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Title: Regarding alleged irregularities in Rourkela Steel Plant, Odisha.

SHRI BALBHADRA MAJHI (NABARANGPUR): It is appearing in print and electronic media for quite some time that there are large scale alleged irregularities in Rourkela Steel Plant. Some of the alleged irregularities are as follows :-

- (1) Blast furnace slag was being sold at a throwaway price without resorting to e-tender, favouring only a few. Finally when it was enforced by an honest Additional Chief Vigilance Officer it turned out that as against previous price of about Rs.275/- per tonne it fetched Rs. 1065 to Rs. 1105 per tonne meaning a loss of about Rs. 26.00 crores in six months.
- (2) There was breakdown of newly commissioned Blast Furnace no. 5 for a period of 20 days, causing an immediate loss of Rs 50.00 crores and reducing its life span by about 12 years.
- (3) Officers are allowed to continue beyond their period of superannuation. It is learnt that in all these cases, the issues were brought to the notice of Minister concerned and no action seems to have been initiated even after writing about the said alleged irregularities to the Minister concerned.

It is urged upon the Government to investigate the matter through an independent agency like CBI and initiate action against the defaulters.

