

†LABOUR TROUBLE IN ROURKELA STEEL PLANT

756. SHRIMATI SARLA BHADARIA : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any labour trouble at the Rourkela Steel Plant recently; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In September-October, 1967, the workers of the Rourkela Steel Plant agitated, without going on strike, against the statutory minimum of 4 per cent of their wages declared by Hindustan Steel Ltd. for the year 1966-67. As there was danger of serious damage to the costly equipment of the Plant, the Coke Ovens at Rourkela had to be blanked and Blast Furnance banked for some time during October 1967. The dispute has since been settled amicably and the plant has started functioning again with effect from October 19, 1967.

ENQUIRY RE NOTICE OF MOTION FOR ALLEGED BREACH OF PRIVILEGE

SHRI NIREN GHOSH (West Bengal) : Sir, I have given a notice of a motion for breach of privilege about Dr. P. C. Ghosh insinuating against Members of the House that they are receiving money from foreign Embassies .

MR. CHAIRMAN : That will not come now.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : I have given notice. This is a question of privilege. I want to take it up at the appropriate time.

†Transferred from the 4th December, 1967.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : We are not interested in taking that joker seriously. He is an idiot. I think he has said something bad. Even a joker is to be taken seriously if he is treated as the Chief Minister of a State. Sir, what do you say to this thing? Dr. P. C. Ghosh has no right to say such things.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have not given notice.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : I am included. He has not named anybody. You can go into this matter. I am not saying that you should dispose it of. If Dr. P. C. Ghosh has said this kind of thing, certainly his conduct is to be questioned by us.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : Sir, this motion should be discussed, not today, at a proper time. I am ready for that. But it should be discussed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will see to it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : We do not want to give him a lot of importance.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED FLIGHT OF CHANCELLOR EIESINGER OVER PAKISTAN-OCCUPIED PART OF KASHMIR

SHRI A. M. TARIQ (Jammu and Kashmir) : Sir, before you go to the calling attention notice, I have got a submission to make. My submission is this. I was the first man to enter your Chamber with the calling attention notice. Now I find the name of my senior colleague, Mr. Rajnarain, on the top of the list. I have got no objection to that. But I would like you to go into this matter and find out the position. You should adopt a procedure by which we will know how a man giving the notice first becomes second.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I shall go into it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA (West Bengal) : Generally, Sir, we do not have grounds for complaints. Mr. Tariq has made an observation which may not be very charitable to the Secretariat here because generally they do not do such things.