

TRANSFER OF STATE COLLIERIES TO  
PRODUCTION MINISTRY

\*626. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions under which the State collieries have been transferred from the Ministry of Railways to the Ministry of Production;

(b) the benefits which are expected to accrue from this transfer; and

(c) the form of management adopted for the administration of these collieries?

THE MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI K. C. REDDY): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The transfer to the Production Ministry who have been responsible for the management of the State collieries was effected mainly for administrative reasons. The divorce of ownership from management is not considered a satisfactory form of administration.

(c) The State collieries are at present managed departmentally. The future pattern of working of these collieries is under consideration.

*Statement*

The ownership of the State collieries has been transferred to the Ministry of Production with effect from 1st April 1954. The broad principles of transfer, agreed to between the Ministries of Production and Railways, are:—

(1) The capital at charge of the collieries for purposes of transfer will be the written down value as shown in the Railway accounts, subject to adjustment on account of mines wholly shut down.

(2) Railways to guarantee the return on block capital for the convention period.

(3) The terms and conditions of the staff to be transferred from the Rail-

ways to the Ministry of Production will remain unaffected.

(4) In the matter of quantum of supply of coal to the Railways from the State collieries, the Railways will give and receive the same consideration as they would have if the ownership had continued with them.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: With reference to the statement in respect of question 2, I would like to know whether it means that the Railways will continue to pay interest on the capital although the collieries will have been transferred to the Production Ministry?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Yes, that is what the statement means. Railways to guarantee the return on block capital for the convention period.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: May I know the reason for that? Although the collieries have been transferred to the Production Ministry, why do the Railways continue to bear the interest thereafter?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: So that the Production Ministry may not be burdened with any losses.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is it not a fact that the Railway collieries have been making profits for one or two years now?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Yes.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Then why should the profit be credited only to the Production Ministry and why should the Railways be burdened with the interest on that capital?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I presume that the interest will be set off against profits.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: Are Government aware that the Government Railway Collieries Enquiry Committee had recommended that the Government Railway collieries should be managed by a statutory autonomous body and if so,

has that recommendation been accepted?

SHRI K C REDDY: Yes, Government are aware of that recommendation and since that recommendation was made, the matter is under further consideration and no decision has yet been taken on the subject

SHRI B C GHOSE Do I take it that the Government will soon transfer the management of these collieries to some statutory body and not manage them departmentally?

SHRI K C REDDY: Yes, there have been all these recommendations and as I have said in my answer, the whole question is under consideration because new aspects have cropped up and we have to give full thought to them

SHRI B C GHOSE Is it not the general policy of Government not to manage these industries departmentally?

SHRI K C REDDY The general policy provides for some industries being managed departmentally and we will continue to do so. Certain industries will have to be run on a Statutory Corporation basis and there are so many methods which we are following

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA Sir, the recommendation was made some time in 1950. I would like to know why a decision could not be taken up to this time with regard to the establishment of a statutory board?

SHRI K C REDDY This transfer was effected only recently i.e., on the 1st April this year. So this is the time when we have to consider the whole matter in all its aspects and come to a decision

SHRI B C GHOSE With reference to the answer to (b), might I know what are the administrative advantages which Government expect from this transference apart from the fact that there may be a policy to transfer

all public undertakings to the Production Ministry?

SHRI K C REDDY If the ownership is vested in one Ministry and the management is vested in another Ministry, no doubt there will be difficulties and possibly there will be a lot of delay. Supposing a policy or programme has to be considered and adopted by the managing Ministry, then that Ministry should have to go to the Ministry which owns the concern and there will be a lot of delay. If both capacities are vested in the same Ministry, then it makes for quickness of decisions and facility of administration

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA May I bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that another recommendation has been made by the Working Party on Coal in 1951 that legislation should be brought to get the State collieries managed through a Joint Stock Company, and ask whether the Government would take this into consideration and would indicate as to what lines they wish to adopt with regard to the administration?

SHRI K C REDDY The Government are aware of that recommendation also. As I said earlier, all these recommendations are under the consideration of the Government at present

### अलीगढ़ का ताला व्यवसाय

\*६२७. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान  
क्या वाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि कुटीर उद्योग के विकास के सम्बन्ध में सरकार द्वारा आमन्त्रित विदेशी विशेषज्ञों द्वारा अलीगढ़ के ताले व्यवसाय के बारे में क्या रिपोर्ट पेश की गई या क्या राय दी गई है ?

†[LOCK INDUSTRY AT ALIGARH]

\*627 SHRI N S CHAUHAN: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND

†English translation