

SHRI G. A. APPAN : But that is the convention.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not take the time of the House.

SHRI G. A. APPAN : If you cannot answer in English, as a protest against this indiscriminate encouragement to Hindi, I am walking out.

(At this stage the hon. Member left the Chamber.)

SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD : So far as his question is concerned, it is increasing day by day. Our present pithead stock is about 6.2 million tonnes. Previously we could not estimate it because the mines were under private ownership. So far as Neiveli project is concerned, it has been granted approval.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA : May I

MR. CHAIRMAN : I called you earlier. You were then talking to somebody. Now I have called the next Question.

Restructuring of Hindustan Steel Ltd.

*472. SHRIMATI RATHNABAI SREENIVASA RAO :

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI :†

SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHANKAR ADIVAREKAR :

SHRI M. S. ABDUL KHADER :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding restructuring of the Hindustan Steel Ltd., and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Sumitra G. Kulkarni.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir. The matter is still under examination. A decision is likely to be taken at an early date.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the present utilisation capacity of all the steel mills whether they are in the private sector or in the public sector. How much utilisation capacity is going to be there by the end of the Fifth Plan ? How is it that only Bhilai and Bokaro are taken into account for adding to the production capacity while others are not ? I will clarify that Bhilai is estimated to produce 3.510 million and Bokaro is estimated to produce 3.770 million tonnes. How is it that the other plants are not added while computing the figures for the Fifth Plan ? My question is about the utilisation of the capacity so far and utilisation of the capacity in the future and about how it is going to be done.

SHRI K. D. MALAVIYA : Sir, this question relates to the restructuring of the HSL and I am afraid I am not ready now to answer the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, this is a question relating to the restructuring of the HSL and this pertains to the Ministry of Steel & Mines.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You kindly put your second question.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, I had raised my hand to put a supplementary question on Question No. 471 and I did not get any opportunity.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please. I have called Q. No. 472 and you put your second question on Q. No. 472.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, I have put a question about restructuring the HSL and I have asked what steps they are taking to restructure the HSL with a view to increasing production and the Minister says that he is not prepared to answer just now. Then, Sir, what is there to ask ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly put your second question.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : What will be the cumulative effect ? Sir, again the Minister will tell the same thing. I am interested in the steel plants. But he is interested in its formation only on paper. What is the use of it ? ... Sir, he is leaving the House. Sir, I do not know how he can leave the House when he has to answer my question (*Interruptions*).

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Mr. Malaviya, you cannot go like that. It is a matter concerning the privilege of the House. You are in our custody now and you are in the custody of the Rajya Sabha. Sir, he cannot go like that

(*Interruptions*).

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, at least now it should be conceded that Mr. Malaviya is completely vanquished.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Sir, the Minister is not only not replying to her question, but he is also fleeing from the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, I agree with you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, he is fleeing from the House; but the lady is there all the same.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right. Shrimati Kulkarni, please put your second question.

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, my other question is to be answered first.

7 RSS/74—2

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद : जहाँ तक एच० एस० एल० के लासेज का सवाल है, वह 251 करोड़ रुपये के आसपास है। माननीय सदस्य ने जो सवाल किया है वह केवल एच० एस० एल० के बारे में किया है, इसलिए बोकारो और दूसरे प्लांटों के बारे में जो उन्होंने सवाल किया है उसके बारे में उन्हें अलग से सवाल करना चाहिये।

SHRIMATI SUMITRA G. KULKARNI : Sir, my other question has not been answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is over now, Shrimati Adivarekar. Not here. Shri Abdul Khader. Not here. Yes, Mr. Kulkarni.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, the honourable Minister said that the question of restructuring the HSL is under the consideration of the Government. Sir, is it not a fact that the late Shri Mohan Kumaramangalam, when he was the Minister, actually took steps to restructure the HSL by creating a holding Company and the Government appointed as Chairman the Secretary of the Steel Ministry thereby increasing his functional responsibility ? Now, Sir, today, there is a report in the papers that the post of Steel Secretary and post of Chairman of the holding Company are going to be separated. So, I want to know whether our friend, Mr. Wadud Khan, will be the Chairman or whether there will be another bureaucrat-Secretary who will become the Chairman. What is the ultimate aim or intention of the Government and what is the purpose in this restructuring business, whether it is to satisfy some bureaucrats or to satisfy some Ministers ? What is the actual fact ?

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद : एच० एस० एल० के स्ट्रक्चर का जहाँ तक सवाल है स्टील थ्रवारिटी आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड कायम करने के बाद अब उसका शेप दूसरा हो जायेगा। यह शेप क्या होगा, यह ग्रन्डर कंसिडरेशन है और इसके बारे में अभी कोई साफ जवाब नहीं दिया जा सकता है

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : I have asked you a very specific question, क्यों नहीं दिया जा सकता है।

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद : इसलिए नहीं दिया जा सकता है क्योंकि यह अन्दर कंसीडरेशन है।

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : How are you going about it and what are you doing to do about it ?

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Sir, the senior Minister is running away from the House and the junior Minister is saying something else. I asked whether Shri Wadud Khan is going to be replaced by a Secretary. He must say "Yes" or "No".

MR. CHAIRMAN : He says that it is under consideration.

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : About Shri Wadud Khan or about restructuring that he says this ?

श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद : जहाँ तक किसी को हटाने और एपोइन्ट करने का सवाल है, यह मिनिस्ट्री के अन्दर की चीज नहीं है। एपोइन्टमेंट करने का और हटाने का काम गवर्नमेंट का जो डिपार्टमेंट करता है शायद यह उसके विचारधीन हो। अभी हमारे पास इसकी कोई इन्फार्मेशन नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sri Lanka Prime Minister's visit To India.

*473. **SHRI LOKANATH MISRA :**

SHRI DEBANANDA AMAT :

SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD :

SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH :

SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN :

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka recently visited India;

(b) whether the question of persons of Indian origin in that country was discussed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) :

(a) to (c) Yes Sir.

At the invitation of our Prime Minister, the Prime Minister of Sri Lanka visited India from January 22 to 29, 1974.

The question of persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka was discussed by the two Prime Ministers who agreed that the implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement of 1964 was proceeding satisfactorily. An agreement was also reached regarding the 150,000 persons left over in the 1964 Agreement for later decision. It was agreed that the Government of Sri Lanka would confer citizenship on 75,000 of this number and that India will accept for repatriation 75,000.

I am laying on the Table of the House copies of the letters exchanged between the two Prime Ministers which constitute the Agreement on this question and detail the terms of its implementation.

PRIME MINISTER, SRI LANKA

New Delhi, 27th January, 1974

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the exchange of letters between our two Governments dated 30th October 1964 regarding the status and future of persons of Indian origin in Sri Lanka (hereinafter referred to as the "original agreement"), and specifically to clause (4) of the original agreement whereby the status and future of the remaining 150,000 persons not covered by clause (3) of the original agreement (hereafter referred