

the supplementaries have followed from it. Fortunately or unfortunately Mr. Dasappa is the Cabinet Minister in charge of it. After hearing all the supplementaries and all the answers, he puts a question which is like somebody asking "नेत्र किन की मां थी"

after hearing all the Ramayana.

Mr. Speaker: Should I give any answer to that?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether the Minister is justified in saying like that. He has ridiculed the House.

Mr. Speaker: I will look into the rules if I can find Sita there. It should not be made a fun of in the House.

So far as I could gather, I do not want to say anything except that it was really unfortunate that the Minister should say such words....

Shri Nath Pal: Flippancy.

Mr. Speaker: . . . which could lead to another interpretation. That was not proper because we had discussed it for a long time.

Shri Dasappa: I did not know to which question . . . (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: After so many supplementaries had been put, the Minister ought to have asked to which particular supplementary he had to give a reply.

Shri Dasappa: I only meant the supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: But the words that he used did not convey the idea that he wanted to know which supplementary he had to answer on that particular occasion because so many supplementaries had been put simultaneously, though that might have been his intention.

Shri Dasappa: That was my intention.

Mr. Speaker: But his query "what is the question" gave the impression to the House as if he did not know what question we were dealing with though we had spent so much time on it.

Shri Dasappa: May I express my regret if I had created the impression that I was not aware of the question holding the field here? Because a number of friends were getting up and asking supplementaries, I did not know to which particular supplementary I had to give an answer. That created the difficulty.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Sir, you allowed only one supplementary; nothing more. Where were the other supplementaries?

Shri Dasappa: If it is Shri Azad's supplementary that is holding the field, my friend will answer it. But there were so many questions put by other members. Therefore, I asked which of the supplementaries was holding the field.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Bokaro Steel Plant

Shri Vishram Prasad:
Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri B. P. Yadava:
Shri Dhaon:
Shri Bishanchander Seth:
Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
Dr. Saradish Roy:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri P. Venkatasubbalah:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Maharajkumar Vijaya
Ananda:
*123. Shri Hem Raj:

Shri Solanki:
 Shri Kapur Singh:
 Shri Buta Singh:
 Shri Narasimha Reddy:
 Shri P. E. Chakraverti:
 Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:
 Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
 Shri Daljit Singh:
 Shri Karni Singhji:
 Shri P. K. Deo:
 Shri P. G. Sen:
 Shri Prakaah Vir Shastri:
 Shri Krishna Pal Singh:
 Shri B. N. Kureel:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
 Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have held negotiations with the USSR Government regarding the assistance for the setting up of the Bokaro Steel Plant; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the negotiations and the steps taken so far in the matter?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). After the announcement of the U.S.S.R. assistance for the Bokaro Steel Plant in May this year, negotiations have been held with the USSR Government about the scope of such assistance. Copies of the detailed project report and our Technical Committee's Report thereon, were sent to them. A team headed by the Secretary, Department of Iron and Steel, visited the USSR in the middle of July. The main purpose of the team's visit was to impress upon the Soviet Government our keenness to complete the Project on a priority basis and draw up a time-schedule consistent with this objective. The team held discussions with the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, State Committee for Iron & Steel Industry, Tjazzpromexport, the Soviet Trade Organisation, and Gipromez, the Soviet Central Design Institute for metallurgical Plants.

The Soviet Government appreciated our anxiety to complete the Project

with the utmost expedition, and a team of Soviet specialists is now in this country for further investigations and detailed technical discussions. The team is at present visiting the various steel plants and is making on-the-spot studies of ore mines and quarries, and the site of the plant. It will also hold discussions with the National Mineral Development Corporation, the National Coal Development Corporation, the D.V.C. etc. in connection with the supply of iron ore, coal, power and water supply etc. After this study and further discussions with the Technical Officers, which are expected to be completed this month, the team of Soviet specialists will report back to their Government after which an Agreement with the USSR Government will be signed.

Steel Projects

Shri Surendra Pal Singh:
 Shri Sashi Ranjan:
 Dr. Ranen Sen:
 Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:
 Dr. Saradish Roy:
 Shri P. C. Borooah:
 *124. Shri Solanki:
 Shri Narasimha Reddy:
 Shri Vishram Prasad:
 Shri P. E. Chakraverti:
 Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:
 Shri J. B. S. Bist:
 Shri B. L. Kureel:
 Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an international consortium of American and British Private firms have shown interest in the steel projects that are likely to be set up in this country in the near future and it has already made a positive approach to the Indian Government in this regard; and

(b) if so, the nature of offer of help made by this consortium?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri N. Sanjiva Reddy): (a) and (b). An International Consortium has shown interest in setting up steel-