

discussions with various stakeholders and they have given their report on research and development. so, the present committee will look into all the previous recommendations as well as the present proposal given by the representatives of the industry, the cooperative sector and the farmers.

Iron-ore mines in Chhattisgarh

63. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has dismised all complaints and petitions against Jindal Steel and given clearnces to their licences in Chhattisgarh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that most of the iron-ore mines in that State are now in the hands of two giant mining companies;

(c) whether Government proposes to review this entire decision-making process which goes in favour of certain companies; and

(d) the measures proposed to review such dicisions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A revision application was recieved on 8-4-2011 challenging the order No. 2-21/2004/12 dated 7-11-2009 of the Government of Chhattisgarh, whereby the State Government has granted ap prospecting licence to M/s Jindal Steels for iron ore in Dantewada, Chhattisgarh. It was observed by the Revisionary Authority, a quasi-judicial body set up under Section 30 of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act, 1957, that the said revision application was late by more than one year. As the revision applicant neither sought condonation of delay nor satisfactorily explained the delay, it was not admitted by the Revisioary Auothority.

(b) As informed by the Government of Chhattisgarh, major areas of mining lease for iron ore belong to the National Mineral Development corporation (NDMC) and the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). Both are Central PSUs.

(c) and (d) The MMDR Act, 1957, provides for an in-built mechanism for reviewing and revising any order made by a State Government or any other authority in exercise of the powers conferred on it by or under the Act. Section 30 and the Rules thereunder (Rules 54 and 55 of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960) provide for the procedure in this behalf including the time-frame of three months from date of communication of the order for the purpose of making a revision application. Since these are statutory proceedings which are subject to judicial scrutiny, procedures as required under the law are being followed in all respects.

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, the entire procedure followed for sanctioning of this 1,000 hectares of land at Chhindwara, Chhattisgarh, has created a lot of suspicion because the Chairman of the Tribunal, who was a Joint Secretary level

officer, was suddenly transferred after he had heard the case of ten months and a junior officer was brought, Within a fortnight, he gave the verdict in favour of Jindal Steel. so, I would like to ask why the Joint Secretary was removed even though his tenure was not complete. He was suddenly removed and he was replaced by a junior officer who completed the hearing within 15 days and gave the verdict in favour of Jindal Steel. I want to know the reasons for this.

श्री दिन्शा जे. पटेल: सर, माननीय सदस्य जो बात कह रहे हैं, उसके साथ यह बात जुड़ी हुई नहीं है। किसी को हटाना या किसी को रखना, यह अलग बात है। यह कहना कि जिन्दल को देने के लिए यह काम किया गया है, यह बिल्कुल गलत बात है, क्योंकि कानून के मुताबिक काम किया गया है। जो रिविजन अप्लिकेशंस टाइम पर आईं, उनको स्वीकार किया गया है और उन्हें राज्य सरकार को वापस भेज दिया गया है। जो रिविजन अप्लिकेशंस टाइम पर नहीं आईं, यानी वे एक साल चार महीने के बाद आईं, तो उनको हमने खत्म किया है और वह काम गाइडलाइंस के मुताबिक और कानून के मुताबिक ही किया गया है। रूल या कानून के विरुद्ध जाकर किसी के प्रति गलत काम नहीं किया गया है। माननीय सदस्य हटाने की जो बात कर रहे हैं, वह बिल्कुल गलत है और इससे संबंधित मामला अब कोर्ट में है। मैं इस बारे में आगे कोई बात नहीं कर सकता, क्योंकि यह मामला अब कोर्ट में है।

SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Sir, the Supreme Court has given a directive to the Government of India regarding sanctioning of iron ore licence to Jindal Steel in Karnataka stating that special treatment should not be given to giant companies. It is a matter between a giant steel company, like Jindal Steel, and small entrepreneurs. I just want to ask whether the hon. Minister is ready to refer this case to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), or, as he himself is empowered to re-open the case, whether he will do so and appoint a senior officer to look into the matter. I am asking this because it has created a lot of suspicion. So, it is necessary to either refer this case to the CVC, or, to appoint a senior officer to go into this case because you are empowered to re-open the case.

श्री दिन्शा जे. पटेल: सर, यह क्वेश्चन छत्तीसगढ़ के ऊपर है और ये कर्णाटक की बात कर रहे हैं। जहां तक कर्णाटक का मामला है, उसमें सुप्रीम कोर्ट की गाइडलाइंस के मुताबिक काम होगा और उन्होंने जो सजेरेंस दिये हैं, उनके बारे में सरकार जरूर सोचेगी।

SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Sir, on 22nd November, 2010, a Commission under the chairmanship of Justice Shah was appointed to enquire into the illegalities in mining operation in various States of the country. Now, it has been reported that the Commission has given a part Report. There is no provision for a part Report. There should either be an interim report or a final report. I would like to know what has been submitted. Secondly, has the hon. Minister accepted the recommendations? Will the hon. Minister lay the Report on the Table of the House? It has been laid on the table of NDTV's house long back and NDTV has already declared that they have got a copy. I would like to know the exact position because NDTV claimed that they had got a copy of the part Report two months back. No clarification has come from anybody.

श्री दिन्शा जे. पटेल: सर, शाह कमीशन की रिपोर्ट मेरे ऑफिस में तीन दिन पहले, पिछले वीक ही आयी है। उस का अभ्यास करने के बाद उस पर क्या action लेना है, उस में कौन से suggestions दिए गए हैं, उन की study करनी है। सर, यह जो रिपोर्ट दी गयी है, यह गोवा स्टेट के बारे में है। सारे देश के अलग-अलग राज्यों की रिपोर्ट्स अभी बाकी हैं। पूरी रिपोर्ट्स आने के बाद, उन की स्टडी कर के उसे सभा पटल पर रखने के लिए 6 महीने का time period रहता है। उन 6 महीनों में उन का पूरा अभ्यास कर के वह रखी जानी है। हम उस के पहले भी कोशिश कर रहे हैं, लेकिन उस में जो सुझाव आएंगे उन के बारे में जरूर सोचेंगे और जो सभा पटल पर रखने की बात है, वह उस टाइम में सभा पटल पर रखी जाएगी।

श्री श्रीगोपाल व्यास: सभापति जी, मैं छत्तीसगढ़ से आता हूँ और वहां के पब्लिक सेक्टर के स्टील प्लांट में लौह अयस्क की आपूर्ति करने वाली खदान में लौह अयस्क खत्म होने वाला है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस के बारे में आप की क्या चिंता है? क्या आप ने उस के लिए Alternative sources सोचे हैं, उस का विकास करने की कोई योजना है अन्यथा यह स्टील प्लांट बंद हो जाने की स्थिति में आ जाएगा?

श्री दिन्शा जे. पटेल: सर, यह इस प्रश्न से relevant question नहीं है। अगर माननीय सदस्य इस के लिए अलग से नोटिस देंगे तो उस के बारे में भी जरूर reply दिया जाएगा।

Decline in Power Generation Due to Short Supply of Coal

*64. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several thermal projects remain stuck for want of coal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether short supply of coal to these projects has resulted in losses of several billion units; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI K.C. VENU GOPAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) None of the Power Utilities in the country have reported that any of their thermal power stations is stuck for want of coal. Although, inadequate availability of coal *vis-a-vis* requirement has affected electricity generation in some of the Power Plants. Power Utilities have reported a generation loss of 8.7 Billion Units in 2011-12 (upto February, 2012) due to shortage of coal. Station-wise details of generation loss due to shorage of coal, reported by the Power Utilites during April, 2011-February, 2012, is given in Statement-I (See below)

(d) Following steps have been/are being taken by the Government to mitigate shorage of coal for the thermal power palnts in the country:

- Ministry of Coal/Coal India Ltd. are being insisted upon to enhance production of domestic coal in the country.
- Power Utilities have been advised to import coal to extent technically