

will be announced shortly. The committee on coal and the committee on raw materials other than coal and iron ore have submitted their reports. The report of the committee on iron ore is expected shortly. With regard to the terms of reference of the committee on coal, I have already replied to it.

SHRI K. P. MALLIKARJUNUDU :  
I want to know whether any decision has been taken regarding the site at Vizag.

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : I was going there to announce the site at a big public meeting. Because of the dislocation of air traffic, I could not go and I am going to announce it in a day or two, viz., the site at Vizag.

SHRI KALYAN ROY : Is it not a fact that one of the main reasons for the loss of the various steel plants under Hindustan Steel is that the private sector was selling inferior grade coal, while it was getting a better price from the Durgapur, Bhilai and Rourkela steel plants? That is why the Chari Committee was appointed regarding the sampling of coal at the steel plants. I want to know what are the effects of the implementation of the Chari Committee Report for which an additional increase was given to all the coalmines which were selling coal to the public sector steel plants. Is it not a fact that there is a lot of allegation of corruption in the State sector which are favouring certain coalmine-owners and not properly buying coal from the various small and medium mines which are capable of supplying it ?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT : Regarding the Chari Committee I want notice to find out whether the Report has been implemented or not. The present practice in regard to these public sector plants is that they enter into commitments sometimes two or three years ahead for buying coal from certain mines, including the private sector. They do it on the basis of the availability of coal, its price and suitability otherwise. I have not heard of any allegation that in any particular deal any wrong practice had been involved, but this is, by and large, the general position. It is true that somewhat of an exception was made to two plants. They had leased out certain areas for coal development or coalmines much earlier and they have got certain better areas. What is actually supplied to them is of a better quality. The new steel plants have to go in for certain other

areas where the ash content of coal may be high. That is why they are washed to a particular ash content. Every care is taken to see that the raw material is up to quality.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : On a point of order . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me take up one more question.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : The Minister was to announce the location of the Vizag plant . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : He said that he will do it in a day or two. He can do so. There is no point of order.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM : The day before yesterday . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : The point of order is ruled out. Please sit down. Next question.

**चुनावों में राजनैतिक दलों द्वारा धार्मिक  
झण्डों का प्रयोग**

\*412. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या विधि तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या चुनाव आयोग आम चुनावों में धार्मिक झण्डों के प्रयोग का अनुमति देता है; यदि नहीं, तो केरल में हाल के चुनावों के दौरान मुस्लिम लीग पार्टी को चांद तारे वाले हरे रंग के धार्मिक झण्डे के उपयोग को अनुमति दिये जाते के क्या कारण थे ?

**USE OF RELIGIOUS FLAGS BY POLITICAL PARTIES IN ELECTIONS**

\*41a. SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state whether the Election Commission allow the use of religious flags in General Elections; if not, the reasons for allowing the Muslim League Party to use the muslim religious flag of green colour with moon and stars in the elections held recently in Kerala?]

**विधि तथा समाज कल्याण मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : राजनैतिक दलों द्वारा निर्वाचनों**

में झण्डों के प्रयोग से निर्वाचन आयोग का कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है और इसलिए यह प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता कि आयोग ने किसी झण्डे के प्रयोग की अनुमति दी है।

[THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. HANU-MANTHA YA) : The Election Commission is not concerned with the use of flags by political parties at elections and as such the question of the Commission having allowed the use of any flag does not arise.]

**निरंजन वर्मा :** श्रीमान्, क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बताएंगे कि सार्वजनिक सिद्धान्त की दृष्टि से कि जिससे अपने यहां की राजनीति में धर्म का सम्मिश्रण न हो, वह यह समझते हैं कि कोई व्यक्ति धार्मिकता को लेकर राजनीति में इस प्रकार के झंडों का प्रयोग करे जैसा केरल में मुसलिम लीग ने अपने झंडे के लिए उपयोग किया है, विशेष रूप से उस दशा में कि सारे मुसलमानों का एक ही झंडा है और उस झंडे का वह उपयोग कर रहे हैं?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : Sir, I agree with my hon. friend that the name of religion and any religious flags should not be used. Therefore, the Representation of the People Act has been so amended as to make such use a corrupt practice.

**श्री निरंजन वर्मा :** क्या भविष्य में आप इलेक्शन लॉ में जो अमेन्डमेंट करना चाहते हैं या करने की सोच रहे हैं, उसमें भी इस प्रकार की कोई विधि निहित करेंगे जिससे कि इस प्रकार के काम की रोक हो जाए?

SHRI EC. HANUMANTHAIYA : The Election Commission is concerned only with the allotment of symbols. The flag is not concerned with symbols. Therefore, this question does not arise. Regarding the general use . . .

SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA : Election laws.

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : Even regarding laws the Parliament has wisely made it as a corrupt practice.

Any candidate can take up the issue before a court of law that a person has used a religious flag or religious symbol in order to secure votes. That will become a corrupt practice. The law has been clarified.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : May I know from the hon. Minister whether it is a fact that Jamiat Islami in Kashmir has been given a symbol, and on what criterion, because it had no hold in any of the elections? Secondly, a party which propagates secession from India or a plebiscite for the purpose of deciding whether to remain in India or not, whether such a party can be allowed a symbol or permitted to take part in elections. Just as the D.M.K. was not allowed, will the Plebiscite Front in Kashmir not be allowed when they propagate the holding of a plebiscite for determining secession from India?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : That is a new question which is not covered by this question. I would certainly answer that question provided you give notice.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : My question is whether a party like the Plebiscite Front which propagates secession from India, which is going against the Constitution, will be allowed to participate in elections or allotted a symbol? The D.M.K., till they changed the constitution, were not allowed. They had to change the constitution.

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : As I said if the facts are on a par with the incidents he mentioned regarding the D.M.K., the law automatically applies. If there is any difference between the two sets of facts, I will get it examined.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chandra-sekharan.

SHRI A. D. MANI : That is not correct . . .

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Why the Minister is feeling shy that parties preaching secession in this country will not be allowed? Why the Minister is feeling shy . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. Please sit down. I have called Mr. Chandra-sekharan.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, you must protect the interests of Members,

and you must direct the Minister to reply correctly. Parties preaching secession should not be allowed. Why the Minister is feeling shy? He must be bold enough to say that.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have called Mr. Chandrasekharan.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : This reply will not satisfy us.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Will a party preaching secession be allowed to participate in elections?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Chandrasekharan.

SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHARAN : Would the hon. Minister agree that the Muslim League is a political party and it has got only a political flag like the Jan Sangh, with the lamp as its symbol, and in view of the fact that nobody had raised this question so far in any election petition after all these elections, the basis of this question is wrong? Would the hon. Minister agree ?

SHRI K. HANUMANTHIAYA : The hon. Member has given me information. Therefore, I am much obliged to him. So far as the legal position is concerned, I have stated the position.

MR CHAIRMAN : The Question Hour is over.

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### MALVIYA COMMITTEE ON SMALL "SCALE INDUSTRIES

♦413. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE be pleased to refer to the reply to Un-starred Question No. 344 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1970 and state :

(a) whether a final decision has since been taken on the recommendations of the Malviya Committee on Small Scale Industries ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL TRADE (SHRI M. R. KRISHNA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) A final decision can be taken only after obtaining and considering the views of the state Governments and others concerned, on the important question of placing the development of small scale industries on a statutory basis

### STANDARDISATION OF RAILWAY RECEIPT FORMS

•414. DR. B. N. ANTANI : SHRI M. K. MOHTA : SHRI K. C. PANDA : SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that railway receipt forms were standardised in the year 1965 and new forms were issued in replacement of the old forms, and is so, how the excess stocks of the old form, were disposed of;

(b) whether it is a fact that railway wagons carrying Bhilai steel products were wrongfully diverted to stations other than their destination, as a result of the use of the old railway receipt forms, and thereby defrauding Government of several lakhs of rupees; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, whether an enquiry has been held into the matter, and if so, what has been the result of the enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

### STATEMENT

(a) Goods Railway Receipt forms were revised for local booking from 1-7-1964 and for foreign booking from 1-2-1965.

The exact position regarding the disposal of the old forms is being ascertained from the Zonal Railway Administrations and information will be placed on the table of the Sabha.

(b) Yes, Sir, and the loss on this account ascertained so far is approximately Rs. 4 lakhs. The diversion was manipulated by change of labels and fraudulent delivery managed by use of the old forms.

(c) In view of the large scale diversion and the seriousness of the case involving a number of outsiders, the Central Bureau of Investigation have been asked for a