

the plants in these two washeries that stopped working for a number of weeks and, secondly, whether there is any scheme for collaboration or proper coordination between the coal industry and the washeries and Hindustan Steel? Is there a proper coordinating machinery?

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : I do not think that there is any necessity for greater coordination between Hindustan Steel and its own washeries on the one hand, and also the other coalmines from which it is taking the coal. I think that this is not one of the reasons which is responsible for whatever is defective here in the present situation. So far as the first part of the question is concerned, I expect that this Committee will be able to give us all the material on the basis of which we can take further action.

SHRI N SRI RAMA REDDY : Sir, from the Statement laid on the Table of the House I find there are certain contradictions. In the year 1969 the capacity of Dugdah (I) was 51 per cent whereas in the year 1971 it has fallen to 40 per cent. Similarly, in every case, whether it is Dugdah II or Pathardih or Bhojudih or Durgapur, in every one of these washeries the utilisation has fallen down. I would like to know what exactly were the reasons. With the increased production of steel, was it not possible to make use of their production to a greater extent? If that was so, what are the various reasons that have contributed to this state of affairs?

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : So far as the Dugdah washery is concerned, the main reasons are shortfall in the supply of wagons for the movement of washed coal and the DVC belt conveyors for transporting middlings because some of the coal from these washeries goes to the Damodar Valley Corporation, from the washeries to the Chandrapura thermal power station. So far as the Bhojudih colliery is concerned, —comparatively, of course, it is doing considerably better— it is mainly due to short supply of wagons for the movement of washed coal. So far as Pathardih washery is

concerned, it is due to short supply of wagons for taking washed coal and middlings and inadequate availability of raw coal of the proper quality suitable for the washery. In Durgapur, as has been mentioned by one of the Members earlier, it is partly due to maintenance problems which are being investigated now and partly due to difficulties in the area of labour.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY : Is any serious attempt being made to improve the situation?

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : I can say that we are making every effort to see that the situation is improved but one cannot give time limits and guarantee; one judge only on the basis of performance.

OVERHAULING OF HINDUSTAN STEEL LTD.

412 **SHRI N. G. GORAY** will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to overhaul completely the Hindustan Steel Limited set up,

(b) whether Government propose to set up a committee of experts including foreigners for the purpose; and

(c) whether Government have completely abandoned the proposal to disassociate all previous Chairmen of HSI with the said committee?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES इस्पात और खान मंत्री (SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Sir, I have asked this question because, as the Minister himself will agree, all of us have been feeling worried about Hindustan Steel. Sir, if you look at the speech of the Finance Minister you will see that he has mentioned this industry as one of the keys to our future growth and in this House and elsewhere very often it has been pointed out that so far as production of steel is concerned, we

are nowhere near the mark; we are producing only 55 per cent or 56 per cent of the capacity. And yesterday, Sir, the Minister told us here that the condition was so desperate and the steel shortage was so acute that they had to license some of the mini steel plants to the private sector. This being the condition so far as steel production is concerned, is it not necessary in the opinion of the Government that the entire situation in the steel plants and the steel industry should be reviewed and necessary action taken? I am surprised to find that he has said 'No' to all these questions. How does he desire, how does he claim to overhaul the steel industry to make it more productive?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : The question of the Member is whether we propose to overhaul completely the Hindustan Steel setup, and the answer is 'No'. We do not think that the main reason for HSL's not attaining the targets during the last year and the earlier years is due to the fact that the setup of the management is improper. I would like to inform the House that this does not mean that we are not continuously reviewing the actual situation, the operation of the steel industry and taking whatever steps that are open to us to improve the situation. I think that the steps that we are taking are going to bring some improvement, particularly the improvement of relations with labour by the better functioning of what was the Joint Wage Negotiating Committee for the Steel Industry which has now been transformed into a semi-permanent committee called the Joint Consultative Committee on the Steel Industry, which is actually meeting in Delhi even today.

So far as maintenance which has been one of the defects in the steel industry is concerned, we are taking very serious steps particularly in Durgapur and Rourkela, to remedy the situation. The biggest weakness has been in these two plants because so far as Bhilai is concerned, the built-in system has been working better there and that is also responsible for the better performance

of the steel plant in Bhilai. I would like to correct one impression the Hon. Member has, that the condition is so desperate that we had to license the mini steel plants. That is not what I said yesterday. I merely said that the mini steel plants will also be able to contribute towards remedying the situation which is very urgent to-day.

SHRI N. C. GORAY : The Minister just now said that there are certain defects in the maintenance and there are certain lacunae in labour management relations. Here in this House if you remember it had been pointed out very often that one of the defects of the HSL is in management and here some names were mentioned. Even the name of the highest person in the whole set-up was mentioned and it was pointed out that he spends more time abroad than here and he has no time to devote to the task that has been entrusted to him. Therefore I ask him whether it was the intention of that Government to look into the affairs of the management also and whether they want to do something about it.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : About the management of the HSL, if the Member considers that we should look into the affairs of the management, I can assure him that we are continuously looking into the affairs of the management in the sense that the contact by the Ministry and the Board of Directors on the one hand and the management itself on the other is very close. We keep a regular check on the working of the HSL and we are satisfied that the management is doing its best under quite difficult conditions particularly. So far as the Chairman is concerned, because it is his name that has been mentioned here in this House, I want to mention quite categorically to this House that we are satisfied with the work that the Chairman has been doing and we believe he has been contributing his best to the working of the HSL, whatever may be the other defects which we are tackling from day to day.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : The reply gives an impression that the Minister is complacent about the whole

thing. He feels that there is a continuous review of the operations of these plants and he is looking into the whole question all the time but still the problem arises of shortage, malfunctioning etc. and the cost of production is on the increase. May I know what drastic steps are being taken specifically.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : You are asking him about drastic steps. He is taking no steps.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : He said he is satisfied with the whole thing and he is looking into the problem. The HSL is a zig-zag one and I would like to know whether any drastic steps are being taken to overhaul the whole situation and change it so that the shortage of steel may be overcome, cost of production may be reduced and better management is ensured?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : We are taking certain definite steps—the management—assisted by the Government, in improving the situation in the HSL. The Member suggested that the Government is entirely satisfied with the working of the HSL. That is not correct. We are not satisfied and that is why the management is taking steps. We are also helping them. I say this in order to state the actual facts. So far as Bhilai is concerned, we expect we will be able to go up at least by .25 million on the basis of introducing oxygen lancing in the open hearth furnaces. We have tried it in 2 or 3 furnaces but so far we have not been able to introduce in all the furnaces.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : The question is about management. On a point of order. I request you to tell the minister who is new to Parliament that vague and evasive replies are not the custom in this House. The question is about management and he is talking about furnaces.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please do not interrupt till the answer is completed.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : He is giving vague and evasive replies.

MR. CHAIRMAN : We cannot say it is vague and evasive unless the answer is completed.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : I was asked what are the steps that we are taking so far as bringing about improvement in Hindustan Steel is concerned and that is that point I am seeking to answer now. Actually we have not been able to complete the oxygen lancing owing to the fact that the refractories manufactured in India are not of adequate quality. So we have allotted Rs. 10 crores for the import of these refractories during this year and we hope that as a result we will be able to work up production in Bhilai from 1.94 last year to somewhere about 2.2 or so. I think this is an achievable target and if we are able to get through oxygen lancing and also to provide adequate number of locomotives which are not there at present we will be able to achieve our target in Bhilai.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : About refractories is it not a fact that licences were issued for starting refractory plants to avoid imports? What has happened to that?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : Sir I did not hear what he said.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No no. You complete the answer.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Sir, he said refractories were going to be imported. Is it not a fact...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No second question please, Mr. Krishan Kant.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : He has not answered fully. I only interrupted. He said refractories were being imported but earlier licences were issued for refractory plants. What has happened to those licences?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : The hon. Member must be aware that refractories are being manufactured in India. We expected that the Indian manufacturers would be able to provide refractories to sufficiently good quality to enable us to

proceed with oxygen lancing which is of a much higher temperature as you must be aware. Unfortunately the refractories produced were not of adequate quality and therefore it is that we have to go in for imports. This is one of the main reasons and I think we will be able to improve the position so far as Bhilai is concerned. There are some subsidiary reasons also such as the locos position etc. That also we are taking in hand.

Now so far as Rourkela is concerned one of the reasons which has been responsible for low production was kilns. We have got adequate quantities of lime and one of the dolomite kilns has been recently converted into lime kiln and we are ordering further lime kilns. On the basis of that we hope to be able to improve the position in Rourkela. The other reason is that maintenance in Rourkela has been really defective over the years and now we are paying for that non-adequate maintenance in the early period particularly in Rourkela and in Durgapur.

In Durgapur where we went up to a million tonnes or so in 1964-65 and in 1965-66 one of the consequences was because we did not adequately look after the coke ovens in that period we are paying for it now.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN Who is responsible for that mismanagement?

SHRI N G GORAY All this shows that the management was bad.

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM That was considerable time ago, long before the present management was in charge of the organisation. In Durgapur we hope as a result of the steps we have taken in relation to maintenance the position will improve though both in Durgapur and in Rourkela one of the important contributory causes was the difficult labour situation we faced in 1970-71, in Rourkela in the early part of the year and in Durgapur almost throughout the year. We are taking steps so far as that is concerned also partly at the national level through the wage negotiating committee and partly locally by initiating more and more discussions and trying

to draw the workers actually into the process of production by setting up shop Committees at every level in which the workers will also have the right to participate in the discussions and the solution of problems connected with production.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT May I know when the hon. Minister says that he is satisfied with the performance of the Chairman, for how many days the hon. committed chairman of the Hindustan Steel was in Ranchi, how many days he visited the steel plants for how many days he was in Delhi and how many days abroad during this whole period? If by remaining absent from the headquarters of the steel plants he can run them it is indeed a case of new standards of efficiency by socialist Ministers. If he has got these figures he may kindly give them. May I also know if he has introduced the element of accountability? For three months he was in Delhi trying to get Congress ticket and become Minister of Steel. Is that his duty?

MR CHAIRMAN You please shorten your question. There are other Members also.

SHRI A P CHATTERJEE These are important questions.

MR CHAIRMAN Still they can be shorter.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT May I know whether he has studied the earlier debates on the subject in this House and is he aware?

Sir, the Minister is talking.

MR CHAIRMAN He is listening also.

The Estimates Committee had said in its Report that there were no weighing arrangements in any of the steel plants and last time the Minister had told us that even now no weighing arrangements had been made. May I know whether the Government has looked into it and what has been done? Lastly, when is the Minister and the Government going to hand over the public sector steel plants to the private sector which they later can buy just as they bought the Goenka shares in IISCO?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Mr. Chairman Sir, I must make it quite clear that it is extremely difficult to answer statements which are made challenging the personal conduct of persons who are not Members of this House

DR B. N. ANJAN : Why not ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Because unless previous notice is given, naturally the facts cannot be placed before you. Unfortunately — and I do so with great humility—

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : The facts are

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now, please let him finish first

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Unfortunately, persons who are outside this House are not in a position to defend themselves when, for instance, he said that the Chairman was here for three months searching for a Congress ticket, which is absolutely false to my knowledge. I know that he was not here for three months searching for a Congress ticket and I would request hon. Members, again with great humility, that if they wish to make allegations like this earlier, they can always ask me about it. If they are not satisfied with my reply, I am always open to replying in the House. I do not want to evade answering questions, but to raise a question about a person outside the precincts of this House without first satisfying oneself that there is a basis for such a statement by asking the Minister concerned is, above all, not fair to that person. I am not concerned with myself. I am always ready to answer any question, any allegation against myself, whether I am a socialist or not, but I do believe and I earnestly request you that you should protect these persons and insist that hon. Members may, first of all, give the Minister a chance outside the House. We can meet any time. My friend, Mr. Krishan Kant, can catch hold of me at any time of the day or night and ask me: Is it true that Mr. Chandy has been doing such and such thing? Then, it is my

bounden duty to find out the facts and tell him, but to ask me here and have it broadcast is not fair to the individual. It is not fair to the people and I would very earnestly request you....

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Chairman, on a point of order....

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : On a point of order

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I rise on a point of order. (*Interruptions*) May I know from you whether we are going to take sermons from Ministers who are deliberately misleading the House? In this House, Mr. Chairman, in the last Session the question of Mr. Chandy was raised by me. When the Finance Minister was replying to the question he gave an assurance to the House that he would discuss with the Steel Minister and he would come out with the facts. This is on the record of the House. We are not Ministers, we are not very responsible persons, we do not know decency and decorum and we cannot defend individuals who are great figures in the international world—I accept everything—but as Members of Parliament we have got certain privileges. If we raise a matter in the House and the Finance Minister makes an assurance, neither the Finance Minister nor the hon. Minister of Steel who preaches dignity here, cares to talk with us on this point. He thinks that we should go abegging to them asking about the conduct of Mr. Chandy. He has said that it is false. I say, Mr. Chairman, that it is cent per cent true that Mr. Chandy has not been performing his duty. I want your specific ruling on this point. Matters of specific importance are raised and Ministers make an assurance to the House. They say that they will look into it and give the answer. Now, another gentleman, who has been appointed Steel Minister, gives a reply telling us that it is false, it is against dignity, it is against decorum, it is parading to the people. Now, Mr. Chairman, it is a reflection on the conduct of the Members of the House and I say that any Minister who dares to conceal corrupt, inefficient officers who

are not discharging their duty, is parading and broadcasting something..

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have understood you.

I should like to ask you to call for the record of that day. After having had the proceedings of the House, without discussing that matter with me or with the Members of the House who are interested in the matter, how Mr. Chavan or Mr. Mohan Kumaramangalam could dare preach us that we should know the dignity and decorum of the House? Mr. Chairman, I ask you to make a specific provision against such utterances in this House. We know our responsibility. When I say it I say it with all sense of responsibility that Mr. Chandy has not been fair to the Hindustan Steel, he has not been fair to the Parliament he has not been fair to the Government and to the nation. We should be given an opportunity. I shall bring every fact about Mr. Chandy and then it will be known whether we are parading and broadcasting or the Minister is broadcasting something else which is totally false, unfounded and mischievous.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Sir, I do not understand the hon. Minister when he says that we should not ask questions about persons who are outside the precincts of this House. Where then will go the question of ministerial responsibility? I am on this point. The Minister must satisfy this House how actually the public sector undertaking is being conducted. If in the course of asking questions certain allegations are made against a particular person, he may be anybody, outside the precincts of the House, the Minister must satisfy the House and he cannot get away by saying that he is outside the precincts of the House.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I did not say that. If the record of the House is examined....

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, this is an important question....

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Allow me to answer.

I did not say, Mr. Chairman, that I will not answer any question regarding any individual who is outside this House. I would like to make my position clear lest it be misunderstood. I did not say that. I only requested hon. Members before they made any statement or allegation about an individual who is outside this House to ask me or to give me notice so that....

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : Sir, on a point of order. I am on a point of order. The Minister must sit down.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : May I finish my reply?

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : When a Member rises on a point of order, he has to yield. He should learn the manners of this House.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : My point of order is, when a matter has been discussed in this House three or four times, is it not required of the hon. Minister, whether he is new or old to go into the whole record and come out with the facts when the question is asked? That is the point of order. If every time the Minister says he should be given notice, then the Parliament cannot function.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let it function now. Please sit down.

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : The Minister every time wants notice. The question has been discussed four times in this House. These very supplementaries were asked. Every time the Minister says he wants notice. Could you not order the Minister that he should come prepared?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Why are you repeating?

SHRI KRISHAN KANT : What is your ruling on this?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is a matter of procedure.

DR. B. N. ANTANI : Sir, during half an hour as a sick and old lawyer here I have been puzzled....

MR CHAIRMAN You may be puzzled I am not concerned with your puzzlement

DR B N ANTANI . This is a fair question....

MR CHAIRMAN . Please sit down Let me conduct the proceedings We have done only two questions Let us do some work

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM I only requested hon Members

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-YAL : The Minister has been insolent

MR CHAIRMAN He has used the word 'humility' several times You are calling it insolent

(Interruption)

SHRI ARJUN ARORA One brief question

MR CHAIRMAN I am not calling you, Mr Arora

SHRI ARJUN ARORA Why not? Am I being discriminated against?

MR CHAIRMAN There are Members who have still not been given a chance

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM Regarding the statement that I have made earlier my only request to hon Members was that they are entitled to ask about everything in this House and I am aware of it as much as they I only requested them in relation to any allegation made against anybody, that if they ask me outside the House before they raise it here, I would attempt

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-YAL Sir, is it your ruling that before a Member put a question to the Minister he should first chase him outside the House and then come back with some material and oblige him?

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM The hon Member has misunderstood me.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI Sir Members have a right to put questions

But surely, what the Minister objected to was when the Member asked whether Mr Chandy was here for two months to get Congress ticket whether that information was true because he also in the party He knows better

MR CHAIRMAN He has denied it

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI He ought not to have used it with motive The motive of his being here even if it be true should not have been put here

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM I made that as a request I did not say that the hon Members are not entitled to ask any questions Not only are they entitled but also I am in duty bound to reply I made a request to the hon Members that if they do not feel that it is necessary to comply with it, it is up to them That is all Now so far as the question

SHRI ARJUN ARORA Sir, this is a subject on which you should give a ruling The Minister has said half a dozen times that before we put him questions we should go to his chamber

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM I did not say

SHRI ARJUN ARORA or somewhere

MR CHAIRMAN No no

SHRI ARJUN ARORA and talk to him

SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM Mr Chairman, I did not say

SHRI ARJUN ARORA On a point of order Mr Chairman, you should give a ruling He should not go on repeating this *ad nauseam* because he has already said half a dozen times that it is our duty to go to him and talk to him about questions that one wants to raise

MR CHAIRMAN He has never said that it is your duty to go to him He has made a request that in order to avoid the possibility of his saying that he is not fully aware of all the

facts, relevant facts, it is better that the Members might—this is a request—contact him so that he may collect the facts. (Interruptions) He is not claiming (Interruption) When I am speaking, you should not interrupt me. The Minister made a request to the hon. Members in the interest of saving time. He did not claim it as a right nor did he allege....

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : He said half a dozen times.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no. Therefore, no question of ruling arises. He did not claim it as a matter of right.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : I raised a point and the point was that this question was raised in this House when the Finance Minister was replying and the Finance Minister said that he would look into it, discuss it with the Steel Minister and let us know what will happen, what is happening there in the steel plants. It is on the record of this House. After that the hon. Minister for Steel comes, gives a clean chit, a certificate, to the officer in question and sermonises to the Members that they should know how to behave with dignity and decorum. It is not (Interruptions) I am specifically on this point. I say that the Minister has got every right to request or to command the Member because it will depend upon the nature of the Member whether he can be commanded or requested. That is a different thing altogether. But the question is limited and that is, the very conduct of this officer was questioned in this House. The Finance Minister was kind enough, gracious enough, to say that he would look into it. After that the only thing we have from the hon'ble Minister of Steel is that he is a superhuman. Without discussing anything with the Members or without listening to their question he sermonises to the Members. Mr. Chairman, Sir, you see the record in what tone the Minister has given that sermon, that they should not broadcast to the world, they should not do this, that or the other, as if we are the only irresponsible people and not others and as if only the Ministers know how to behave responsibly. My only

objection on this point is that the Minister before giving a clean chit should have gone himself into the record of that particular officer. This is the height of irresponsibility to give a clean chit without enquiring without going into the whole thing and then asking Members to behave in a more dignified manner. I should like to have your ruling on this point. Mr. Chairman, I tell you I am going to pursue this matter to the last because Parliamentary democracy is not so helpless as people feel. I shall give you hundreds of instances where Ministers have been pulled up for such conduct in the House of Commons where they have been deliberately concealing the inefficiency of a particular officer and I shall give you what has happened in such cases. What has happened and what this Mr. Chandy has done I will tell you. I give oral notice and I shall give notice under rules and I shall pursue this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN : All right.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR-MANGALAM : May I answer the question?

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : What is your ruling?

MR. CHAIRMAN : You do not allow me to consider what he said.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : There are only two questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, please sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You are not helping the discussion at all. How do you solve the problem? Hon'ble Members have raised certain points. They had been raising these points for several months now. A proper statement should be made.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me say something. One of the questions put to the Minister was whether Mr. Chandy was here for three months seeking election ticket. He denied it and he has said that if any question are...

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Why three months?

MR. CHAIRMAN : He denied it categorically. The previous record could only show whether this question of his being here for so many months was ever taken up or not. Therefore...

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR : Mr. Chairman, what has he denied? Whether he was here or not and that he was not here for seeking election...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down, Mr. Chandra Shekhar, I am standing. This will require an examination of the record, in what words he has put it, what he has said. This is not a question where I can be asked to give a ruling as if it were a point of law. Certain appeals have been made by the Minister. Certain objections have been raised by the Members... (*Interruption by Shri Mahavir Tyagi*) Please sit down. Do not interrupt, please. Certain objections have been raised by the hon'ble Members. There is no question of law arising that I should give a ruling at once. This is a matter for consideration of the Members as well as of myself as to how questions should be answered by the Ministers and so on. Therefore, let the matter rest there. I will look into today's record and I shall see about it.

SHRI MAHAVIR TYAGI : The question cannot be put to any Member unless there is some specific basis. So there was no basis for their attributing a motive that he was here for the purpose of ticket unless it was in the press or there is any information to that effect. The Minister has a right to say that such a type of motivation should not be made...

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Now all the questions have been lost.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : On a point of order. No motive has been attributed. Mr. Krishan Kant asked a question of fact. No motive was attributed. Only Mr. Krishan Kant asked an inconvenient question of fact...

DR. BHAI MAHAVIR : Is the whole of the Question Hour to be wasted on this?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please sit down, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, if you had heard me, you could have saved time. Whatever you wanted to do in the chamber...

MR CHAIRMAN : I am not going to do anything in the chamber except looking into the record.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Unfortunately, tensions have developed and evidently the ruling party is in trouble. Ministers do not keep in touch with the other Members and Members do not keep in touch with. (*Interruption*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, please sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : How the ruling party functions is important.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am not concerned with that. Unnecessarily time is being taken during Question Hour. Please sit down, Mr. Bhupesh Gupta.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Why don't you listen to me?

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : You have to listen to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, please. I ask you to sit down. If Mr. Bhupesh Gupta disobeys me, what he says will not be recorded.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : (*Continued to speak*)

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Sir, let my question be answered.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta, I requested you to sit down.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : (*Continued to speak*)

SHRI N. G. GORAY : Sir, I seek your protection. I had put that question and I would like to have the reply. I am worried about the production by Hindustan Steel. That is why I put that question. Now I have no reply to that. Instead of that, the whole question is diverted to Mr. Chandy, whether he was in India or abroad and so on.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Mr. Minister, please complete the answer.

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Sir, on a point of order

MR CHAIRMAN : No, Mr Mohta, there should be a limit to this

SHRI M. K. MOHTA . Sir, I have a right to raise a point of order.

MR CHAIRMAN : No, no these are no points of order. I am not allowing anybody

SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Kindly listen to me and then say whether I have a point of order or not. I would like to have your ruling on this point whether Members have a right to ask questions about the conduct of officers of public sector undertakings on the floor of the House. I want your ruling on this for future guidance

MR. CHAIRMAN . Now, Mr. Minister

SHRI M. K. MOHTA Sir, what about your ruling ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I cannot give a ruling on such a bald question whether you can put questions about an officer in the public sector Now, please sit down. Mr. Minister,

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM . I am not quite sure, Mr. Chairman, which is the question now that I am supposed to answer because many questions...

MR CHAIRMAN : Mr. Krishan Kant's question.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM So far as the question of Mr. Chandy being here for three months seeking a Congress ticket is concerned, to my knowledge it is not a correct statement So far as the question of the number of days that he has spent in India and the number of days that he has spent outside India is concerned, I am afraid the facts are not available with me. I will collect the information and lay it on the Table of the House, if the House so wishes. So far as the question of the general conduct of the Chairman in his capacity as Chairman is concerned, I have already stated that the Government is satisfied

that he has carried on his work well. If the hon. Members want to have a discussion on that subject, I am certainly not averse to discussing it in any manner. It is for the House, according to the rules, to take up such a matter for discussion That covers the points raised by my hon friend.

MR. CHAIRMAN . Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

† PROPOSAL REGARDING A PORTION OF WAGES BEING RELATED TO PRODUCTIVITY

242. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :
SHRI S. C. ANGRE :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/ श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्री be pleased to state the progress so far made by Government in their discussion of proposal of "relating some portion of wages directly to productivity" with managements and trade unions regarding which the Prime Minister had referred at the recent session of the F.I.C.C.I.?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/ श्रम और पुनर्वास मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (SHRI BAL-GOVIND VERMA) : The Prime Minister had informed the F.I.C.C.I.'s session that Government had promised to hold discussions with leaders of Trade Unions and Managements to see how best productivity could be increased. The matter was accordingly discussed at the Labour Minister's meetings with representatives of Trade Unions and Employers organisations in May last. The issues involved are such as would bear continuing discussions and deliberations

POLICE TEARGAS AND LATHI CHARGE ON THE WORKERS OF HEAVY ENGINEERING CORPORATION

413. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/ इस्पात और खान मंत्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that police resorted to teargas and lathi charge on

† Transferred from the 3rd June, 1971.