

**श्री शेर सिंह :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें कानून का प्रश्न इतना नहीं है क्योंकि यह बात तो स्पष्ट हो गई कि राज्य सरकारें भी इस सम्बन्ध में कानून बना सकती हैं और यह राय उनसे दी जा चुकी है। जहां तक भारत सरकार का प्रश्न है वह सारे भारत की तस्वीर देखकर ही कोई कानून बना सकती है।

**श्री एल० एम० बनर्जी :** तस्वीर को हम 23 साल से देख रहे हैं।

**श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे प्रश्न के दूसरे भाग का उत्तर नहीं आया। क्या भारत सरकार की तरफ से उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार को मना किया जा रहा है कि चीनी मिलों का राष्ट्रीयकरण न करें ?

**श्री फखरुद्दीन अली अहमद :** नहीं, नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है। भारत सरकार मना नहीं कर रही है।

#### Construction of Bokaro Steel Plant

\*96. **SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of Bokaro Steel Plant is being handicapped at present owing to an acute shortage of steel material ; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to solve the problem ?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) (SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) :** (a) and (b). To a certain extent, the progress of structural fabrication and erection work for the Bokaro Steel Plant has been affected by the shortage of some strategic sections of steel. Necessary steps have been taken for import of such of the critical requirements as cannot be met in time from the indigenous production.

**SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA :** Sir, the indigenous production comes from the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi and the Mining and Metals Corporation, Durgapur. May I know whether during the last three years, those two Corporations did not supply indigenous steel and, therefore, the cause of Bokaro Steel Plant is going to be hampered ?

**SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM :** The hon. Member is not entirely correct in saying that steel is coming from the Heavy Engineering Corporation and the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation. The shortage of steel has nothing to do with the shortage of equipment that is not manufactured in time by the Heavy Engineering Corporation. Steel is produced by the Steel Plants in the country. But in certain sections, we have not been able to produce an adequate amount of steel. That is the reason for the shortage.

**SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA :** The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that the Government is going to import steel. May I know from which countries the Government is going to import steel ?

**SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM :** We are planning to import steel from USSR and Japan.

**SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI :** May I know whether as a result of these difficulties and delay in importing the required steel for strategic construction sectors, the cost schedule of the first phase of Bokaro Steel project will be further raised ?

**SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM :** No, Sir,

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Supreme Court Judgement on Applicability of Provident Fund Rules

\*97. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANTRI) be pleased to State :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the judgement given by the Supreme Court on the 1st April, 1971 on the appeal by the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh about the applicability of Provident Fund Rules; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRAM AUR PUNARVAS MANIRI) (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The implications of the judgement are being examined.

**Measures to Increase Production of Steel in Public Sector Steel Plants**

\*98. SHRI P GANGADEB :  
SHRI R. S. PANDEY ;  
SHRI SAMINATHAN ;

Will the MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) : be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering certain immediate measures to increase the steel production in the public sector steel plants to meet the shortage of steel ; and

(b) if so, what are those measures ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) (SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hindustan Steel Limited expect that, subject to satisfactory industrial relations, production of steel from their steel plants at Bhilai, Rourkela and Durgapur in 1971-72 would exceed the actual production in 1970-71 by nearly 10 million tonnes of steel ingots. Towards this end, they are taking all necessary measures which include: organisation of maintenance programmes for enhancement of equipment availability, speeding up major capital programmes so as to correct existing imbalance in production facilities, procurement of raw materials,

essential spares, refractories, locomotives and introduction of technological improvements etc. For this, a three-year rolling plan is being prepared for each plant and the organisation is being geared to attain the production targets for 1971-72.

A 'Task Force' has been constituted in the Ministry to evaluate performance every month, to deal with problem areas effectively and to ensure proper implementation of the various decisions taken.

**Strike in Durgapur Steel Plant**

\*99. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any strike in the Durgapur Steel Plant during the last six months ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the strike ;

(c) the man-hours lost during the strike period and the financial loss suffered consequently ; and

(d) whether any action has been taken against the employees concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (ISPAT AUR KHAN MANTRI) (SHRI MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(d) No, Sir.

*Statement*

The workers of the Durgapur Steel Plant observed three general strikes during the last six months from November, 1970 to April, 1971. On 8.12.1970, the workers observed Bangla Bandh for 24 hours in response to a call made by some political parties on the following issues :—