

Government from adopting that procedure in recognising the most representative union?

Shri C. Subramaniam: In this case, a verification was made by the Orissa Government, and when they were on the eve of taking a decision, one union went to court and got an injunction, and it is still pending. And it is not only a question of recognising a particular union. As soon as a particular union is recognised, the other unions start all sorts of troubles, so that they may be recognised later on as the most representative union.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether this team has also pointed out that the labour welfare activities have also been ignored by the management, and that is why there is unrest among the labour?

Shri C. Subramaniam: No, Sir. No such thing was pointed out.

Foreign Private Capital in Steel Industry

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*581. { **Shri Maheswar Naik:**
 Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating to effect a shift in their steel policy in order to facilitate participation of foreign private capital in the Steel Industry?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): No, Sir.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether it is not a fact that the hon. Finance Minister in his Budget Speech made certain suggestions that foreign capital would be invited for participation in the steel plants etc?

Shri C. Subramaniam: My understanding is that it had no reference to steel plants.

Shri Nath Pai: Is there any truth in the reports appearing in a section of the press that the American interest in Bokaro which cooled off has again

begun to revive, and that some private parties from the United States have come here to display this interest in the steel plant?

Shri C. Subramaniam: For Bokaro we have to acquire equipment from foreign countries. Naturally, machinery makers are interested in supplying these things, and America is one of the countries taking interest.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: May I know if it is contemplated to get foreign capital for capital goods as far as the future expansion of the present steel plants is concerned?

Shri C. Subramaniam: At present there is absolutely no intention of having equity participation either of private capital within the country, or private capital outside the country in setting up public sector plants.

Mr. Speaker: Shri P. C. Borooah. Shri P. R. Chakraverti. Shrimati Savitri Nigam.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: 584.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf: 582 has been dropped.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: It has been transferred to some other day.

Office of Iron and Steel Controller, Calcutta

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*584. { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:**
 Shri P. R. Chakraverti:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of **Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five officials of Iron and Steel Controller's Office, Calcutta have been recently given a charge-sheet by the Department and Police in connection with some graft charge against them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam): (a) and (b) One gazetted officer of the rank of Assistant Iron and Steel Controller, Grade I had been charge-sheeted and the departmental enquiry completed. His case is now under consideration in consultation with U.P.S.C. Another gazetted officer of the rank of Assistant Iron and Steel Controller, Grade II and two non-gazetted officials of the Ministerial grade have also been charge-sheeted. They have been asked to submit their defence statements. This Assistant Iron & Steel Controller, Grade II is also the subject of a Police case. He along with five members of the Steel Trade have been challaned for criminal conspiracy as well as commission of offences under Prevention of Corruption Act. The case is *sub-judice*.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know on what date this particular irregularity and corruptions were detected, and on what date the actual action started?

Shri C. Subramaniam: I am so sorry that I do not have the dates here.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether the Ministry has been receiving several complaints during the last two years, and that no action was taken till this case was caught by the police?

Shri C. Subramaniam: We have to actually get some facts before taking action. As soon as some facts were available, we took action, and the enquiry is proceeding.

Shri Ranga: In the light of these complaints and the action taken by the Government, have Government thought of taking any preventive action or given direction to other similar Controllers not only in Calcutta but also in various other places, in order to prevent their repetition again?

Shri C. Subramaniam: Hon. Members are aware that Government was very much dissatisfied with the func-

tioning of steel control and that is why the whole matter was gone into, and just now we have made other arrangements for the purpose of de-controlling certain items and also working of the control in respect of the other items. I hope the new organisation will work better.

Import of Textile Machinery

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*585. { **Shri Maheswar Naik:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for bulk import of textile machinery from Switzerland for marketing it in the country;

(b) if so, on what considerations; and

(c) the value of the imports so proposed?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether the gap between the availability and production of the textile machinery has been met so far?

Shri Kanungo: No, it has not been met . . . (*Interruptions*). I could not say there is a gap which is met by imports. There is no negotiation with Swiss sources.

Shri Maheswar Naik: May I know whether the foreign exchange portion of our imports from other countries has been made available by the countries from which we are going to import the machinery also?

Shri Kanungo: Not the whole of it: part of it.

श्री कछवाय : क्या यह बात सही है कि यह जो मशीनें आयी है इन से कपड़े का