

**CLOSURE OF PRODUCTION OF IRON ORE IN  
KIRIBURU MINE**

\*620. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that production of Kiriburu iron ore mine has been totally stopped and that huge stock of ore is lying at the pit-heads; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor, and the number of miners affected as a result of the closure of production; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGA-LAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The production at the mine was temporarily suspended from the 4th December 71 to the 'Mth January' 72, for making necessary screening arrangements to raise iron ore to suit specifications of Bokaro Steel Plant. The mine resumed production from the 25th January, 1972. The total stock of various grades of the ore at the mine on the 31st July, 1972 was 2.04 lakh tonnes.

No labour was retrenched during the temporary stoppage of the plant.

(c) Does not arise.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Referring to the pithead stock of 2.04 lakh tonnes which has been mentioned by the hon. Minister, may I ask the Minister what is considered to be the normal pithead stock, whether this stock of 2 lakh tonnes is abnormal or within the normal limits, and what are the prospects of lifting of the iron ore from this particular Kiriburu iron ore mine particularly in view of the recession in the Japanese steel industry ?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The hon. Member is aware that Kiriburu mine was originally designed and went into production in August 1963. From August 1963 to 1970-71 it was exporting iron ore to Japan. Thereafter the Plan was that it would supply the requirements of the Bokaro steel plant. So, that arrangement has been made. The full commitment of export has been met and now they are making supplies to Bokaro steel plant.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : In my original question I had asked whether the 2 lakh

tonnes is considered within the normal limits or it is abnormal.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : It is not an abnormally high stock. It is slightly above normal because the offtake by Bokaro has not been as it has been originally planned. There has been some slight setback in the date of commissioning of the Bokaro steel plant's first blast furnace. We have made arrangements to export some of it and then sent the remainder to Bokaro.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : My second question to the hon. Minister is the press reports suggest that the Rs. 12 crores modernisation and development scheme for Kiriburu iron ore mines has been either given up or scaled down considerably in view of the fall in the exports of iron ore which are reported to be 11 million tonnes last year against the target of 15 million tonnes.

May I ask the hon. Minister whether this development programme has been scaled down or given up and, if so, to what extent? What exactly are the development plans for this mine now ?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The export commitment for Kiriburu mine for 1971-72 was 10.69 lakh tonnes. Almost the entire quantity has been exported.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : My question has not been answered at all. My question was, in view of the fall in export of iron ore from the country from a target of 15 million tonnes to 11 million tonnes last year, whether this Rs. 12-crore development plan has been given up or scaled down for this particular mine and what are the development plans for this mine now.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The Kiriburu Mine was developed for a production of 3 million tonnes originally. It is being expanded to 5 million tonnes run of mine ore to meet the full requirements of the Bokaro Steel Plant. There is no cutting down of the programme and it is going ahead in a satisfactory manner.

SHRI M. KAMALANATHAN : May I know from the hon. Minister what were the reasons for non-fulfilment of even the reduced export commitment by Kiriburu from 1968-69 and 70 and in respect of Bailadila also for 1969-70 ? Has the contract expired or foreclosed due to non-fulfilment of the commitments ? What

are the reasons for not expending it beyond 31.3.72? If there was any penalty clause in the agreement with the Japanese for the short supply of the contractual quantity, was any penalty paid for the short supply?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : Actually, two questions are mixed up. The original question which is before the House is regarding the Kiriburu Mine. He has also brought in the Bailadila Mine. I can answer him. There has been a slight shortfall in exports because of the conflict with Pakistan during which the Japanese shipping companies refused to send their ships to Visakha-patnam Harbour because they apprehended some danger. There was some set-back but we are trying to make up and we are in contact with the Japanese steel companies to step up their imports and pick up more ore.

SHRI M. KAMALANATHAN : I asked whether there is any penalty clause in the agreement. He has not answered that point whether any penalty has been paid.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : There is no penalty clause.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : Has it been finally decided as to what price the iron ore is going to be supplied to Bokaro Steel?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The exact information I do not have.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Regarding our supply of iron ore to Japan, is it not a fact that Japan is more depending upon other nations for its requirements and the main competitor to our country is Australia? So, in order to see that more and more of our iron ore is supplied to Japan, what special measures are being taken by the Government of India in view of the competition that is prevailing in the world market?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN : The hon. Member is quite right in saying that we are meeting very serious competition in the trade of iron ore export from Australia and Brazil. We are expanding the Outer Harbour at Visakhapatnam and we are also expanding our mines in Bailadila so that we can export more quantity. Also the hon. Member knows that we are trying to develop other deposits like KHUDRE MUKH and others. We hope that we will be able to transport iron ore in the form of slurry, *i. e.* in big tankers so that it may bring down the cost of export because cost is the main factor.

#### JOBS FOR SKILLED UNEMPLOYED GRADUATES

\*621. SHRI O. P. TYAGI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of jobless scientists, engineers, artists, arts and commerce graduates in the country, according to the study conducted by the Scientific and Technical Personnel Division of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research;

(b) what is the number of jobless women graduates amongst them;

(c) whether Government have any plan to provide jobs to these jobless graduates; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b) According to April 1972 Issue of the Technical Manpower Bulletin in which the results of the study conducted by the Scientific & Personnel Division of CSIR were published, the number of unemployed graduates & post-graduates in science, engineering, technology, arts, commerce, etc. was 579, 858 including 239, 842 women.

(c) and (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(a) and (d) In addition to a large number of employment opportunities generated as a result of the implementation of various development programmes included in the Fourth Five Year Plan, increasing numbers of job opportunities are expected to be created by the Special Employment Oriented Schemes and Programmes taken up since the year 1970-71, including programmes for the benefit of educated unemployed initiated during the year 1971-72.

In the Union Budget for 1972-73, an aggregate provision of Rs. 125 crores has been made for the special welfare Schemes such as Primary Education; Slum Improvement; Rural Home-Sites; Rural Water Supply etc. This amount included a sum of Rs. 60 crores for special Employment Programmes Rs. 13 crores for continuation of the programmes initiated in 1971-72 and Rs. 47 crores for new Schemes. Of this, an amount of Rs. 20 crores has been earmarked for generating employment and training opportu-