

if you think that what has appeared in the press is not necessarily correct; but then surely it has an impact on the Question Hour. During Question Hour in British Parliament, I may tell you, Members of the ruling party ask all inconvenient questions. Have you ever heard these things being debated in the Conservative Party when it was in power or by the Labour Party when it was in power? It is not done. Question Hour loses its meaning if Members of the ruling party are prevented from asking questions in public interest. Question Hour is not a party matter. I am not going into who is right or who is wrong. That is not the issue. But Question Hour should be fully encouraged by all parties, above all, by the ruling party.

SHRI N.G. GORAY: Sir, I would submit only one or two things. One is that *suo mom* you should have taken note of what has appeared in the press. It concerns the House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : I have already stated that I have read the newspaper and there is nothing that need be taken notice of, because the whole thing is something which is reported by somebody. We do not know what happened there. Yes, Mr. Anand, you can put your question.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Sir, it is not something which is reported just by somebody...

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: It has not been contradicted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, Mr. Goray.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: Sir, it concerns the privileges of the House. These are the only two Members who can dare to put some questions, inconvenient questions, to the ruling party...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All right. Now, the Minister is replying.

SHRI N. G. GORAY: My point is, Sir, that you should *iuo motu* take up this matter.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, the Question Hour should not be disturbed by anybody.

श्री राजनारायण : मेरा पोइन्ट वाफ़् वाइंडर है ।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down, Mr. Rajnarain...

(Interruptions)

श्री राजनारायण : आपसे मेरा विनती के साथ निवेदन है जब प्रधान मंत्री जी ने . . .

(Interruption) MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Rajnarain, there is nothing on which you can raise a point of order.

श्री राजनारायण : यह प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि यहाँ के लोग राजनारायण के साथ . . .

(Interruption)

राजनारायण के साथ कुलकर्णी मिल गए

(Interruption)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are not concerned with what Mr. Rajnarain does outside the House. Please sit down. If you go on speaking like this, nothing will go on record. Yes, Mr. Anand.

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URFTALIB: Sir, he has no right to talk like this in the House. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Talib, please sit down. Mr. Rajnarain, please sit down. Nothing will go on record.

SHRI RAJNARAIN: (Continued to speak.)

SHRI P. L. KUREEL URF TALIB: (Continued to sp-

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd.

Repatriates from Sri Lanka and Burma

*410. DR. Z. A. AHMAD:

SHRI B. D. BARMAN : SHRI J. S. ANAND :t Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of repatriates expected to arrive from Sri Lanka and Burma for resettlement in the country during the Fifth Five Year Plan period; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government for their rehabilitation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REH TATION (SHRI G. VENKA." SWAMY): (a) On the basis of the Indo-Ceylort Agreement 1964 and the Joint Communique issu

fThe question was actual l> the floor of the House b> Shri

at the conclusion of talks between the Prime Minister of India and the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka at Colombo in April, 1973, 2.59 lakh persons are to be repatriated to India, apart from the natural increase in that number, during the Fifth Five Year Plan Period. As regards repatriates from Burma, there is not sufficient data for making any forecast as such. According to present indications, however, it appears that about 30,000 persons may be repatriated from Burma during the Fifth Plan period.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix LXXXIX, Annexure No. 51],

SHRI J.S. ANAND: Sir, my first supplementary is this: Though the scheme has been outlined in the answer read out just now, does the honourable Minister feel that the purpose of rehabilitation will be met if the ceiling on loans for business purposes is kept at Rs. 5,000 and similarly also for housing plots and such other things? Does he not feel that in view of the increase in prices and all that, all these things need upward revision since only then the whole scheme can be effective and helpful.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Sir, about the question of ceiling of Rs. 5,000 it was determined after taking into consideration the prevailing conditions in the country and this amount of Rs. 5,000 is the business loan. He must remember that. So far as housing in the urban and rural areas is concerned, the amounts are different. So, one thing must be noticed: How these people who have been repatriated either from Ceylon or from Burma are coming here, and in what condition, how they live here—all these things we took into consideration when we determined this amount.

SHRI J.S. ANAND: Sir, in the schemes outlined by the Minister, has he made any provision for any elected body of the repatriated people so that there is effective implementation of all these things ?

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR : Sir, while in Madras, I met some Burmese repatriates. They have formed some small association. I told them. "You must, first of all, create a situation in which the association could be recognised—that is, it should have a wider coverage and it should have local support—

and then alone I will talk to you; otherwise, not."

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Sir, in view of the fact that repatriates and refugees, particularly refugees from now Bangladesh, formerly East Pakistan, 55 lakhs of them have been ditched, they have been pauperised and they have died, what is the Government going to do in the case of these fresh repatriates? Government has not done anything about them. What is the guarantee about these repatriates that they will be taken care of? Differential treatment has been meted out to them. I am a Member of a Committee and I know it. What have you done for them ?

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR: This is outside the scope of this question.

This question relates to repatriates from Sri Lanka and Burma.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I said, "In view" of that, what is the guarantee?"

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR: So many things have been done.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Sir, I have reports that the people coming from Sri Lanka to Tamil Nadu are living in very bad conditions. Has the Government of Tamil Nadu taken up with you the question of rehabilitating and resettling those coming from Sri Lanka ?

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR: So far as the Sri Lanka repatriates are concerned, according to the estimates of the Planning Commission there will be about 50% who will be more or less self-employed or with some means. Only 50 per cent may have to be looked after. So far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, we requested that Government that if they dovetail their entire plan with their development, we will be ready to appraise. They are considering the question.

SHRI N.G. GORAY: Sir, it stands to reason that those repatriates who will be coming from Sri Lanka will prefer to stay in Tamil Nadu. I would like to know from the Government whether it is a fact that before coming to the present agreement the Government of India did not consult the Government of Tamil Nadu in any way and a sort of decision over the head of the Government of Tamil Nadu

was taken ? Is it a fact that there is no arrangement with the Government of Tamil Nadu so far as the repatriation and resettlement of these people is concerned ? Is it true ?

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR: Sir, so far as the repatriation is concerned, the two Prime Ministers met and they reached a settlement. While considering repatriation, we did consult the Government of Tamil Nadu as to how to repatriate and how to settle them. It is a fact. As I said earlier, we have gone a step further and the Planning Commission has also gone a step further and told them that if they are ready to dovetail their entire plan with their development, we will be ready to consider and accept it. But, we must remember one thing. Ceylon repatriates or most of them are plantation workers and we have provided some employment in Kerala, some in Mysore and some in Andhra Pradesh because they have got coffee, tea or rubber plantations. So, in a situation like this to consider that the entire repatriated population will be accommodated by Tamil Nadu, where there is little scope for plantation, is a misnomer.

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMODARA MENON: Sir, I would like to know what is the number of people who have come from Sri Lanka to Kerala? I could not listen to the rep I of the hon. Minister earlier because of the noise in the House. I would also like to know whether these repatriates have been in any way able to bring at least some assets to India. If so, how much were they able to bring? Or, is there any ban on their ability to bring their assets from Sri Lanka to India?

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR: For the information of the hon. Member I may say that the Ceylonese repatriates are permitted to bring up to Rs. 75,000. Only plantation labour has been shifted to Kerala, I will give their number just now. They are mostly working on rubber or tea plantations. That is the main thing there. I will give you the figure just now. So, in a situation like this to expect that all the repatriates will be settled in Tamil Nadu...,

SHRI N.G. GORAY: When there is so much unemployment in Kerala, do you mean to say that they will be employed there?

SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR: Wherever Plantation labour can be employed, they are being sent to those places. Wherever there is a possibility of plantations either coffee,

rubber, tea, etc. they are being sent. We have already sent some families to other States.

I will give you the number later on because I do not find it here.

SHRI S. S. MARISWAMY: I wonder whether the Minister is aware that not only the repatriates from Ceylon prefer to come to Tamil Nadu but also the repatriates from Rangoon also prefer to come and stay in Madras for the simple reason that they are of Tamil origin. As the Minister himself has confessed that scope to give employment to them is limited and they are trying to put them in some plantations, I want to correct the wrong impression of the hon. Minister that they are not specialised plantation workers. They are manual labourers and if they are given any other manual labour, they would prefer to take up the job. It is not that they want to be in plantation. So, would the hon. Minister use his good offices to enlarge the scope of employment by recommending to the Planning Commission to have a second mine cutting in Neyveli and also sanction some other projects so that we can absorb all those labourers.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: He did not follow. Most of the repatriates from Ceylon originally belonged to Tamil Nadu and most of the Burmese though they belonged to Tamil Nadu, agriculturists, that is, sugarcane farmers, now they are coming to Bihar. You must remember this. Most of the labour that is coming from Ceylon, half of it is not entirely I must say much better than what we are in India—Keeping their original profession, as I said, in view, we have taken some repatriates in Andhra, Mysore, Kerala and other places. Not only that. We have found some employment in Tamil Nadu and Andhra by establishing two spinning mills as he knows, perhaps. There we train them. We send them to another camp and train them for some mechanical job but mostly they are agriculturists or plantation labour.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, hon. Minister is looking after his file but we see in the paper today he is likely to be the Governor of Orissa. Well see the paper...

SHRI RABI RAY: Has he accepted?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: It is reported he has accepted.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I do not know whether he is going there in anguish or in elation. I should like to know whether before he is going there, he has opened his file in a proper way or will the excitement come in the way of his not paying attention to the file just as he could not find the paper here.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR: I would like to correct myself. The hon. lady Member asked me about families in Kerala. We have sent about 50.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: My question has not been answered.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Next question.

{[Purchase of dolomite by Rourkela राउरकेला इस्पात संयंत्र द्वारा डोलोमाइट की खरीद

*411. श्री जगदीश जोशी :†

श्री गुणानन्द ठाकुर :

श्री नगेश्वर प्रसाद शाही :

श्री नथी सिंह :

श्री नन्द किशोर भट्ट :

क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राउरकेला इस्पात संयंत्र ने राज्य खनन निगम, मध्य प्रदेश से डोलोमाइट की खरीद बंद कर दी है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

Steel Plant

*411. SHRI JAGDLISH JOSHI :†

SHRI GUNANAND THAKUR :

SHRI NAGESHWAR PRASAD

SHAH: SHRI NATHI SINGH:

SHRI NAND KISHORE

BHATT:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Rourkela Steel Plant has stopped the purchase of dolomite from the State Mining Corporation, Madhya Pradesh; and

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jagdish Joshi.

t/] English translation.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA HANSDA):

(

a)

Yes, Sir.

(b) The supplies of steel Melting Shop grade Dolomite made against the orders earlier placed on the State Mining Corporation were not regular and fell short of the total contracted for. Since adequate and timely supply of this material is essential for maintenance of production, the Rourkela Steel Plant have opened their own captive mines on land

†[इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुबोधचन्द्र हंसदा) : (क) जी, हाँ।

(ख) राज्य खनन निगम को दिए गए पहले के आर्डरों पर इस्पात पिघलाने वाली कर्मशाला में इस्तेमाल लेने वाले डोलोमाइट की सप्लाई नियमित नहीं थी और कुल जितनी मात्रा के लिए करार किया गया था उससे कम थी; क्योंकि उत्पादन को बनाये रखने के लिए इस सामग्री की पर्याप्त मात्रा में समय पर सप्लाई आवश्यक है इस लिए राउरकेला इस्पात कारखाने बड़ाद्वार में उनको पट्टे पर दी गई भूमि में अपनी रक्षित जगहें खोल दी हैं और यह कारखाना अपनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति इन खानों से कर रहा है।]

श्री जगदीश जोशी : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि मध्य प्रदेश माइनिंग कारपोरेशन से जो डोलोमाइट खरीदा जाता था और इस समय वह अपने खदानों से जो कुछ निकलवा रहा है, उन खदानों में ठेकेदार काम कर रहे हैं और ठेकेदार जो माल निकाल रहे हैं, उस में उनका खर्चा 25 रुपए से लेकर 45 रुपया प्रति टन पड़ता है। जबकि इसके विपरीत मध्य प्रदेश माइनिंग कारपोरेशन को 25 रुपए प्रति टन के अन्दर सारा खर्चा पड़ जाता है। ऐसी स्थिति में एक तरह से मध्य प्रदेश माइनिंग कारपोरेशन को घाटा उठाना पड़ रहा है और मजदूरों की छंटनी करना पड़ रही है। तो मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहूंगा, क्या वे अपने यहां ठेकेदारों से डोलोमाइट निकालने का काम बन्द करवा देंगे; क्योंकि मध्य प्रदेश राज्य निगम को अधिक दृष्टि से हानि हो रही है? क्या आप इस सब बात पर पुनर्विचार करेंगे ?

granted on lease to them in Baraduar and are getting their requirements from these mines.

SHRI SUBODH CHANDRA HANSDA: Sir, the cost of production in the captive mines in Baraduar is Rs. 23.70 per tonne, and the cost of production in the State Mining Corporation is Rs. 24.50 per tonne...

t/] Hindi translation.