

In the Court cases, the Payment of Wages Authorisation did not go into the legality, validity or otherwise of the strike nor was the said issue decided by the Calcutta High Court. In view of this, it has been decided that the benefit of the judgment cannot be extended to staff other than those who were a party to the Court cases.

The legality or otherwise of the lockout is under appeal to the Supreme Court. The question of extending the benefit of payment to staff other than those who were a party to the court cases will be decided when the decision of the Supreme Court is available. ✓

#### ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

21. SHRI SUMDAR MANIPATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the extent to which the production schedule had been affected due to the labour trouble at Rourkela Steel Plant during the last two years;

(b) the extent of loss suffered by Government as a result thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to keep up the schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) Production schedule at Rourkela Steel Plant was affected during the last two years on account of unsatisfactory industrial relations and certain technical and operational constraints. The extent of loss to the Plant due to labour troubles was broadly as follows:

Year	Man-hours lost	Value of production lost (in Rupees)
1969—70	167,112	70,940,000
1970—71 (upto September, 1970)	279,825	122,941,000

The industrial relations situation has improved since October, 1970. Necessary steps are also being taken by the Plant to improve the technical and operational efficiency. Government are; however, not yet entirely satisfied about the position and consider that the plant has still some way to go before reaching the desired stage.

#### हैवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन, रांची में काम करने वाले इंजीनियरों की मांगें

22. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : क्या इस्पात तथा भारी इंजीनियरी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रांची स्थित हैवी इंजीनियरिंग कारपोरेशन के विभिन्न श्रेणियों के इंजीनियर पिछले कुछ समय से अपनी मांगों के संबंध में संघर्ष करते आ रहे हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी मांगें क्या हैं तथा उन मांगों को मानने में सरकार को क्या कठिनाई है; और

(ग) उनकी मांगों को पूरा करने के लिए सरकार ने अब तक जो कदम उठाये हैं उनका व्यौरा क्या है ?

#### DEMANDS OF ENGINEERS WORKING IN HEAVY ENGINEERING CORPORATION, RANCHI

22. SHRI J. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various categories of engineers of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi have been struggling for quite some time past in connection with their demands:

(b) if so, what are their demands and what are the difficulties experienced by Government to meet them; and

(c) what are the details of the steps so far taken by Government to meet their demands?]

†[ ] English translation.