

of West Bengal and Bihar, probably the same thing may be true in Karnataka case also—then, the Central Government really cannot be blamed for that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is : Is there any monitoring system with regard to the matching of transmission system with the generation system? That is the point which Mr. Gurupadaswamy wanted to know.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, there is a regular monitoring system and the Central Electricity Authority has been monitoring all this and helping the State Electricity Boards to solve these problems of transmission.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY : Are you satisfied with the situation?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am not satisfied. You can never be satisfied. You have to persuade the State Electricity Boards to come up to the required level.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Suraj Prasad.

श्री सुरज प्रसाद : श्रीमन्, हाजीपुर फ़तवा लाइन की चर्चा है। मैं ट्रांसमिशन लाइन के प्रसार और विस्तार के खिलाफ़ नहीं हूँ लेकिन मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह बात सही है कि जो मजफ़्फ़रपुर थर्मल प्लांट है उसमें बिजली का उत्पादन इतना कम है कि जो ट्रांसमिशन लाइन बिछी है उसको नकीशिपेंट बिजली नहीं मिलती है, दूसरा मैं सरकार से यह जानना

चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक मुजफ़्फ़रपुर में कितनी बिजली की पैदाइश होती है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question does not arise. Next question. Mr. B. Satyanarayan Reddy.

Capacity utilisation of various Units of the Cement Corporation of India

***62. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total output of various units under the Cement Corporation of India during the year 1985-86; and

(b) the capacity utilisation of various units of the Cement Corporation of India during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The total output of various units of the Cement Corporation of India Limited during the year 1985-86 was 19.72 lakh tonnes.

(b) The capacity utilisation of various units of Cement Corporation of India during the last three years was as follows:—

	(% Capacity utilisation)		
	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
(1) Mandhar	98	95	95
(2) Kurkunta	94	92	79
(3) Bokajan	84	89	87
(4) Rajban	94	94	83
(5) Nayagaon	80	81	64
(6) Akaltara	76	70	66
(7) Yerraguntla	78	69	63
(8) Charkhi Dadri	112	105	78
(9) Adilabad	38	58	59

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Sir, the Minister has in his reply stated that the total output of various units of the Cement Corporation of India Ltd. during the year 1985-86 was 19.72 lakh tonnes. He has also given figures of the capacity utilisation of various units. For 1983-84 the total capacity utilisation was 754 lakh tonnes. For 1984-1985 it was 752 lakh tonnes. Then for 1985-1986 it was 614 lakh tonnes. As regards item No. 9, Adilabad, for 1983-84 it has been shown as 38 lakh tonnes, 1984-85—58 lakh tonnes and for 1985-86—59 lakh tonnes. I would like to know what are the main reasons for the low capacity utilisation by various units?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: As regards Adilabad unit in Andhra Pradesh, it had some problems specially shortage of wagons supply and shortage of coal supply. Over and above that, the real problem was labour problem. So owing to these reasons there has been shortfall in the production and efforts are being made to improve the situation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Second supplementary.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

The Minister has answered only with regard to item No. 9 Adilabad, but I have asked about other units also the reasons for the low capacity utilisation. I would like to know from the Minister, what concrete steps he will take in future to improve the situation?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must address some specific unit. For instance, if you say in Mandhar...

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, kindly bear with me. I have given the total figures for low capacity utilisation for 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, you have not read the answer properly. It is the percentage capacity utilisation, not in tonnes. I don't think you have understood the answer. Now, Mr. Matto. Where the answer given is in percentage, you are talking in tonnes.

SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Prime Minister, in his Budget Speech has categorically stated that cement has become a buyers' market and not sellers market. He has also announced certain concessions in the Budget proposals day before yesterday. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will consider and take up the issue of finishing up the levy and non-levy cement price differential so that the production goes up and the prices are levelled and the cement factories do not suffer any losses or loss of production, because the figures for 1985-86 have already been low in respect of the public sector undertakings and with respect to the entire industry itself, there is a glut.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Sir, although this point does not come under the Department of Public Enterprises because this is a policy matter and it is being dealt with by Industrial Development Department, I can inform the House that as of now, Government has no proposal to reconsider its policy regarding the levy and non-levy cement because that will lead to certain amount of distortion in the market. Therefore, Government proposes to continue with the present policy.

PROF. B. RAMCHANDRA RAO:

Sir, if we take the average of the capacity utilisation in terms of percentage, the percentage performance in 1985-86 has been less when compared to the percentage performance of 1984-85. Is there any special reasons for the production or the capacity utilisation being less during 1985-86 compared to the earlier years? If so, what are the reasons? Will the Minister be able to tell me whether it is due to lack of wagon facilities only or whether it is due to lack of raw materials like limestone, coal, gypsum etc. which are very essential for a cement plant?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Sir, I have already informed the hon. Members that there has been a downward trend in the overall utilisation capacity of Cement Corporation and reasons for this low utilisation to capacity differ from unit to unit. So, in certain units because of difficult

availability of raw materials or low quality of raw materials, there has been a shortfall and in overall context, I can say that besides these factors, for example, shortage of power in many units has been the reason, specially in the State of Karnataka and Himachal Pradesh where powercuts have been rather severe. So, that is one of the important factors. Then other factors, as I informed the hon. House were lack of easy availability of wagons and so on and in this, I will also include a certain degree of lackadaisical performance of the management. That was also responsible. So all steps have been taken to improve the situation and fortunately, things have started looking up.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, your answer is inadequate. You must understand the thrust of the question. The thrust of the question is, in 1984-85, there was a certain percentage performance. In 1985-86 except in the first item, in all other items, there is a shortfall. You see, in earlier years and in the next year, there is a shortfall completely in everyone of these things. Is there any common cause which brought about this or is it the advantageous circumstances in every one of these things? Did you see that?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: Yes, Sir. Sir, I would like to inform the House that Government was seized with this overall deterioration in the working of Cement Corporation of India. It was for this reason that a High-Powered Committee was appointed to go into all these aspects and the Committee has submitted an interim report and on the interim report, various steps have been taken, including appointment of a new C.M.D. and many other steps, for example restructuring. And many other steps as, for example, restructuring of administrative set-up, modernisation, cost reduction, inventory control, all these measures, are being taken.

श्री बीरेन्द्र वर्मा : माननीय मंत्री जी का उत्तर मुझे बेग नजर पड़ा और चेयरमैन साहब जी मैंने प्रश्न पूछना चाहा था वह आपने धुँछ लिया । लेकिन फिर भी मैं आपकी प्राज्ञा से माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो

उत्तर दिया तो उस संबंध में पूछना चाहूंगा आपने कहा आदिलाबाद में गिरावट इस कारण आई कि वहां पर लेबर ट्रबल हो गई, ट्रांसपोर्ट की डिफिकल्टीज हुई । लेकिन आदिलाबाद में तो यूटिलाइजेशन परसेंटेज बढ़ी है, 38 के अगेन्स्ट 59 हुई है । जिसमें शुरू में ही कहा था कि लेबर और ट्रांसपोर्ट ट्रबल की वजह से उसमें गिरावट आई है । दूसरा मान्यवर, केवल बोकानन ही एक ऐसा यूनिट है और आदिलाबाद है जिसमें यूटिलाइजेशन की परसेंटेज बढ़ी है और बाकी सब में यूटिलाइजेशन परसेंटेज गिरी है, इसका क्या कारण है स्पेसिफिकली बतायें, बेग जवाब न दें ?

प्रो० के० के० तिवारी : श्रीमन्, मैंने कहा है कि मैंने बेग या अस्पष्ट होने की कोशिश नहीं की है । बड़े साफ शब्दों में मैंने कहा है कि ओवरऑल जहां तक परफार्मेंस का सवाल है उसमें गिरावट आई थी । 1986-87 में वह गिरावट चलती रही उसको रोकने का हर प्रयास किया गया है और उसके लिये कदम उठाये गये हैं । मैं आदिलाबाद के बारे में आपको सूचना दूँ कि कैपेसिटी यूटिलाइजेशन 58 परसेंट से, जो 1984-85 में 58 परसेंट था वह इन्हीं कदमों के, प्रयासों के चलते 1985-86 में वह 59 परसेंट हो गया और 1986-87 में वह बढ़कर 65 परसेंट हो जाने की संभावना है ।

श्री बीरेन्द्र वर्मा : लेकिन आपने तो उल्टा कहा था ।

प्रो० के० के० तिवारी : मैंने उल्टा नहीं कहा, मैंने ओवरऑल कंटेक्सट में कहा था कि गिरावट आई है । फिर आदिलाबाद में जो प्राबलम थी, यूटिलाइजेशन कैपेसिटी ऊंची होनी चाहिये थी, उसके जवाब में मैंने कहा था वहां जो समस्याये थीं अंडर यूटिलाइजेशन आफ कैपेसिटी की उसके कारण यही थे पावर शार्टेज, वॉगन न मिलना और इंडस्ट्रियल रिलेशन के कारण थे ।

SHRI M. PALANIYANDI: The Minister has said that because of the labour trouble it is not possible for them to have capacity utilisation. I want to know whether the Government implemented all the arbitration awards.

PROF. K. K. TEWWARY: The question was rather vague. I would like to be clarified.

PROF. M. PALANIYANDI: In some public sector undertakings they have not implemented the arbitration awards properly and only because of that there has arisen the labour trouble.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: I think you will also agree with me that for this broad question, sweeping question, I need a separate notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You invited the trouble. You said because of the labour trouble it is not there.

SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Of the nine units which are the units making profits and which are the units making losses and what are the total profits and losses of the Cement Corporation of India?

PROF. K. K. TEWARY: As is clear from my reply, the overall loss in the Cement Corporation of India during 1983-84 was about Rs. 1 crore; in 1985-86 it rose to Rs. 12 crores and in 1986-87 it may come to Rs. 18 crores. This is the overall loss suffered by the Cement Corporation of India. We are trying to improve the situation so that we could cut on the losses.

SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Thanks to the policy of the Government, there is availability of cement in the open market. There is no difference of opinion on that. There is increased production. But Sir, certain units in the cement industry which are making profits and paying dividends to the shareholders are getting concessions from the Government because you are giving concessions to the sick units. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of this fraud committed in the name of the sick units. Will the Government come forward to take action against those units which are making profits and yet which are getting Excise duty concessions from the Government?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. The question is not relevant. Yes, next Question. Question No. 63. Mr. Kalpnath Rai.

New Drug Policy

*63. SHRI KALPNATH RAI:†

SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a new drug policy recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether the new drug policy contains any special provisions in respect of essential life saving drugs; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAI-CHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Government have announced certain measures for rationalisation, quality control and growth of pharmaceutical industry in the country in December, 1986. A copy of the measures is enclosed [See Appendix CXLI, Annexure No. 16].

(c) and (d) The new measures aim at ensuring abundant availability on a continuous basis at reasonable prices of essential life-saving prophylactic medicines of good quality.

SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Sir, I would like to know whether it is a fact that the price decontrol has been proposed to be extended in the policy statement. I would also like to know from the honourable Minister how the prices of medicines will be maintained or reasonably increased while in the past the prices of medicines exempted from price control went up by a hundred to 300 per cent and even 500 per cent in some cases.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kalpnath Rai.