

**बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र में सेवा निवृत्त
अधिकारियों की नियुक्ति**

1924. श्री अजीत जोशी :

चौधरी हरि सिंह :

क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार और स्टील अथॉरिटी आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड के अनेकों सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारियों को सरकार की भर्ती नीति के विरुद्ध बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र में सलाहकार के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) ऐसे कदाचारों को रोकने के लिए क्या प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं।

इस्पात मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री सन्तोष मोहन देव) : (क) और (ख) यह सच नहीं है कि अनेक सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारियों को बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र में सलाहकार/परामर्शदाता के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है तथापि, कुछ सेवानिवृत्त अधिकारियों को कुछ विशिष्ट कार्यों के लिए उनकी विशेषज्ञता का उपयोग करने हेतु पूर्णतः अस्थायी आधार पर बोकारो इस्पात संयंत्र में सलाहकार/परामर्शदाता के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है। उनका कार्य संयंत्र के लिए उपयोगी है क्योंकि उनका अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों में पर्याप्त विशिष्ट अनुभव है।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Prices of Steel

1925. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether steel prices are crushing in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATE (SHRI SANTOSH

! MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Open market prices of steel vary from time to time and place to place due to various factors including local demand-supply situation, overall steel demand-supply position in the country, prices of steel in international market and level of import.

During the last three months the open market prices of different steel items have shown a general decline. On an average, while the open market prices of long products like billets, wire rods, rounds, channels and tor-steel have shown a decline of 2 to 8%, those of flat products like plates, HR coils, GP/GC sheets have shown a decline of 1% to 6%.

Steel Industry

1926. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have adopted a policy for poising the Steel Industry for a big take-off; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government for obtaining the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and

(b) Government have taken a number of steps to increase the production of steel in the country and encourage private sector investment in the steel industry :

(i) Iron and Steel has been removed from the list of industries reserved for the public sector; it has also been exempted from the requirements of compulsory licensing under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 subject to certain locational restrictions;

(ii) Iron & Steel sector has been included in the list of high priority industries. Such industries have the facility for automatic approval of foreign investment in equity upto 51%;

(iii) Customs duty on the imported scrap, the main raw material for the secondary sector, has been reduced from 35% to 10%; steps have also been taken to increase the production of sponge iron, which is a partial substitute for scrap;