

LOSSES SUFFERED BY BOKARO STEEL PLANT AND OTHER PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

1596. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI: SHRI DEVDJIT KUMAR KIKABHA PATEL:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a letter dated 28th September, 1970, from the 'Convenor of the Forum for public Grievances' has been received by him in connection with certain irregularities which caused colossal losses to the nation in some Public Sector Projects in general and particularly at Bokaro Steel Plant;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) In his letter dated 28th September, 1970, the Convenor, Forum for public Grievances (Delhi) has made allegations specifically against the conduct of an officer of the Bihar State Electricity Board in connection with the award of contracts for works relating to the installation of power stations at the Bokaro Steel Plant, Badarpur Project of the Government of India and Pathratu Project of the Bihar State Electricity Board. The allegations were referred to the Bihar State Government who have reported that a Commission of Enquiry has been set up by the Government of Bihar on 20th October, 1970, under the Commission of Enquiry Act to enquire into the causes of losses and shortfalls in the performance of the Board, and that this Commission will be in a position to enquire into the various allegations¹

LOSS IN PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS

1597. SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI: SHRI DEVDATT KUMAR KIKABHA PATEL: SHRI D. THENGARI:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 12 Members of Parliament have jointly written a letter on the 16th October, 1970 to him concerning the loss of crores of Rupees in the Public Sector Projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESWAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Members of Parliament had endorsed a copy of the letter dated 28th September, 1970, from the Convenor, Forum for Public Grievances (Delhi).

(b) and (c) In his letter the Convenor, Forum for Public Grievances has made allegations specifically against the conduct of an officer of the Bihar State Electricity Board in connection with award of contracts for works relating to the installation of power stations at the Bokaro Steel Plant, Badarpur Project of the Government of India and the Pathratu Project of the Bihar State Electricity Board. The allegations were referred to the Bihar State Government who have reported that a Commission of Enquiry has been set up by the Government of Bihar on the 20th October 1970 under the Commission of Enquiry Act to enquire into the causes of losses and shortfalls in the performance of the Board. As this Commission will be in a position to enquire into the various allegations against the officer concerned, no separate enquiry is considered necessary for the present.