

project is situated. Persons displaced from the areas acquired for the project or those belonging to SC/ST are given overriding priority in the matter of employment. Next to be preferred are those who, even if they come from some distance have been or about to be retrenched from other public Enterprises. Even in the case of skilled workers, clerks and other non-technical staff, so long as the basic qualifications and experience are forthcoming preference is to be given in the order of priority mentioned above.

- (iv) The enterprises are also required to notify all vacancies to the Employment Exchanges and insert suitable advertisements in the local and National Press in respect of vacancies in higher categories of posts.

The above policy which is being implemented by all Public Sector Enterprises of the Central Government, has been formulated with a view to ensuring that these organisations are permitted to run on commercial lines while at the same time the justifiable aspirations for employment opportunities of the local candidates, i.e. the residents of the State in which the enterprise is located, are also satisfied.

#### **Gross Irregularities Committed by TISCO Directors and High Officials.**

4580. SHRI A. K. ROY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether he is aware that the TISCO directors and high officials are involved in gross irregularities committed in favour of benami company styled as Naresh Kumar & Company having monopoly of contracts in its collieries in Dhanbad ;

(b) whether 30 trucks purchased by the TISCO and received on priority allotment by TELCO were handed over to M/s. Naresh Kumar and Company ;

(c) whether public distribution system for disposal of trucks to purchasers was violated ;

(d) whether the Chief Internal Auditor of the TISCO was dismissed for pointing out such irregularities ;

(e) whether the issue was raised in the Board meeting of the TISCO having Government directors ; and

(f) if so, facts in details and steps taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) :

(a) No such irregularity has come to the notice of Government.

(b) and (c). It is understood that a number of trucks were purchased by TISCO for movement of their coal requirements. Subsequently, for operational convenience, the company decided to sell 15 trucks to the transport contractors on hire purchase basis on the understanding that these will be used exclusively for transport of essential materials for Tata Steel. As there is no control on sale and distribution of commercial vehicles, no violation of any public distribution system appears to have been committed in this regard.

(d) No, Sir. The Chief Internal Auditor is understood to have resigned on other grounds.

(e) and (f). It is not clear as to which issue the Hon'ble Member is referring to.