oil, 80 per cent of the coal produced, of 80 million tons or 75 million tons, today is consumed by the public sector, by the railways, by the power-houses, by such industries as are being run by the public sector and the textile mills which are going to be under the public sector, and one or two more marginal industries like cement where we have necessarily to supply coal, then

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aluminium, wherever public sector coal production units have to supply coal; there the prices have to come from the Government, and therefore, there is very little difference between subsidy and paying the price to public sector production units. Whatever price we will increase, will have to be paid by the public sector. It is only 20 per cent where the private citizen comes, where the public comes, and we can load the price of coal on them. Whether that price from the public comes from the black money that is circulating or whatever it is, is a different matter. But most of the money will have to be arranged by Government departments. That is the complication. But I am prepared to make my personal submission that Government will have to find out money either...

SHRI RAJNARAIN: What do you mean by personal submission? Say "Government submission".

SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA: Yes, Government will have to seriously consider. It has not been done....

SHRI RAJNARAIN: Why do you give your personal opinion?

SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA: Government will have to take it very seriously whether....

SHRI RAJNARAIN: Why personal opinion

SHRI K.D. MALAVIYA: I am giving my personal opinion which will have to be considered very seriously by the Government because it has not been accepted by the Government.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, हमारा एक प्वाइन्ट आफ़ ऑर्डर है।

श्री उपसभापति : क्या है ?

श्री राजनारायण . हमारा प्वाइन्ट आफ़ ऑर्डर यह है कि क्या मंत्री यहां पर अपनी वैयक्तिक राय देंगे या फिर सरकार की राय देंगे ? जहां तक मैं संसदीय प्रथा को जानता हूं, जिनकी हमारी जानकारी है, उसके मुताबिक मंत्री

जो कुछ भी सदन के अन्दर कहता है, उसका सरकार की राय से ज्यादा सम्बन्ध है और हम लोगों को सरकार की राय से अवगत कराना है न कि अपनी वैयक्तिक राय यहां पर देना है। इसलिए मैं आप से निवेदन करूंगा कि मंत्री जी को बोलने से पहिले संसदीय प्रथा का ज्ञान कर लेना चाहिये कि वे जो कुछ भी यहां पर बोलते हैं, वह सरकार की राय होती है और सदन को उनकी पर्सनल राय से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Government has not made up its mind and so the Minister was trying to give his personal opinion. He is recommending it to the Government.

श्री राजनारायण : श्रीमन्, क्या यह ठीक है कि अगर ये ऐसा कहते हैं तो इसकी गवर्नमेंट की भत्सर्ना तो हो गई।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : मुझे कोई ऐसा कायदा कानून मालूम नहीं है कि मंत्री को "वैयक्तिक" शब्द का इस्तेमाल नहीं करना चाहिये। (Interruption) मैं राजनारायण को यह समझाने की कोशिश कर रहा था कि जब तक सरकार का फैसला किसी बात पर नहीं हो जाता, तब तक उन फैसलों के सम्बन्ध में चाहे मैं अपने मंत्री की हैसियत से कहूं या फिर बैयक्तिक हैसियत से कहूं. . . (Interruption)

श्री राजनारायण : मैं तो इस बारे में आपको ज्ञान देना चाहता हूं।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : आपको भी ज्ञान सिखाना है और आपको इस बारे में बतलाना चाहता हूं।

श्री राजनारायण : यह स्कूल नहीं है। अगर माननीय मंत्री जी हमें ज्ञान

देने के लिए तैयार है, तो माननीय मंत्री जी को हमारी शंकाओं का समाधान करना होगा।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप क्लाम की बात बाद में ले लीजिये।

**डा० रामकृपाल सिंह :** क्या मंत्री जी ने कोयले की कीमत बढ़ाये जाने के बारे में सरकारी स्तर पर बातचीत कर ली है?

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय :** जब मैंने यह कहा कि 80 प्रतिशत कोयले की खपत सरकार करती है, तो मैं श्री राजनारायण को सफाई दे रहा था और ज्ञान दे रहा था। लेकिन आखिर में...

**श्री राजनारायण :** मगर ज्ञान ले भी लीजिये।

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA :** I was saying that Shri Kalyan Roy also mentioned about negotiations that have been held recently about giving other amenities to the wage-earners. Shri Rajnarain also mentioned about it and many other Members.....

**श्री राजनारायण :** जरा जोर से बोलिये क्योंकि आपकी आवाज सुनाई नहीं दे रही है। आप माइक के सामने बोलिये तब आपकी आवाज सुनाई देगी।

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय :** जरा कान से कपडे को हटा लीजिये तब सुनाई देगा।

**श्री उपसभापति :** आप बात कर रहे हैं तब आपको सुनाई नहीं दे रहा है।

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA :** Shri Kalyan Roy raised the question of wages and he said many things with which I agree and many things with which I do not agree. I would not like to go into all those details.

But I would like to remind Shri Kalyan Roy that the wages of coal mine workers were higher till 1967 than workers in most of the organised industries in the country, whether it was jute or whether it was steel or whether it was cement and many other industries. It was only after 1967 when the wage was Rs. 106 per month, the wages of coal mine workers started coming down than others.

And, Sir, on the 1st of October, it was Rs. 225 per month and now it is Rs. 325. This may have many financial implications for the public sector organisations. But the fact is that it is Rs. 325 now and so far as the Government is concerned, I or the Government or any representative of the Government have never said that the negotiating committee's tentative agreements, which were arrived at in Calcutta, were either accepted or rejected by the Government. They were not even signed and nobody prevented them also. But certain developments took place in between which created a situation in which the whole matter went into the cauldron of thinking, of reconsideration and all that. I have never said anything, I want to assure the House, about the question of increasing the wages. But I am seriously thinking, seriously considering as to what is to be done with regard to minimum wages and other aspects thereof, whether it is fringe benefits or the house rent allowance or the increase in the underground benefit or any other benefits and these never have been rejected. What we wanted was to get some more time under the circumstances to see what could be done and how to divide the two things and to decide in what manner we could enter into a fresh round of talks with a view to arriving at a satisfactory settlement. And, Sir, personally—I am again using the word “personally” and I hope I am not provoking Shri Rajnarain—I tried my level best to accept the system as far as I could and I will do it and let there be no misapprehension about it. Let there be no misapprehension that we have frozen or that we have refused to negotiate for a further rise in the wages.

**SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA (Bihar) :** Can you give us some idea as to the time-

[Shri Yogendra Sharma]

timit, can you indicate any time-limit, by which the Government would be able to do this?

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I am sorry, I cannot give you any idea just now. But it will be my effort to do it as soon as possible.

Now, Sir, with regard to the welfare of the workers, Mr. Kalyan Roy and other honourable Members drew a very grim picture of the living conditions of the workers. Well, I have nothing to add to that and all that I can say is that we are very much concerned about the living conditions of the workers. But I want to say one thing and that is that we took over the mines, the non-coking coal mines, on 31-1-73 and the coking coal mines were taken over in October 1971, some about a year and a half and others about two and a half years ago. Now, before all these things, I never had seen, although Mr. Rajnarain was present here in this House, I do not recollect having seen his having ever raised such a condemnatory voice against all those proprietors of the coal mines who were mainly responsible for the wretched conditions of the workers in the coal mines. What we did is—and I claim....

श्री राजनारायण : श्री कुमाग्रमंगलम ने टेक-ओवर करने के पहले बता दिया था कि उन लोगों ने अपनी सारी मशीनें बेच दी पहले ही।

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I am sorry to say that Mr. Rajnarain was not so enthusiastic in condemning the private sector coal mine owners who took the life of the coal mine workers.

श्री राजनारायण : तब श्री केशवदेव मालवीय यहां नहीं थे, वे बाहर थे, बवाहरनाल नेहरू ने उनको निकाल दिया था।

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Now, Sir, he is a member of the Bharatiya Kranti Dal and he is the leader of the BKD here and he is not a socialist now.

श्री राजनारायण : इस तरह की बात आप करेंगे तो हम भी अटैक करेंगे और आप घबड़ा जाएंगे।

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : हम आपके अटैक से घबड़ाने नहीं।

श्री राजनारायण : आपका सारा कच्चा चिट्ठा मेरे पास है, उसे हम डिपुटी चैयरमेन साहब के पास भेज देंगे। आप पॉइन्ट पर बोलिए।

श्री ओम् प्रकाश त्यागी (उत्तर प्रदेश) : एक चीज मैं पूछना चाहूंगा। आपने जब से इन कोल माइन्स को लिया तब से जो कन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर था, केजुअल लेबर था उनमें से कितने को आपने रेगुलर वेजेज में लगा लिया है काम पर और कितनों को नहीं लगाया है? क्या फैसिलिटीज आपने दी है?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : जो कन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर था वह कन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर ही है। वह हमारे मातहत नहीं है। कुछ जो आता है उसको ले लेते हैं। सवाल यह है कि हमारा प्रोग्राम क्या है।

What our programme is.....It is to improve the living conditions of these workers.

श्री ओम् प्रकाश त्यागी : सवाल यह था कि जो प्राइवेट ओनर्स थे वे एक्सप्लोइट करते थे, रेगुलर वेजेज पर थोड़े आदमी रखते थे, अधिकांश केजुअल लेबर रखते थे। यह आशा थी कि गवर्नमेंट कन्ट्रैक्ट लेबर को, केजुअल लेबर को रेगुलर वेजेज पर लेगी। आपने आज तक ऐसा क्यों नहीं किया?

श्री के० डी० मालवीय : हम ने बहुतों को लिया है लेकिन जो कांट्रैक्ट सिस्टम है उसमें जो मजदूर आ कर काम करते हैं और चले जाते हैं उस को अभी तक हम ने तोड़ा नहीं है,

खत्म नहीं किया है। हम उस सिस्टम का परित्याग करना चाहते हैं लेकिन कुछ ऐसी दिक्कतें हैं कि जिन की वजह से हम उस का परित्याग नहीं कर पाये हैं और न अभी उसे खत्म कर सकते हैं। कुछ समय तक वह और चल सकता है लेकिन हमारी अभिलाषा है कि इस कांट्रैक्ट सिस्टम को बंद कर दिया जाय, लेकिन आज तक हम उस को बंद नहीं कर सके हैं। हमारा कार्यक्रम जो है वह करीब करीब सौ करोड़ रुपया खर्च करने का है उन मजदूरों के लिए मकान बनाने के लिए इन चार, पांच सालों में। इस माल भी हम ने पैसा लगाया है और मकान बनाये हैं और जो हमारी योजना है जिस को कि हाउस मंजूर कर चुका है वह कोल के उत्पादन की करीब करीब 700 करोड़ रुपये की है और उस के अंदर 50 करोड़ रुपया तो मकान बनाने के लिए है जिस में से हम कुछ खर्च कर चुके हैं और 50 करोड़ रुपये का और इतजाम करना चाहते हैं, वेल्फेयर फंड से जो आयेगा उस लेंगे और कुछ हम निकालने की कोशिश करेंगे। तो हमें इस चार, पांच साल में करीब एक सौ करोड़ रुपया मकानों के लिये खर्च करना है और यह हमारा प्रयास है कि हम सस्ते से सस्ते मकान बनाये और उन में सीमेंट और लोहा कम से कम लगायें और जो हमें रुड़की में रिसर्च और डवलपमेंट का ज्ञान हासिल हुआ है उस का फायदा उठा कर वहां उसी तरह के मकान बनायें उनकी ही स्पेस के मकान बनाये और उन में जितना पहले खर्च हुआ करता था उस से कम खर्च करें। अभी जो आंकड़े मैं देना चाहता हूं वह यह है कि 50 हजार वर्कर्स जो कि सी०एम०ए० में

काम करते थे कांट्रैक्ट सिस्टम के अंतर्गत, उस जमाने में, उनको हम ने परमानेंट रोल पर लगा दिया है और करीब एक लाख वर्कर्स को वी० सी० सी० एल० में रखा गया है। तो इस तरह से हम ने करीब डेढ़ लाख वर्कर्स को रेगुलर रोल पर रख लिया है जो उस में नहीं थे, लेकिन फिर भी कुछ वर्कर्स बाकी हैं और उन का इतिहास दूसरा है। उस में ओवर इंप्लायमेंट, अडर इंप्लायमेंट, काल रोल और जालसाजी, बहुत सी बातें आ जायेंगी जो यहां कुछ लोगों को अच्छी नहीं लगेगी और मैं यह नहीं चाहता कि जो लोग वहां काम कर रहे हैं उन को निकालने का प्रश्न किसी तरह से सामने आये। सरकार का यह प्रयत्न होगा कि जो लोग काम कर रहे हैं इस समय उन को जैसे जैसे हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ता जाय उन की हम वहां खपत करते जायें। अभी यह खपत हम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं और उन को रेगुलर रोल पर नहीं ले रहे हैं तो उस के लिए सरकार पर कोई बोध नहीं लगाया जा सकता।

श्री मकसूद अली साहब ने कल कहा था।

Then, Shri Maqsood Ali Khan raised certain points with regard to development, which are very relevant. I appreciate the points raised by him and it will be our effort, as I have already said, to streamline our entire machinery of conservation and development and to have more scientific planning in the country. But the fact cannot be forgotten that the element of manual labour in our coal is a factor to be reckoned with. We cannot mechanise the mines just as the Rumanians or the Russians can do. The process of mechanisation of a mine can only be linked purposefully with the social objectives of giving employment to as many people as

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

we can. There is no alternative to it. Therefore, it will have to be something in between mechanisation plus employment aspect of the people who are there or whom we have still to employ. As far as the question of quality of coal being supplied to the thermal power stations is concerned, this question always engages our attention. In its totality, we are not supplying any bad quality coal. Out of 80 or 81 units of thermal power stations to whom we have to supply coal, complaints have come from only three or so. As the hon. Members must be aware, as we go down in the coal mines, the quality deteriorates. It is a natural phenomenon. The quality deteriorates when you go down. Therefore, there is bound to be a deterioration in the quality of coal and then some sort of a proper mixture has to be made in order to improve the quality as far as it is possible for us. Some shaly things also come in their natural way while the coal is mined. Whenever we come across such shaly zones or layers, we remove them. And sometimes, we are not able to find it. As soon as our attention is drawn to this fact, we face the situation and improve it.

Sir, Mr. Sinha obviously said everything that he could against the nationalization. And he thought that the situation and the production pattern of coal was far superior at that time than what it is now. I beg to differ from him totally in what he said. The fact is power consumption has increased, coal production has increased, employment also has increased, condition of wage earners has also improved. And the housing and other living conditions today are not so bad as they were. Although it is not very bad, it should be our worry and we should try to improve it as soon as it is possible for us. I think he also said about the supply of low quality coal. And I said, in the case of two or three plants in U.P. the coal quality has deteriorated and that is also due to the reasons which the Members on the other side have not cared to note. The quantity has not decreased. Sometimes, there is a transport difficulty and, therefore, there could be delay for a few days here and there. But as soon

as our attention is drawn to it, we avoided this delay.

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : I said that because of the supply of low grade coal to thermal plants of Barauni and Patrato and other thermal plants in Bihar and Bengal, there were cases of blasts. There were three or four blasts in the Patrato thermal plants. There were some casualties as well. This was because of the supply of low grade coal.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Supply of low grade coal normally should not cause blasting in the boilers. If there is any basic imbalance in the designing of the boiler and the quality of the coal supplied, I do not know what can happen. And I am not personally just now aware of any such accidents which have been caused by the supply of low quality coal. But, sometimes, due to pressure on the transport system at a particular time either due to strike or go-slow or any other thing, coal wagons, coal rakes, are diverted in order to see that the thermal power stations are maintained. Therefore, in that hurry, it is quite possible that the desired quality of coal does not reach at a particular point of time. We then review the whole situation immediately. It is not a permanent feature. And it is also a fact that in several places, the designing of the boiler is not, perhaps, appropriate with regard to the supply of a particular kind of coal. And that is a point which is constantly under care of the Coal Ministry and the Power Ministry. We take care to see how far we can reduce all these imbalances.

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE : About the monopoly of distribution agencies.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : I will come to that point also. Sir, low production of steel due to lack of power is a fact. This is known. And adequate quantity of power is not available sometimes. When it is not available to the coking coal areas, then enough quantity of coking coal does not reach. There also, the situation has improved.

As the House is aware, the Durgapur Steel Plant which had plenty of problems has increased its ingot production from 27 thousand



tonnes to 78 thousand tonnes. The relations there have improved. The position has improved there for which I have conveyed my gratitude to workers, to the Government of West Bengal and to all our leaders. The power position from the D.V.C. has improved but whenever there is some trouble in the D.V.C. or in the neighbouring areas it has its direct effect or whenever there is any trouble in the supply from the Bihar State Electricity Board the B.C.C.L. gets directly affected and the production goes down. Whenever the power generation is not adequate temporarily, coal is not produced in that adequate quantity.

Now, the trains were cancelled, sometimes because of shortage of coal. If there is a strike, coal will not reach.

(Interruptions)

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : In July 1973 there was no strike.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Maybe, but I am not aware of it that stoppage of those trains was on account of shortage of coal.

SHRI KALI MUKHERJEE (West Bengal) : That was because of lock out.

DR. RAMKRIPAL SINHA : No.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : There is absolutely no hide and seek between coal and Railways. We are co-ordinating our activities. There are real difficulties, like those of shortages of wagons and the entire gamut of programme as also expansion of industrial activity in some cases has given rise to certain shortages. These may be marginal. They may be solved tomorrow or day after tomorrow or after six months. But, we are constantly in touch with each other to see that the difficulties are removed.

Now, I come to my friend, Mr. Rajnarain.

इन्होंने कह दिया कि राष्ट्रीयकरण हुआ ही नहीं, यह तो अधिकरण हुआ है। इनकी राजनीतिक मशा क्या है वह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया। मेरी राय यह है कि वह राष्ट्रीयकरण है। क्योंकि कोई भी संस्था आप बनाएं, चाहे आप उसका नाम ट्रस्टी रखें, चाहे को-ऑपरेटिव सोसाइटी रखें, एसोसिएशन रखें, या सी०

एम० ए० रखें, या बी० सी० सी० एल० रखें अथवा कुछ और रखें उसमें थोड़े आदमी एक निश्चित उद्देश्य को लेकर काम करते हैं। उसके पीछे प्रेरणा होती है।

श्री राजनारायण : यह मामला सुप्रीम कोर्ट में गया था। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने उसमें लिखा है कि यह नेशन लाइजेशन नहीं है इसलिए नेशनलाइजेशन शब्द का प्रयोग अनुचित है। यह एक्वीजिशन है और इसको सरकार ने अपने हाथ में लिया है। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने इसको राष्ट्रीयकरण का नाम नहीं दिया है। माननीय मंत्री जी की जो पोलिटिकल फिलॉसफी है उसके मुताबिक चाहे जो कहे मगर जनतंत्रीय पद्धति में जो विश्वास रखते हैं उनके मुताबिक यह राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं है।

श्री उपसभापति : आपकी फिलॉसफी में राष्ट्रीयकरण नहीं है।

श्री के० डी० मालवोय : यह कोल कजर्वेशन बिल है इसलिए मैं इसमें ज्यादा नहीं कहना चाहता। मैं सिर्फ इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि यह राष्ट्रीयकरण है। चाहे आपकी पार्टी हो या किसी और की पार्टी हो मगर वह एक ऐसी संख्या बनेगी जो उत्पादन का काम करेगी।

जहां इन्होंने यह कहा कि गर्व नहीं करना चाहिए तो मैं उनको विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूं कि गर्व करना बहुत खराब बात है और हम में किसी को गर्व नहीं है और कम से कम मैं कभी भी गर्व से प्रेरित हो कर कोई बात नहीं कहता हूं। मैं इतना कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर बुद्धि विपन्न हो जाए तो आप जान सकते हैं उसे क्या कहें।

[श्री के० डी० मालवीय]

आपने तुलसी की उक्ति का भी जिक्र किया था। बड़ा अच्छा कहा है उन्होंने। मैं आपको विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि गर्व से प्रेरित होकर मैं कोई बात नहीं कहता। मेरा पूरा विश्वास है कि जो काम हम कर रहे हैं, जिस तरह से हम काम कर रहे हैं यह राष्ट्रीय हित में है और एक लॉग टर्म व्यू उसमें लाना पड़ता है। आप थोड़े दिनों में महज नुक्ताचीनी करके उन चीजों को दूर नहीं कर सकते।

चाहे आप कुछ भी कहें, चार-पांच महीनों में या छः महीनों में गाली देने से कोई फल नहीं निकल सकता है। इसी तरह से वहां पर मजदूरों की जो वर्किंग कन्डीशन है उसकी तरक्की होने में और उनको पीने का पानी मिलने और उनके लिए मकान बनने में कुछ समय तो लगेगा। हमारा प्रयत्न जारी है और अगर हमारा काम ठीक न हो तो उसके लिए हम अपराधी हो सकते हैं। हमारा यह पूरा प्रयत्न है कि जल्द से जल्द उनकी हालत में हम सुधार करें और उनका वेजेज के बारे में जो डिमॉन्स्ट्रेशन है उसके बारे में कोई फैसला करें। जहां तक दामों का सवाल है, कोयले के दाम मौजूदा परिस्थितियों में जितने हो सकते हैं उनसे हमें बढ़ाने पड़ेंगे। बढ़ाने के अलावा हमारे पास कोई दूसरा चारा नहीं है। दाम बढ़ाने के संबंध में जो स्थिति है उसको मैंने आपके सामने रख दिया है. . . (Interruption)। पिछले सालों में सभी चीजों के दाम बढ़े हैं। दाम बढ़ाने में घबराना नहीं चाहिए। दाम बढ़ाने की जो अर्थ नीति है उसको फिर से समझना चाहिए।

मैं सरकार की राय इस बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ कि अगर हम उत्पादन बढ़ाना चाहते हैं, वर्कर्स की कन्डीशन में सुधार चाहते हैं तो हमें इस प्रकार के कदम उठाने ही पड़ेंगे।

**श्री बनारसी दास (उत्तर प्रदेश) :**  
एक साल में कोयले के दाम कितने बढ़ेंगे ?

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय :** मैं जिस बात की तरफ इशारा कर रहा हूँ, माननीय सदस्यो को उसको समझना चाहिए। अगर हम कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ाना चाहते हैं और मेकेनाइज्ड माइन्स करना चाहते हैं, लोगों को इम्प्लॉयमेंट देना चाहते हैं, वहां की हालत की तरक्की करना चाहते हैं तो हमको इन सब चीजों पर विचार करना चाहिए और दाम बढ़ाने से घबराना नहीं होगा। दाम बढ़ाने से मुमकिन है कि और चीजों के दाम घट जाय। इसलिए कोयले के दाम बढ़ाने से आंखें नहीं मूंदी जा सकती हैं। इस वक्त जो मौजूदा स्थिति है उस पर गम्भीरतापूर्वक हमें विचार तो करना ही पड़ेगा।

जहां तक मजदूरी का सवाल है, इसकी बात मैं कर चुका हूँ। आग लगने की जो बात कही गई है, उसके बारे में भी कह चुका हूँ। भ्रष्टाचार की बात भी कह दी है। भ्रष्टाचार के बारे में कहा गया कि वहां तो भ्रष्टाचार ही भ्रष्टाचार है। कोयले के क्षेत्र में भ्रष्टाचार का एक इतिहास है और हम उसको कम कर रहे हैं और कम हुआ भी है। बहुत से लोग पकड़े गये हैं और पकड़े जा रहे हैं। जाच-पड़ताल भी हो रही है और आगे भी होगी और भ्रष्टाचार को कम करने

का हमारा पूरा प्रयत्न है ताकि बहुत दिनों से जो चीज चल रही है उसको जितना कम हम कर सकते हैं उतना जल्दी से जल्दी करें।

**श्री ओउम् प्रकाश त्यागी :** आपके बड़े-बड़े अफसर भी इस भ्रष्टाचार में शामिल हैं।

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय :** अफसर भी इसमें पकड़े गये हैं और उनका नाम भी बता दिया गया है। कुछ को बर्खास्त भी किया गया है, नौकरी से हटाया गया है। जांच भी हो रही है। बड़े-बड़े अफसरों के खिलाफ भी कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं और मेरा ख्याल है कि कुछ दिनों में आपको सतोष हो जाएगा कि कुछ प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि ऐसे लोग जो यह कहते हैं कि कुछ नहीं हो रहा है उनको भी मानना पड़ेगा कि कुछ प्रयत्न हो रहा है।

1 P.M.

मेरे मित्र काली बाबू ने प्रश्न उठाया था कि नेशनलाइजेशन का पर-पञ्ज जो है कंजर्वेशन है। मैं बिलकुल इतिफाक करता हूँ क्योंकि One of the main objectives is to conserve and look after the safety of the coal mines. If we cannot look after the safety of the coal mines, if we cannot look after the problems of conservation, then there is no use of nationalising the coal mines. It is precisely for this purpose that we have come forward with this Bill increasing the cess.

On the question of captive power stations, I entirely agree that the coal mines should have captive power stations according to their requirements and I am glad to announce that the other sister Ministry has not got any particular objection. We are trying to negotiate for some captive power stations so that the supply of power to our coal mining area becomes more satisfactory and we may be able to produce more.

With regard to the question of distribution, distribution also is one of the main objectives; in fact it is the duty of the Government. We have already started on a scheme of having dumps. Because of the rainy season we are having some difficulty; most of the coal is still being transported by trucks. The scarcity of diesel is also there and the roads sometimes get slushy and therefore we are not able to move coal as quickly as we want. We have already got four dumps in U.P. So far as far-flung areas are concerned, like Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, we send wagons but to nearer areas like West Bengal, Bihar and Eastern U.P. we transport coal by road. We hope with this process of control and distribution the position will improve.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :** How much more time you will take?

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA :** I shall finish in two or three minutes.

**MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :** Otherwise we can continue after lunch.

**SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA :** So all these things are being taken care of and we hope we shall control more and more the distribution aspect also.

The Bill is certainly an incomplete picture if the whole aspect of production, development and distribution is not before the House. This Bill limits itself to the question of abolition of the Coal Board. Only one point I want to make in the last. Certain Members were apprehensive that those who are employed in Calcutta will be at a disadvantage when the Coal Board is dissolved. I want to assure the House that nobody will be removed from the job. From clause 13 it will be seen that we have contemplated the necessity of having some other organisation which may have to take over the task that is now being done by the Coal Board. Maybe, some other organisation may become necessary. And transfers may have to take place from Calcutta and with regard to compensation we shall certainly see that they are not put to any unreasonable loss. We shall do all that is possible for us

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

to satisfy the worker who is removed from Calcutta to elsewhere in the discharge of his duty that would be incumbent on him when the new organisation is set up.

I have nothing more to say. I have covered most of the points and if more points are made by hon. Members I shall try to meet them in the third reading.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the conservation of coal and development of coal mines and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We shall now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

*Clauses 2 to 19 were added to the bill.*

*Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the bill.*

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill be passed."

*The question was proposed.*

### REFERENCE TO ARREST OF SHRI V.K. SAKHLECHA

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI (Delhi) : Sir, before you adjourn I would like to raise a point of order and seek your guidance on that. Actually I was expecting that during this period before we adjourn for lunch we would be hearing from you information about the arrest of one of our Members, Mr. V. K. Sakhlecha. He is a Member of this House. He has been arrested yesterday in Bhopal sometime in the afternoon and the news has appeared in all papers this morning. It is a PTI report. I need not go into the whole thing. I think one of the essential privileges of this House is that we have the right to be informed immediately when any of our

Members is arrested in any part of the country. Obviously there has been a breach of that privilege. Because I expected that the information would have reached you, I did not give it in the form of a privilege motion. I would request you, as the custodian of the privileges of this House, to take up this matter on your own and see what has happened.

There is another aspect of it and that is on the 17th of this month the election of the President is to be held and Mr. Sakhlecha, as a Member of the Rajya Sabha, is a member of the electoral college which will elect the President. The PTI report says that over 4,000 workers were arrested, including 40 women. The concluding paragraph says that all the women demonstrators were sentenced to simple imprisonment till the rising of the court, while the remaining have been awarded sentences for periods varying between 3 and 3 days. This suggests that Mr. Sakhlecha also may have been sentenced for 8 days—I do not know. I have no information excepting this. My request to you is to see that he is enabled to cast his vote at Bhopal. These are the two points on which I seek your guidance. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Actually whenever a Member is arrested the Magistrate should immediately take steps to inform the House.

SHRI LAL K. ADVANI : He has not done it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I am surprised that the information has not yet been conveyed to the House. Therefore, I would request the Home Ministry to take up this matter with the authorities concerned there. Extracts of the proceedings just now will also be sent to the Home Ministry.

The House stands adjourned till 2 P.M.

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