

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
STEEL  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2199  
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2004  
STRIKE IN BOKARO STEEL PLANTS  
Acharia Shri Basudeb

**Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the judgement of Jharkhand High Court, Ranchi, dated December 22, 2003 restraining strike in Bokaro Steel Plant till conciliation proceedings are concluded;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken by the management to conclude the conciliation proceedings;
- (c) whether the conciliation is stalled due to refusal of the management to conciliate with the unions together serving the strike notice and its insistence on separate discussion with each union;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether previous joint discussion took place with all the unions together serving the strike notice and the labour Commissioner, Jharkhand also asked the management of BSP to sit jointly in the conciliation; and
- (f) if so, justification of the management's refusal and steps taken on early conciliation?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS AND MINISTER OF STEEL (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) After pronouncement of the judgement by the Hon`ble Jharkhand High Court in case No. 5263 of 2003, the Management of Bokaro Steel Plant (BSL) requested the Deputy Labour Commissioner-cum-Conciliation Officer to start the conciliation proceedings with the unions separately as the strike-cum-Charter of Demands were served by the union separately. It is the prerogative of the Conciliation Officer to decide the mode of conciliation. Deputy Labour Commissioner-cum-Conciliation Officer held conciliation with the unions separately. The Management representative participated in all the conciliation meetings and thus at no stage stalled the proceedings.

On the same issue, Labour Commissioner, Govt. of Jharkhand, Ranchi also called for meeting/conciliation jointly with the unions and BSL representatives were present on all the dates fixed for the meeting.

(e) & (f) As regards attending conciliation proceedings jointly as per advice of the Labour Commissioner at Bokaro Steel City on 24th and 25th December, 2002 and on the subsequent date as fixed by the Labour Commissioner at Ranchi, the Management representatives attended the meeting without any reservation. The Management did not refuse to participate in the conciliation proceedings convened by the Labour Commissioner and the matter will be settled through the process of conciliation.