

concentration does exist in the form of a limited number of producers having a comparatively large share of the market. In regard to the latter, viz., "country-wise concentration", the Commission came to the conclusion that a certain measure of such concentration also exists. The majority view, however, was that such "concentration has helped the economic betterment of the country." The Commission has also referred to certain evil effects of concentrated economic power in the country's economy, such as "risk of emergence of monopolies, high prices for the consumer, deterioration in quality and last, but not the least, keeping out the small industrialists."

(b) The action that the Government propose to take is indicated in its Resolution dated the 5th September, 1966 laid before the House on 6th September, 1966.

Rourkela Steel Plant

2768. Shri D. Amat: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have enquired into the breakdown on the 11th January, 1966 in the power plant of Rourkela Steel Plant;

(b) the amount of loss involved due to the breakdown;

(c) whether it was due to the negligence of the employees; and

(d) if so, the action taken against them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir. The breakdown in the power plant of the Rourkela Steel Plant occurred on January 13, 1966 and not on January 11, 1966. The incident was inquired into by a high powered committee appointed by the General Manager, Rourkela for the purpose.

(b) The loss in production due to breakdown has been estimated at Rs. 7.28 lacs.

(c) and (d). As the party held responsible for the breakdown died in the incident, no further action was possible.

Rourkela Steel Plant Township

2769. Shri D. Amat: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lands have been allotted to particular individuals in the Civil township area of Hindustan Steel Plant, Rourkela out of the lands acquired for the public purpose; and

(b) if so, the number of the individuals to whom lands have been so allotted and the basis on which they got land for private business purpose?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) and (b). As per information received from Rourkela Steel Plant, land has been allotted to five individuals to carry on business relating to some important public needs and amenities such as Cinemas, Service Stations etc. The allotment has been made by the competent authorities after proper scrutiny in accordance with the powers delegated to them. In some of the cases, allotment has been made on the basis of recommendations from the civil authorities.

Commodity Boards

2770. Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri C. Janardhanan:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the chairmen of the various Commodity Boards was held recently at Ernakulam; and

(b) if so, the main topics discussed and the decisions taken?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir. A joint meeting of Chairmen of different Commodity (Plantation) Boards was held at Ernakulam on the 12th May 1967.