

**THE INDIAN COPPER CORPORATION
(TAKING OVER OF MANAGEMENT)
BILL, 1972**

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR MANGALAM) : Sir, I move :

“That the Bill to provide for the taking over, in the public interest, of the management of the undertaking of the Indian Copper Corporation Limited, pending acquisition of that undertaking, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

[THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) (*in the Chair*)]

Madam, all Member are aware that copper is one of the most crucial non-ferrous metals with a wide range of industrial and technological uses. So, inevitably its production is a matter of great importance for our country. We are very very far behind so far as copper production is concerned. The gap between production and demand is around a lakh of tonnes and our present imports of copper are to the tune of something like Rs. 60 crores.

Now, it is in this background that we have to approach the question that the Government had before it in deciding whether or not to take over the management of the Indian Copper Corporation. The hon. Members must be aware that the only copper producing unit in our country is the Indian Copper Corporation with an annual capacity of somewhere around 10,000 tonnes. In 1971, the production of copper was 9,600 tonnes, and in 1972, the target was originally also only around 12,500 tonnes or so. We were anxious to push up our copper production and we wanted to see how best it could be done on the basis of combining all the resources both in the public sector and the private sector. The

hon. Members are aware of the fact that the main concern in the public sector is the Hindustan Copper and we have for many years been trying to push up the work of the Hindustan Copper, particularly in the Khetri Project, which had a very difficult time in its earlier years. At present, our target in Khetri is ultimately to reach a production figure of about 31,000 tonnes. For that purpose, the various stages are : The concentrator is to come into operation in 1973 and the smelter itself in 1974. The concentrator is necessary to improve the content of the ore from 5 or 1.4, depending upon the content of the ore, to about 20 to 21% and then the concentrate is put into the smelter once it comes into operation. Originally we hoped to bring out copper much earlier. But, unfortunately, owing to various defects in its past working, we have really been able to push up Hindustan Copper only during the last two years.

A new Chairman for the Hindustan Copper was appointed in February, 1970, and the targets that were placed before Hindustan Copper from about June, 1970, have been kept to a fair extent. Particularly, I think we will be able to bring the smelter into operation by the date which we originally planned.

So far as the concentrator itself is concerned, the delay or somewhat like six months to bring it into operation by the end of this year is mainly due to the weaknesses in the work of the contractor who has been building the concentrator. Actually that weakness has put us back as much as 15 months. But as a result of the remedial steps taken by the Hindustan Copper, we have reduced the amount of delay nearly to six months or so. Now this is the position in Khetri.

Apart from the Khetri project, we have also got a project at Rakha very near the ICC project in Ghatsila for the production ultimately of 1,000 tonnes of ore per day, which means about 4,000 tonnes of copper metal per year. That is in the first phase,

and ultimately we hope we will be able to increase it even further. The Indian Copper Corporation has recently installed a Flash Smelter for the production of 16,500 tonnes a year. As a result of the take-over we now intend to restore the old Reverberatory Smelter of the Indian Copper Corporation, which was virtually put aside, invest more in this old Smelter, and as a result of this push up our copper production which was originally planned only to be 13,500 tonnes in 1973, we hope, to 26,000 tonnes, that is to say, nearly to twice what was originally planned.

The Indian Copper Corporation was mining the richest ore available in India today. Not merely was it mining the richest ore available in India today, but also with the obvious motive which every capitalist has of making the maximum profit, the cut-off rate of ore was as high as 1.8 to 2 per cent, whereas in Khetri the cut-off rate we were aiming at would probably be somewhat like .5 per cent. That is to say, this much was virtually wasted and left underground.

Now our object is to make the best use of our copper resources. One of the reasons of our take-over of the I.C.C., is that we want to push down the cut-off rate as fast as we can in consonance and consistent with proper and rational mining to something like .5 per cent. This may raise the cost of copper mining itself. The profit may go down. But it will conserve the resources of copper that we have got and prevent wastage of copper ore that has been going on for many years. Now this is one of the objects.

Secondly, one of the most important problems that we have been facing, and a decision which I found it extremely difficult to take, was what we should do regarding the adjoining block for which the Indian Copper Corporation asked for the lease. The Indian Copper Corporation asked for the lease of this block called Siddeshwar Block and the Hindustan Cop-

per was also asking for the lease of the same block. The Indian Copper Corporation, with some justice, stated that they are entitled to the lease because within 15 years all the copper ore within their present lease would be exhausted and therefore they must project ahead a mining operation which enable them to continue beyond 15 years. The Hindustan Copper, on the other hand, stated that they were the public sector corporation, they were already mining in the Rakha area which is on the other side of the Siddeshwar Block, and that they must be given the Siddeshwar Block. Obviously, the only solution was to combine Indian Copper and Hindustan Copper, so that both come into the public sector and naturally that led to the taking over of the Indian Copper Corporation as we have done.

Now, by this take-over we should be able to put the matter in regard to exploitation of copper resources in the entire Singhbhum area under a single authority, that is to say, under Hindustan Copper itself, and then by judicious and substantial investment probably even to the tune of Rs. 20 to Rs. 25 crores, make use not only of the Smelter, expand the Flash Smelter itself, but also bring into operation the old Reverberatory Smelter which today is not operating in the Indian Copper Corporation.

Moreover, as a result of taking over the Indian Copper Corporation, the services of the experienced Indian technicians who man that organisation will be not merely at the disposal of one single private sector organisation, but also for the development of our copper production throughout the country. Hon. Members will, I am sure; appreciate that it is not merely in this region, *i.e.* in the region of Ghatsila, Rakha and Siddeshwar block that we have copper deposits in our country, but we have also discovered a very large deposit of copper in the Malanjkhanda area in Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh. There are also some smaller deposits in other areas

[Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam]
of our country. Taking all our copper deposits together, it runs something like this.

In Khetri—about 96 million tonnes. In Rakha, Roam Siddheswar, around the Indian Copper Corporation Project itself—about 80 million tonnes (that is the next highest). In Malanjkhand—something like 21 million tonnes. But we are confident that we will be able to get at least 50 million tonnes here ultimately and that too copper ore of quite a good content.

Then we have also got smaller deposits of copper ore. We have got about 8 million tonnes in Agniguntala, about 30 to 40 million tonnes in Bihar, in Mysore and in Andhra Pradesh, making altogether the total of 250 million tonnes (approx.). Naturally, when we have got such substantial copper reserves, it stands to reason that we should try to make up the gap between demand and production as quickly as possible, particularly when imports are imposing such a heavy strain on our foreign exchange resources. So, it is in this way that we are pushing forward to improve our copper production.

Originally in 1972 the planning was that the production would be, say 13,500 tonnes, but now after the take over, we hope to make it 15,000 tonnes. In 1973 again the target was 13,500 tonnes because Khetri was not to come into production, but now by using the Khetri concentrates in the ICC Smelter, we hope to produce 26,000 tonnes of copper. Then in 1973, as against the original target of 31,500 tonnes—when the two organisations like Hindustan Copper Corporation and the Indian Copper Corporation were kept separate—we hope to take up our production to 41,000 tonnes, that is say, somewhere around 10,000 tonnes more of copper. This will, of course, involve in importing a couple of thousands of tonnes of copper concentrates in 1972 and when the Khetri Smelter comes into production in 1974, we may have to import

about 8,500 tonnes of copper concentrates. This is because the concentrates of Khetri will not be available for the ICC. But after that, with the development of Rakha mines and later with the development in Malanjkhand as well as Agniguntala and other areas, we hope, we should be able to push up our production to somewhere around 35 to 40 per cent of our needs by 1974 and perhaps to about 75 to 80 per cent by 1980. Of course, if we are able to develop the uses of aluminium as a substitute for copper, we should be able even to cut down imports completely and become self-sufficient in the use of copper, but I do not want to make any claim in this direction because that is still in the realm of research and development.

Summing up, the reasons for the takeover are :

(1) Stepping-up of production on priority basis using the existing functioning industry as the foundation for that increase ;

(2) The integrated development of mineral resources and metal output, by avoiding lines of demarcation between private and public sector, particularly in the Rakha area and the Siddheswar block and also making maximum use of the smelting capacity that we have got to increase our production. Thirdly, the optimum utilisation of the available managerial and technical expertise so that they can be used for the development of copper production all over the country. Fourthly, the mobilisation of the economic surplus in all these productive enterprises for the benefit of the community and finally—and this is also I think a relevant point—The ending of the monopoly control over such a strategic raw material by a single company thus avoiding, one can say, the concentration of economic power. For pushing forward our effective production programme, we are going to renovate the old conventional smelter which the ICC had proposed to

seran, invest a further amount of money on it to bring it back to full production, thus increasing the overall capacity to somewhere in the region of 26,000 tonnes in 1973. We are confident that if we are able to effectively invest money and utilize all the managerial resources that we have, we should be able to attain the targets which I have mentioned to Members just a minute ago.

Before I close I would mention a word about the financial position of the ICC. The Company started with a paid-up capital of £2,25,000. It is still a Sterling company, though somewhere in the region of 97% of the shares are held by Indians in India but it started with this Sterling subscribed capital of £225,000. It rose to £13,71,3000 in 1956 and then by issuing, or as in the share market it is called, by judicious issue of bonus shares it increased its share capital to £25,71,000 as it stands to day. That is, the subscribed share capital is around Rs. 4.63 crores. We have only taken over the management and I shall owe a certain explanation why we have taken over the management when our ultimate objective is certainly to nationalise this Corporation. We have made no secret of it and even the Bill makes it clear. There are two reasons why we have taken over only the management. Firstly, we have last year, as Members are aware, advanced the boundaries of nationalisation in two areas. One is general insurance and the other is coking coal. As a result for the last few months we have been studying what are the principles on the basis of which compensation should be given and we have not yet come to final conclusion. And therefore we thought even so far as this company is concerned, we should take a decision on what should be the compensation, payable only after we have settled these principles. But the second and perhaps more important reason is that the Twentyfifth Amendment of the Constitution is yet to be ratified by a sufficient number of State Legislatures to become the law and we wanted to be perfe-

ctly clear—and Honourable Members will appreciate this—that we shall have the protection of the umbrella of the 25 Amendment. Obviously Article 31 (2) as amended by this House along with the Lok Sabha exercising power under the amending power of the Constitution and article 31(c) as it has been introduced into the Constitution by the Twenty-fifth Amendment are of importance, in protecting the validity of a legislation like this which clearly comes within the ambit of the Article—39 (b) and (c)—of the Constitution. So it is for both these reasons that we have adopted the same course that we adopted so far as the coking coal-mines are concerned, that is, taking over first the management and then only later come in with a Bill for actual acquisition. We could have come straight with a provision for acquisition but then it would not have had the protection of the Twentyfifth Amendment. We shall perhaps in this Session if it is possible and certainly not beyond the next session, come forward with a Bill for the actual nationalisation of the ICC that is, the ownership itself will be taken over by the Government. But pending this we naturally have to pay compensation. Hon. Members will note that under sub-clause (2) of clause 5 of the Bill we have provided for the payment of Rs. 75,000/-a month as compensation for the loss of what may be called the right of management. Government has been advised that the right of management is also a right to property and may not be covered by article 31 A and therefore it is necessary in order to pass a valid law, that compensation in terms of article 31 (2) as it stood prior to the Twenty-fifth Amendment should be provided for under this Bill. What we have done is to take broadly a figure that can be related to the managing agency commission that was paid out by the Indian Copper Corporation. Hon. Members must have heard that the amount of managing agency remuneration ranged around Rs. 15 lakhs a year or so and therefore we thought that

[Shri S. Mohan Kumaramangalam]
Rs. 75,000/- a month is an adequate compensation for the managing agency right which is being taken away. Because it is a sterling company the managing agency continued, a rupee company would have had to give up the managing agency right long ago. Being a sterling company it is there but taking away that right necessarily means providing some compensation. In view of the fact that we shall be bringing a Bill for acquisition quite soon, I hope in this session though certainly not beyond the next, I do not think we need be unduly troubled by the fact that we have to pay Rs. 75,000/- a month. In contract we shall be able to get even this very year an amount of somewhere around 1500 to 2500 extra tonnes of copper which is a fairly substantial assistance from the point of view of economy in our foreign exchange reserve. We hope that we will really be able to justify before the country the taking over of this important organisation because we have been acutely conscious of the fact that our copper situation is very difficult and we have to push it forward fast and we are confident that we will be able to do so.

I commend this Bill to the House and I move that it be taken into consideration.

The question was proposed.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (बिहार) :
उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मन्त्री महोदय ने काफी प्रकाश डालने की कोशिश की है कि ताबे की कमी अपने देश में बहुत ही एक्कूट है और अगर मैं कहता ताबे की कमी देश में बहुत बड़ी है तो कहा जाता कि बिल साधारण सा है—ताबा कम्पनी के मैनेजमेंट लेने का है। तो जहाँ तक इस बिल से ताल्लुक है उससे अधिक हमारे मन्त्री महोदय के भाषण से हमें आवश्यकता महसूस हुई।

प्रश्न उठता है कि हमें ताबे की आवश्यकता बहुत है और जैसा बतलाया गया है कि

1 लाख 88 हजार टन ताबे से अधिक की आवश्यकता है। आज जो हम उत्पादन कर रहे हैं वह केवल 9 हजार 600 टन है और 1973-74 तक हम 41 हजार टन तक उत्पादन कर लेंगे। वैसे सरकार ने खेत्री ताबे की खान पर बहुत आशा लगा रखी है और पता नहीं उस आशा का आधार क्या है। इन के पूर्व इस विभाग को जो मन्त्री सम्भालते थे उनके जमाने में खेत्री खान में गड़बड़ी का भंडार लगा हुआ था। यह विचार किया गया था कि 24 करोड़ रुपए की राशि से यह खान चल निकलेगी लेकिन 115 करोड़ रुपया खर्च करने के बाद भी वह खान अभी तक उत्पादन करने योग्य नहीं हुई। तो श्रीमन्, पता नहीं कि उनकी आशा किस तरह से पूरी होगी। वहाँ पर वास्तविक स्थिति क्या है इसकी जानकारी मन्त्री महोदय ही दे सकते हैं। इसी तरह से घाटसीला और राका की जो स्थिति है उसका भी पता नहीं चलता है कि वे किसी तरह से चल रहे हैं और कब तक ये खान देश की आवश्यकता की पूर्ति करने में सफल होंगे।

एक प्रश्न इस आवश्यकता के साथ यह भी जुड़ गया है कि हमारा सम्बन्ध संयुक्त राष्ट्र अमरीका से पाकिस्तान के साथ संघर्ष होने के बाद से बिगड़े हुए है और हम रा-मेटिरियल और इम्पोर्ट में बहुत कुछ उस देश और बाहर के देशों पर निर्भर करते हैं। हो सकता है कि उसके साथ सम्बन्धों में कुछ सुधार हो, लेकिन वह भी एक समस्या बनकर हमारे सामने खड़ी है। तो इन समस्याओं के निदान के लिए आज जो प्रश्न सब के मुँह से निकलता है कि हमें प्रत्येक चीज में स्वावलम्बी होना चाहिए। स्वावलम्बी का जो नारा लगाया गया है उसमें अन्न के मामले में तो देश बहुत हद

तक स्वावलम्बी हो गया है। जहाँ तक खनिज द्रव्यों का सम्बन्ध है भारत अपनी विभिन्नता के कारण खनिजों का भंडार है लेकिन वह अभी तक खनिजों के मामले में स्वावलम्बी नहीं बन सका है। इसका क्या कारण है? क्या सचमुच में हमारे यहाँ ताँबे के खनिज द्रव्य नहीं है? क्या सरकार ने देश के विशेषज्ञों और विदेशी विशेषज्ञों से अपने देश के भण्डारों का अच्छी तरह से सर्वेक्षण करा चुकी है? अगर उसने नहीं कराया है तो मैं सरकार से आग्रह करूँगा कि अगर उसको खनिजों की आवश्यकता है तो उसकी अपने देश में ही पूर्ति हो सकती है या नहीं? हमारा जो बिहार प्रदेश है वह खनिजों के मामले में, हर द्रव्यों के मामले में अग्रगणी है और ताँबा सिर्फ बिहार ही प्रोडक्शन कर रहा है। बिहार में खनिज द्रव्यों का पर्याप्त रूप से सर्वेक्षण होना चाहिए जो अभी तक नहीं हुआ है। बिहार की ऐसी स्थिति नहीं है कि वह खनिजों का अपने आप डेवलप कर सके। बिहार के हर ज़रों में सर्वे से पता लगाया जाय कि किस खान में कौन सा द्रव्य प्राप्त हो सकता है।

मैं आपके सामने एक उदाहरण रखना चाहता हूँ। आज हम स्पुटनिक ऐज और एटामिक ऐज में हैं और कहा जाता है कि यूरेनियम और थोरियम ये जो दो पदार्थ बहुत ही मूल्यवान हैं वे बिहार में प्रचुर मात्रा में हैं और उसके एक पैसे का भी अभी तक उपयोग नहीं किया गया है। हमारे बिहार में एक पलामू जिला है जहाँ पर एक छोटी चीज चूने का पत्थर प्रचुर मात्रा में पाया जाता है और उसे कई चीजों में प्रयोग किया जा सकता है। उस द्रव्य से डालमिया की एक सीमेन्ट की फैक्टरी नहीं बल्कि दर्जनों सीमेन्ट की फैक्टरी तैयार हों

सकती हैं। यह चूना कई तरह की चीजों के काम में आ सकता है लेकिन अभी तक उसका प्रयोग नहीं किया गया है। उसकी इतनी मात्रा वहाँ पर मौजूद है कि 200 वर्ष तक उसका इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है। इसी तरह से बिहार में संगमरमर मिलता है, काला, लाल, सफेद रंग का मिलता है, लेकिन अभी तक उसके एक पैसे का भी उपयोग नहीं किया गया है।

मैं पहिले खनिज सलाहकार समिति में था, तो मैंने सरकार से एक माडल स्कीम बनाने के लिए आग्रह किया था। सरकार ने एक विचार करके बिहार सरकार को दिया कि आप माडल स्कीम बनायें और हम तुम्हें प्रवचन से लाभान्वित करेंगे। प्रब प्रवचन से बिहार प्रदेश कितना लाभान्वित होगा। इसलिए मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ कि बिहार ही अभी तक ताँबा उत्पादन करता है और जब तक बिहार का थोरा इन्वेस्टीगेशन या सर्वे नहीं होता है तब तक आप इधर-उधर उलझे रहें, ठीक से उस काम को नहीं कर सकेंगे।

श्रीमन्, ताँबे के साथ-साथ और भी चीजें प्राप्त होती हैं, कभी कभी सोने की भी प्राप्ति होती है। इस सम्बन्ध में आपने कोई उल्लेख नहीं किया है। आप से मैं जानना चाहूँगा कि आपका जो नेशनल मिनरल्स डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन है उसका क्या काम हो रहा है। आपने बताया कि अपने देश में 200-250 लाख टन ताँबे का खनिज द्रव्य मिलने की आशा है, लेकिन उसका विश्लेषण ठीक ठीक होता नहीं क्योंकि आपका मिनरल्स डेवलपमेंट कारपोरेशन कोई काम नहीं कर पा रहा है। इसलिए मैं उसके बारे में आपसे जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसमें अभी तक क्या हिसाब बैठा है और नेचुरल रिसोर्स

[श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव]

को एक्सप्लोइट करने के लिए वह कहां तक सक्षम हुआ है।

बिहार में खनिज द्रव्यों का भंडार होते हुए भी आर्थिक दृष्टि से बिहार सबसे पीछे है, इसलिए मैंने सरकार से कई बार आग्रह किया है कि जहां पर खनिज द्रव्य मिलता है और वहां जो प्लान्ट आप लगाये उस प्लान्ट का आधार सोशियो-इकोनोमिक-टेक्नोलोजिकल बेसिस हो। श्रीमन्, बिहार प्रदेश के छोटा नागपुर में लोहा, कोयला, सभी चीजों के अपार भंडार हैं—चूने के भी, लेकिन अगर वहाँ के वासियों की स्थिति का विवेचन किया जाय तो लगेगा कि सबसे गरीब हिन्दुस्तान का कोई क्षेत्र है तो वही क्षेत्र है। उसी की बगल में स्थान परगना है, जहाँ सन्थाली रोजगार के अभाव में, भोजन के अभाव में, पानी के अभाव में हजारों हजार मरे हैं और जगह जगह घूम रहे हैं, इसको बिहार सरकार ने ध्वीकार किया है। अगर आप कोई स्कीम लेते हैं और उसका सोशियो इकोनोमिक टेक्नोलोजिकल बेसिस नहीं तो बहा के स्थानीय लोग उससे लाभान्वित नहीं हो सकते। रांची में आपने इंजीनियरिंग के कारखाने खोले हैं लेकिन उनसे वहाँ के लोगों का कल्याण नहीं हुआ है। नियमों में है कि 500 रुपये तक की सर्विस स्थानीय लोगों को मिलनी चाहिए लेकिन आप देखेंगे कि वहां चपरासी तक दूसरे प्रदेशों से लाये गये हैं। इसलिए जब आप मनेजमेन्ट को ले रहे हैं तो मैं आपसे आग्रह करूंगा कि जो सर्विस में लगे हुए हैं उनको सर्विस में कोई कठिनाई न उपस्थित हो और साथ ही साथ जहां यह प्लान्ट लगे वहाँ के लोगों को छुट्टी छोटी सर्विसों में लेने का ध्यान आप अवश्य रखें।

श्रीमन्, मजदूरों के सम्बन्ध में आप कहेंगे कि हम किसी को रिट्रैव नहीं करते, उनको हटाते नहीं, लेकिन जहाँ तक बेकारी की समस्या है उसे हल करने के लिए एम्प्लायमेंट औरियेन्टेड स्कीम बन सकती है और जब आप इसको ले रहे हैं तो एम्प्लायमेंट औरियेन्टेड स्कीमों को भी ध्यान में रखें ताकि जनता को लाभ हो सके।

एक बात मैं और अर्ज करना चाहूंगा कि जितने उद्योग पब्लिक सेक्टर में लिये जाते हैं उनमें खर्चें बढ़ जाते हैं, उत्पादन घट जाता है और व्यवस्था में गड़बड़ी फैल जाती है। मैं चाहूंगा कि जब आप मनेजमेंट ले रहे हैं तो इन बातों का ध्यान रखें ताकि इनकी पुनरावृत्ति न हो। कि इसकी पुनरावृत्ति फिर न हो और जब इसका आरोप लगाया जाता है तो आप कहते हैं कि जब राष्ट्रीयकरण किया जाता है तो उसका विरोध किया जाता है। विरोध राष्ट्रीयकरण का नहीं किया जाता बल्कि उसको करने में जो गड़बड़ होती है, उसका होता है। उसमें जनता जनार्दन का पैसा लगता है और उसका दुरुपयोग होता है इसलिए उसका विरोध होता है। जो व्यवसाय अच्छे ढंग से चल सकता है उसको अच्छे ढंग से न होने के कारण ही, जब उसमें नुकसान होता है, हम उसका विरोध करते हैं। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस और ध्यान दे।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI (Maharashtra) Sir, I commend this Bill for taking over the Indian Copper Corporation. Why I say this is because this is one of the really imaginative acts on the part of the Minister to visualise a complete perspective for the proper maintenance, production and ultimately proper use of copper in this country. This is necessary in view of the very acute foreign exchange position and therefore this country has to be self-

reliant by mining various types of minerals which are necessary for the industrial production and industrial advancement of this country. In this connection, as he has rightly stated—and that was also one of the objectives which I was also considering—it is not only that copper has to be produced; along with it aluminium is also to be produced because nowadays in this country electrification is going on a very huge scale and for that purpose, if you want to conserve copper, it has to be used also in conjunction with aluminium. In this connection, my grouse is—the Minister must be aware of this—against the delay and the long time it is taking amounting to frustration as regards aluminium production particularly in the Maharashtra area in the Koyna belt. I think the Minister will keep a watch on the production of aluminium in the Koyna belt which is now supposed to have gone into the preliminary stages. Why I bring this point before the House is, it is not only copper, but unless aluminium is also extracted and unless whatever sources are available they are put for better use whether in conjunction with copper or any other mineral, this problem of creating an infrastructure of electrical power not will be complete. And I specifically commend to the Minister that the Koyna Aluminium Project which has been lying pending for long has to be undertaken and put on stream in a record time. That is why I mentioned about the fact that the extraction of aluminium is also very important.

With two other aspects I want to deal in this connection. One is about the management of the public sector. It has also been stated by my colleague on that side that the people at large are generally averse whenever any move is made by the Government to take over certain industries. I fully share their apprehensions. But in this country, unless the public sector achieves a commanding height, the real programme of socialisation of production will not

take place and the community as a whole will not be benefited. In this connection, the idea being worked out in his Ministry now, particularly that of the creation of a holding company and dissociating it from ministerial interference—'ministerial' means not the Minister, but administration in the Ministry—into the working of autonomous corporations is good. And that is why I am interested about some arrangement of a holding company being created, because I see that in West Germany also vast organisations are being worked in the public sector. But there the bureaucratic interference in the working of the public sector undertakings is the least. The Secretariat or the ministerial administration has got nothing to do with the working of the autonomous corporations. I feel that it will be a good thing if dissociation of the administration in the Secretariat with the working of the public sector company is achieved.

Madam, the last point that I want to make is, copper is a product which has created the largest amount of black money. I know, Madam, when I was a member of some working group of a committee which was asked to investigate into the supply of raw materials for the small-scale industries, we made a deep study of the problem of copper distribution.

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR (Rajasthan): Your Government fixes the quota of copper. That is the root cause.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI. When the Government fixes the quota, it fixes it with good intentions. It is the people and the manufacturers at large in the public. . .

SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATHUR: Not Government officials and those who fix it?

श्री ए० जी० कुलकर्णी : माधुर साहब, यह आपको मालूम है। सीमेन्ट कार्पोरेशन का केस तो आपको मालूम है। आप क्या बात करते हैं।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : आपको कौन-कौन सा मालूम नहीं है ।

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : So, I want to say, Madam, that when this Corporation has been taken over, a national policy will also have to be evolved for the distribution of copper because I know that copper has played havoc in creating black money. The Government has to evolve certain procedures which will plug all these loopholes. Thank you.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही (उत्तर प्रदेश) : उपाध्यक्षा महोदया, मन्त्री महोदय ने इस विधेयक को प्रस्तुत करते समय जो उद्देश्य बताया उसकी सार्थकता और सारगर्भिता के बारे में दो राय तो हो ही नहीं सकती हैं लेकिन हम लोग यह देखते हैं कि मन्त्री महोदय सत्ता में पहुँचने के बाद अपने कम्युनिस्टिक विचार में कुछ तबदीली कर लिए हैं और उनके कार्यों से उनके विचारों को समर्थन नहीं मिल रहा है। उन्होंने अभी उद्देश्यों पर प्रकाश डालते हुए पूँजी-पतियों के बारे में कहा कि इनकी शोषण की नीति है और यह शोषण करते ही हैं और उसी तरह से कापर कॉर्पोरेशन के बारे में कहा लेकिन हम देखते यह हैं कि किसी खास गज से जो नीति निर्धारित करते हैं उस पर टिकते नहीं हैं। आज से कई वर्ष पूर्व यह नीति निर्धारित हुई कि स्टील इंडस्ट्री पब्लिक सेक्टर में चलेगी और मानोपोली को रोकने के लिए एन्टी-मानोपोली एक्ट बना ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) : Please speak something on copper.

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : बिल्कुल कापर पर ही बोल रहा हूँ, उपाध्यक्षा महोदया। जो उद्देश्य बताते हैं उस पर बोल रहा हूँ क्योंकि सामने कुछ आता है

और पदों में कुछ और रहता है। तो मैं कह रहा था कि स्टील इंडस्ट्री के बारे में एक पालिसी बनी और एन्टी-मानोपोली एक्ट बना परन्तु इधर दो साल से खास कर के लोक सभा के चुनाव के कुछ महीने पहले से उस नीति में ऐसी तबदीली आई कि स्टील प्लांट्स का नाम मिनी प्लांट्स रख कर के उसके तमाम लाइसेंसेज दिये गये और अधिकांशतः उन्हीं को दिये गए जिनको रोकने के लिए एन्टी-मानोपोली एक्ट बनाया गया ।

श्री महावीर त्यागी : इलेक्शन लड़ना है ।

श्री नागेश्वर प्रसाद शाही : त्यागी जी, आप कह सकते हैं, हम कैसे कह सकते हैं। इलेक्शन के लिए पैसा लेना, श्री कुमार-मंगलम जी यह काम नहीं करते। उसमें सहयोग करते हैं, इतना तो हमें मालूम है, लेकिन ये खुद वह काम नहीं करते। ये उसकी व्यवस्था कर देते हैं, वैसी परिस्थिति उत्पन्न कर देते हैं, खुद नहीं करते ।

दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ, यह एक अजीब तरीका इधर सरकार ने निकाला है कि पहले प्रबन्ध ग्रहण करले और तब अधिग्रहण की बात होगी। यह तरीका निकाल कर के, हमने देखा, कोक कोल के बारे में पहले से चीजें इस तरह से पैदा कर दी गई कि जब सरकारी अधिकारी वहाँ पहुँचे प्रबन्ध ग्रहण करने तो उन खानों के मालिकों की सेफों में कहीं एक पैसा मिला, कहीं दो पैसा मिला और ठीक इसी ढंग से हम देख रहे हैं कि चीनी मिलों के अधिग्रहण के बारे में भी अभी चल रहा है। साल दो साल से एक तलवार लटकायी गई है, चीनी मिल मालिकों पर और यह तलवार लटका कर कितना करोड़ रुपया चुनाव फंड में, विभिन्न

प्रान्तों के मुख्य मन्त्रियों ने किना लिया और यहां कितना लिया गया। अब चीनी मिलों की हालत यह है कि जो चीनी मिलें उत्तर प्रदेश में भी कुछ अधिग्रहण हुई है उनके पास जो मशीनरी है वह स्कैप आइरन है। उन मिलों की ऐसी हालत हो गई है कि अधिग्रहण करते ही सरकार को 2 करोड़, 3 करोड़ या 4 करोड़ रु० हर मिल को देना पड़ता है, तब जाकर वे किसी तरह से चलने लायक होती है। यह हालत क्यों है? आपको अगर करना है अधिग्रहण तो आप अपना कम्युनिस्टिक तरीका क्यों नहीं अख्तियार करते? उनका अधिग्रहण करिए। आप यह तरीका अख्तियार करते हैं कि तलवार लटका कर धीरे-धीरे रुपया लेते जाते हैं ऐसी हालत कर देते हैं कि देश का इतना बड़ा नुकसान हो स्कैप आइरन का कम्पेन्सेशन दे कर। तो मैं यह कहना चाहता था यह जो सरकार का तरीका है इसमें जो हम देख रहे हैं, अगर हम यहां भी जाएं तो उनकी सेफों में एक पैसा, दो पैसा मिलेगा। मेरा इतना निवेदन है, मैं आपके विधेयक का विरोध नहीं करता, लेकिन आपका यह तरीका बहुत ही अनुचित तरीका है। आप अपने दल के लिए फंड इकट्ठा करने के लिए, पैसे का इतना भारी नुकसान करें, स्कैप आइरन का डेढ़ करोड़ रुपया कम्पेन्सेशन दे कर। तो मैं मन्त्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि वे कृपया अधिग्रहण का कार्य शीघ्रातिशीघ्र करे और केवल यह कहकर कि संविधान का संशोधन अब होने वाला है, हम कम्पेन्सेशन तय करेंगे इसकी आड़ में न जाएं।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर : एक स्पष्टीकरण मैं चाहता हूँ। यह पहला मौका है जब ताबा खानों का आपने राष्ट्रीयकरण किया है, जिसमें आपने यह नहीं बताया

ताबों की जिन खानों का आपने नेशनलाइजेशन किया है वह घाटे में चल रही थीं, मिसमैनेजमेंट था। लेकिन मुझे खुशी है कि सबसे पहले इस बार कम से कम मिनिस्टर साहब ने एक बात तो स्वीकार किया है कि उनका जो हिन्दुस्तान कापर था वह घाटे में चला और उसमें मिसमैनेजमेंट था और इंडियन कापर जिसको नेशनलाइज किया वह वेल-मैनेज्ड था, उसका अच्छा एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन था, फिर भी उन्होंने उसको नेशनलाइज किया और उसका स्वयं मन्त्री महोदय ने अपने मुख से एक एक्जाम्पल भी दिया कि खेनरी में उनके पास रा मॅटीरियल होने के बाद भी, उनकी एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव इंकॅपेसिटी उनकी इनेबिलिटी और उनके यहां जो भ्रष्टाचार हुआ, जिसका दोष उन्होंने एक कन्ट्रेक्टर पर डाल दिया कि एक कन्ट्रेक्टर की गड़बड़ी के कारण—मन्त्री महोदय के स्टेटमेंट को कोट कर रहा हूँ, वहां पर स्मैल्टर भी वह बना नहीं सके। इसलिए हिन्दुस्तान कापर में निकाला जायेगा। खेतरी से जाकर इंडियन कापर में वह स्मैल्ट कराया जायेगा। यह बात पहली बार एक मन्त्री ने अपने मुह से कही कि हिन्दुस्तान कापर का कार्य अच्छी तरह से चल रहा था। लेकिन मेरी समझ में यह बात नहीं आई कि जब वहां पर कार्य अच्छी तरह से चल रहा था तो उसको नेशनलाइज क्यों किया गया। इसके बारे में मन्त्री जी को कारण बतलाने चाहिए थे। इसके बारे में उन्हें रीजन्स देने थे कि वे लोग मजदूरों को एक्सप्लॉट कर रहे थे, वे मोनोपोलिस्ट थे, अगर इस तरह की बात बतलाते तो बात समझ में आ सकती थी। माननीय मन्त्री जी ने कहा था कि खेतरी में जिस तरह से शिड्यूल प्रोडक्शन होना चाहिए था वह नहीं हुआ। इंडियन कापर का स्मैल्टिंग प्लांट ठीक तरह से चल रहा है और इसी

[श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर]

लिए वहा लेकर माल को स्मैल्ट कराया जा रहा है। लेकिन आपने इस बात का कोई जिक्र नहीं किया कि किन कारणों की वजह से उसका नेशनलाइजेशन किया गया है। अगर आप तर्क देकर सदन को सन्तुष्ट करते कि वास्तव में इंडियन कापर घाटे में चल रहा है, वहा पर मिसमनेजमेंट है और एक्सप्लाइडेशन हो रहा है और यह चीज हिंदुस्तान की गवर्नमेंट और जनता के लिए ठीक नहीं था। जिस प्रकार आपने नेशनलाइज बैंको के बारे में कहा, इश्योरेसो को नेशनलाइज करने के बारे में कहा था, उसी तरह से आपको इंडियन कापर को नेशनलाइज करने के बारे में भी कहना चाहिये था कि किन कारणों से इस तरह की आवश्यकता पड़ गई। आप सारे रीजन लेकर नहीं आए और यह कहा कि हम खेतरी का कापर वहा भेजेंगे और इस तरह से आपने बात छिपाने की कोशिश की जो एक सही बात नहीं है।

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM : Madam, Vice-Chairman, I think all Members who have participated in the discussion have appreciated. (*Interruptions*) I have listened to you patiently. You can also listen to me. I take it that all of you have appreciated the idea of taking over the Copper Corporation. The hon. Member who spoke just now very eloquently criticised me for not having explained all the reasons why we took it over. Well, I do not know whether he was sitting in the House when I moved the motion for consideration of this Bill. If he had listened to what I said then, he would have appreciated all the reasons. I do not think it is proper to repeat all the arguments which I have already given. After knowing those arguments and reasons, if he does not appreciate them, well ours is a free country and he is entitled to disagree. The arguments are

there and it is a matter for him and not for me.

So far as Khetri project is concerned—it has figured quite largely in the discussion—I made it quite clear that it has substantially improved during the last two years. The hon. Member perhaps does not appreciate that since the Khetri project has not yet gone into production, the question of its making a profit does not arise. A concern which is not producing does not make profit and therefore you cannot judge it on the ground that it does not make profit. That is an elementary thing so far as I know and I hope you also agree. The Khetri project concentrate plant is to go into operation by the end of this year and the smelter by December 1973 or January 1974. We hope that we shall be able to keep to the schedule and not fall back.

I do not think there is any question of Hindustan Copper functioning badly. We have got a young team that has been put in there during the last two years. Many of them have come into Hindustan Copper after undergoing considerable sacrifices and giving up more lucrative positions that they were enjoying earlier. I have every confidence that we shall be able to reach the target we have put before ourselves. After the take over of the Indian Copper, copper production itself will be pushed forward very fast. I do not know what I should reply to matters raised by my friend Shri Yadav because his speech did not have much copper inside it. It was mainly concerned with dolomite and limestone and so far as Mr. Shahi is concerned, his copper consisted of coking coal, sugar, cotton and other areas which could be left to those in charge of them. I thought I was to deal with copper and since nobody has said anything in criticism of copper, but they have said much in criticism of other areas, those criticisms of the other areas can be answered at the appropriate. And therefore, I commend this Bill to the House.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : What about aluminium ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM : Mr. Kulkarni, I thought I had already mentioned earlier in my opening address moving the Bill that we are considering all the uses of aluminium and so far as the Ratnagiri as well as the copper project is concerned, the Government is pushing up construction very fast, as fast as they can.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) : The question is :

“That the Bill to provide for the taking over, in the public interest of the management of the undertaking of the Indian Copper Corporation Limited, pending acquisition of that undertaking, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI-MATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) : Let us now take up the clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 to 15 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, the Preamble and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM : Sir, I move :

“That the Bill be passed.”

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MEMBERS SWORN

Madhya Pradesh

Shri Nand Kishore Bhatt

Gujarat

Shri Ibrahimbhai Khasambhai Kalaria

Shrimati Sumitra Gajanan Kulkarni

Shri Himmatsinghji Takatsinghji

Shri Hariprasad Mulshankar Trivedi

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI PURABI MUKHOPADHYAY) : The House stands adjourned till tomorrow, the 11th April, 1972.

The House then adjourned at two minutes past five of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 11 April, 1972.