

**Title:** Need to take steps for revival of IISCO - Laid.

**DR. BIKRAM SARKAR (PANSKURA) :** IISCO is one of the oldest Steel Plants in India. It is also one of the best located integrated steel plants in the country. Its performance till the mid-1960s was even better than that of Tata Steel. It was taken over by the Central Government in 1972. Unfortunately, during the last three decades, the plant was not modernized though several studies and proposals were made.

There are 23,000 workers directly employed by IISCO. Moreover, several other works and factories in and around that area draw sustenance from IISCO. Therefore, a closure of this plant would be a major socio-economic disaster for West Bengal.

The other alternative being revival of IISCO, it could be modernized and turned around by the same method as was applied in the case of Tata Steel.

I, would, therefore, urge upon the Government to take urgently all possible steps for revival of IISCO which is so very essential for West Bengal.