

और पहले से काटिकट होने की वजह से शायद यह गलतफहमी है। किसी नई चीज में अब हम इस किस्म के एग््रीमेंट को मानते ही नहीं हैं जब कि इंडिजीनस नो-हाऊ और इंडिजीनस मैन्य फैक्चर हमारे कंट्री में हो।

VISIT OF BRITISH STEEL TEAM

◆386. SHRI ARJUN ARORA : t

SHRI A. M. TARIQ : Will the Minister of STEELE MINES AND METALS be pleased to state.:

(a) whether a British steel team led by Sir D. G. Bell visited the country recently;

(b) if so, the outcome" of the visit; and;* R £. lit £ 2K J Qk wm ^k

(c)Iwhether,[any [Indian [experts were associated with theAwork of thej British team ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHURY RAM SEWAK) : (a) A British Steel Corporation}' team led by Mr. David Bird was in the ".country from 29th January 1968 to 28th February T1968 to appraise the requirements of the Durgapur Steel works needed for fully effective operation and to indicate the equipment and tech-meal assistance to be provided from Britain.

Sir D. G. Bell formerly General Manager of Durgapur Steel Plant had nothing to do with this team.

(b) The report of the team is awaited.

(c) In connection with their work the team had consultations with the Management of Durgapur Steel Plant and Dy. Chairman and other officers of the Head Office of Hindustan Steel Limited at Ranchi. They also met me as well as the officials of the Ministry.

fThe question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Arjun Arora.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : Sir, the Minister when he came back from bis visit to the United Kingdom circulated a report on his visit and that report, *inter*

"Ha, state! that th; British steel industry was in a bad way, and that was why it had to be nationalised. May I know why, when the Minister's conclusion was that the British steel industry was in a bad way, he invited a team of people who cannot run their own industry efficiently, to advise him ?

^DR. M. CHANNA REDDYf: Sir, the hon. Member seems to havejgot some wrong impression about the report I only said, as far as I can recollect how that the profitability in the British steel industry had come down from 13 "5 per cent in 1958 to 3 "j per cent in 1966. But that is a general trend in the entire world. Any sweeping remark of that type about the British steel industry is based on a misunderstanding of the situation. Regarding the point that I invited a steel team from U.K., the hon. Member and this House are fully aware that the Durgapur Steel Plant was er««ted in collaboration with the British. Therefore, any technical personnel to be invited to set right and put the Durgapur Steel Plant into proper functioning should be British and so we invited the British team for this purpose.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : May I know if it is not a fact that many of the troubles of the Durgapur Steel Plant are due to the fact that the British collaborators, when they installed the plant, did not act fairly with us and did not give the best possible service and secondly, some of our troubles at Durgapur are due to the fact that the British Managers when they were in charge of running the plant, overworked certain sections of the plant and the plant began to suffer from fatigue ? So, why has he invited the same people, who overworked the plant, who did not make the plant function properly and who did not play their part as collaborators in a fair manner, to advise him ⁵

DR. M. CHANNA REDDY : Sir, the first part is not correct while the second part is partly correct, that is, that it was overworked, that it was not run in a scientific manner and that the maintenance was not adequate and, therefore, some of the ills which we are now witnessing were there in the functioning of the Durgapur Steel Plant. Regarding the team, once again I would like to say that previously when they came, they were representatives of certain private concerns; when the steel industry in Britain was not nationalised. But during my last visit, I was able to persuade the British Government that in the contest of nationalisation of the industry and the setting-up of British Steel Corporation between the British Steel Corporation and the H.S.L. plants, we could work within Government to Government relationship and they should send responsible officials to look after the efficient functioning of our plant.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : When the Minister was on his visit to the U.K. particularly to study the working of the steel industry, did he not discover that during the last 22 years, there has been no modernisation of the British steel industry because there was uncertainty about the ownership? The industry was nationalised by a Labour Government. Before the Labour Government could do something, the Conservatives came into power and de-nationalised it. And after de-nationalisation, the Labour Party declared that when it comes into power, it would re-nationalise it. So for the last 22 years, because of this uncertainty there has been no modernisation in noticeable improvement in the British steel industry. If he noticed that, why was it that in spite of his noticing that, he invited a British steel team to this country?

DR. M. CHANNA REDDY : Sir, I think hon. Member has made the same point in a different manner. There was uncertainty, it is true. But to say that there was no modernisation is not correct. For example, the British Steel Industry in this period invented the spraying pro-

cess which is a very pioneering method in steel production. As I have stated, I would like to repeat and clarify that we had invited the team not because of the efficiency of the British or otherwise, but because we have this Durgapur Steel Plant with their collaboration and only their technicians would be able to handle it.

श्री अ. ए. एम. तारिक : میں نے یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ کیا یہ بات درست نہیں ہے کہ دیرگاپور پلانٹ کے بارے میں برٹش کولوبریٹرس نے ٹیکنیکل نوٹس ہمارے ٹیکنیشینس کو نہیں بتایا اور کیا یہ سرکار کے لئے ضروری نہیں ہے کہ اب یہ وقت آیا ہے کہ ہر کولوبریٹرس سے جو ایگریمنٹ کیا ہے اس کو توڑ کر کسی اور کے ساتھ کرے؟

† [श्री ए० एम० तारिक : मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बात दुस्त नहीं है कि दुर्गापुर प्लांट के बारे में ब्रिटिश कोलंबोरेटर्स ने टैक्निकल नोट्स हमारे टैक्नीशियन्स को नहीं बताया और क्या यह सरकार के लिये जरूरी नहीं है कि अब यह वक्त आया है कि हर कोलंबोरेटर से जो एग्रीमेंट किया है उसको तोड़ कर किसी और के साथ करे ?]

डा० एम० चन्ना रेड्डी : यह कहना कि ब्रिटिश टेकनिकल पर्सनल जो पहले आये थे उन्होंने हमारे टेकनीशियंस को कुछ नहीं बताया सही नहीं है।

श्री अ. ए. एम. तारिक : ہم نے یہ نہیں کہا کہ کچھ نہیں بتایا - سب نہیں بتایا ہے -

† [श्री ए० एम० तारिक : हम ने यह नहीं कहा कि कुछ नहीं बताया, सब नहीं बताया है।]

डा० एम० चन्ना रेड्डी : यह सही नहीं है। सब नहीं बताया, यह कहना सही नहीं है। मैं यह कहूंगा कि हमारे टेक्नीशियंस जो देखभाल कर रहे हैं वे काफी लेवल पर काम देखते जा रहे हैं। दूसरे यह कि ब्रिटिश कोलैबोरेशन की वजह और दूसरे से कने का सवाल इस वक्त इसलिए पैदा नहीं होता कि यह वाकया है कि उनके कोलैबोरेशन से यह स्टील प्लांट कयम हो गई है। इस वक्त उसको बदलने का सवाल ही नहीं होता। और उनमें जो कमी, जो टेक्निकल डिफिकल्टी है उसके मुतलिक ब्रिटिश स्टील कारपोरेशन नेशनलाइज्ड इंडस्ट्री और ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट, चूंकि इस बीच में इंटेरेस्ट्स ले रहे हैं तो हम समझते हैं कि हमारा काम आइंदा सहूलियत से हो जायेगा।

SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS : I would like to know whether this steel team which has visited India looked only into the Durgapur Steel Plant or other steel plants also. I would also like to know whether the specific problem was technical difficulties or management. I am asking this because the hon. Minister knows that last time when we discussed this matter, the hon. Minister himself said here that he could not find any General Manager for this steel plant. May I know, when we cannot find any General Manager for this steel plant, how these steel experts will be of any help to us ?

DR. M. CHANNA REDDY : Sir, this team has come only for the Durgapur Steel plant and no other plant, as I have already stated. Secondly, I might read out for the information of the House the terms of reference for this team: "To appraise the requirements of the Durgapur Steel Works needed for fully effective operation and indicate the equipment and technical assistance it would be appropriate to provide from British in the light of organisational, mana-

gerial, administrative and other conditions including industrial relations that would obtain at the Steel Works". These are the terms of reference. Regarding the Manager, since December when the incumbent who was looking after this works has become the Deputy Chairman, we have not been able to appoint, and it will be done in the next few days.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA : Sir, may I know where was the necessity to invite a foreign team to visit Durgapur if the collaborators had passed all the technical know-how to the Indian people working there? »

DR. M. CHANNA REDDY : Sir, is difficult to say that all has been passed on as also it is difficult to say that nothing has been passed on. Therefore, they have given us information, but still we have only two foreign ^ personnel looking after this plant while in other steel plants there are more foreign technicians. Therefore, it is considered necessary for the efficient working of this plant to have them.

12 NOON J

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Is it not a fact that this consortium gave obsolete machinery, second-hand machinery, for the construction of the Durgapur Steel Plant as alleged by the Union and the workers ? Is it not a fact that again these persons are being invited for the purpose of technical know-how ? What has the Government been doing for all these ten years because the Indian personnel has not yet been able to acquire such a technical know-how ?

DR. M. CHANNA REDDY : I am sorry that I find myself in disagreement with the sweeping statement that the machinery was obsolete.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.