

SHRI SURAJ MANDAL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chhota Nagpur Tenancy Act is different from the other land laws. Perhaps the hon. Minister is not aware that under the Land Acquisition Act 461, land acquired for a specific purpose must be used for that specific purpose alone and it cannot be used for other purposes. This is provided in that Act and it is the responsibility of the Government to protect the Act. Is the Government aware that land acquired under the Act by the management of the Bokaro Steel Plant has been illegally transferred to co-operatives and no arrangements have been made for the rehabilitation of displaced people on this land? Does the Government have any information in this regard?

[English]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: We are very well aware of the Land Reforms Act of the Bihar Government and everything had been done as per rules which is in vogue in Bihar. If there is any specific instance which is not to my knowledge, the hon. Member can write to me and I will get it examined.

If there is any violation, I will definitely correct it.

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Rourkela Steel Plant also, vast areas of land are lying unused.

MR. SPEAKER: This question relates to Bokaro Steel Plant.

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO: But the problem is the same. The owners of the land want to get back their land if it is not used. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any proposal with the Government to return the unused land to the owners.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I need a separate notice for this question.

MR. SPEAKER: The question is, if the land was not used for the purpose for which it was taken, will it be returned to the owners?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, the question of returning the land does not arise because there are certain obligations for the plant in such places. Then, we are also creating some greenbelt around the plant so that pollution does not occur. To my knowledge, there is no such plant where we have excess land.

MR. SPEAKER: You get it examined.

Production of Steel by SAIL

*148. **SHRI M. V. CHANDRA-SHEKARA MURTHY:**

SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to bring out a White Paper on production of steel by the Steel Authority of India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be issued;

(c) whether the production in many of the Steel Plants of SAIL has fallen due to shortage of coal and power; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) Government at present do not propose to bring out such a White Paper.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Among the main steps being taken to contain adverse effects of coal and power shortages, are the constant inter-action with suppliers of indigenous coal and power to augment supplies better management of imported coking coal, increased captive power generation and better technological and manpower discipline, etc.

SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, shortages of coal and power are the main constraints in the steel production of the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry has started any dialogue with the Ministry of Coal and Power for proper coordination in this regard and if so, the details thereof.

I will put my second supplementary also because of the time constraint. There is a long-felt desire of the people of Karnataka for a Steel Plant, that is, Vijayanagaram Steel Plant for which the foundation stone was laid by the late Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi in the year 1971. Now, the Government of Karnataka has sent a proposal to the Government of India under joint sector for issuing licence. I would like to know whether the Government of India has decided to issue the licence immediately for this plant.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: Sir, I will answer the second question first. Under the new Industrial Policy, it is not at all necessary to take a licence from the Ministry of Industry as well as from the Ministry of Steel. Now, both the Governments have the liberty to have the Steel Plant. They are only to take clearance from the Ministry of Environment for location and for other things from the State Government. We are not at all in the picture consequent upon the industrial policy which has been now laid on the Table of the House.

Before the new Industrial Policy, before I took over the Ministry, the previous Government had sent both the proposals from the Ministry of Steel to the Ministry of Industry. So, nothing is pending from our Ministry.

As regards the first question, we always have internal meetings with the Coal Ministry and we do carry out exercise to see as to how best the coal problems can be solved. Our effort is to get indigenous coking coal as much as we can from within the country. Where there is shortfall, then only we go for import and that process is always there. We try to inter-act with the Ministry of Coal to see that we can cover the backlog which is still there to the point of three million tonnes to four million tonnes.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Irrigation Projects of Rajasthan

*149. **SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA:** Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) since when the irrigation projects of Rajasthan are pending with the Union Government;

(b) whether Central assistance has not yet been provided to some of the approved projects of the State; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which it is likely to be made available to Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a)