

Then there is the Girhi Dam. This is also for that purpose. Then there is the Tehri dam. All these are for both drinking and multi-purpose.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have given a correct answer, a good answer.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Sir, the hon. Minister is very apt in giving the answer in a very round about manner and no information comes forth. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how much water will be received from these dams for the city of Bombay... (Interruptions). I am sorry, Sir, for Delhi. I want to know whether a picture of the future population of Delhi is before the Minister. What is the amount of water which they are going to get from these dams for the purpose of Delhi? Sir, I was in the Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, and in that Hospital also the hours of water supply are restricted. I want to know whether the Minister will take care to see that at least the hospitals get water to the extent needed.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: Sir, the Kissua dam is proposed on the river Tons, a tributary of the Yamuna. There is a storage of 1.5 maf to 2.8 maf. The possibilities exist in the project to meet some shortage, to meet the needs of Delhi. Secondly, there is the Girhi dam with 0.38 to 0.58 maf. Then there is the Tehri dam. This dam is proposed on the river Bhagirathi and will have life storage of 2.12 maf.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, the question is whether you will give sufficient water to the hospitals. Now, next question. (Interruptions).

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRA-KANT BHANDARE: It is not electricity.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I went to the next question in order to avoid confusion. but you are creating it (Interruptions).

श्री अब्दुल गफूर : पानी की रिक्वायरमेंट 2000 ए०डी० तक लगभग 1020 होगी। उस वक्त हमको एक करोड़ 24 लाख लोगों के लिए पानी चाहिए।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will now end the confusion. Yes, Question No. 124.

Losses incurred by integrated steel plants

*124. **SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the accumulated loss incurred by the public sector integrated steel plants as on the 31st March, 1986;

(b) what are the total additional resources mobilised through a hike in the administered prices of steel to-date since 1980;

(c) whether Government propose to raise steel prices further; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a). The accumulated profits/losses incurred by the integrated steel plants of SAIL as on 31st March, 1985 was as follows:—

(Rs. crores)

Bhilai Steel Plant	(+) 396.65
Durgapur Steel Plant	(—) 425.30
Rourkela Steel Plant	(+) 2.56
Bokaro Steel Plant	(—) 108.22
IISCO	(—) 335.81

The accounts for the year 1985-86 are under finalisation Audit. However, it is estimated that SAIL (excluding IISCO) will earn profit in the year 1985-86, the exact amount of which will be known only after finalisation/Audit of the accounts.

(b) The additional resources mobilised by SAIL including IISCO since 1980-81 through increases in the prices of iron and steel items amounted to about Rs. 4500 crores during the period 1980-81 to 1985-86. This additional realisation was to compensate for the increases in the cost of production and also for increases on account of freight equalisation, import pool fund, Engineering Goods Export Assistance Fund (EGEAF) and JPC cess.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal before Government to increase steel prices.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Sir, from the statement of the Minister we see that there is the mention of additional realisation of the revenue and, at the same time, there is the mention about heavy losses in Durgapur, Bokaro and IISCO—all minus, minus. May I know from the hon. Minister what is the reason that in spite of additional realisation of the revenue to the extent of crores of rupees, the integrated public sector steel plants are

running at a heavy loss? Secondly, may I know how much money has been earmarked for expansion and modernisation of the Durgapur steel plant? How much is the total amount allocated and how much has been spent by now?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, the reason for the losses in spite of increased realisation is that the increased realisation was less than the increase in costs of inputs. And, besides the cost of inputs there are some other elements in the price of steel, which are not directly within the control of steel plants, like the freight equalisation fund, which we just discussed. It also adds to the price element. So far as the question of modernisation of the Durgapur steel plant is concerned, speaking from memory I think the allocation is something near about Rs. 460 crores for modernisation plus another about Rs. 200 crores for replacement of the old machinery and so on for spare parts. The scheme is now approaching a point where we hope we can start it next year. We will have to begin the scheme next year.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister what is the yearly production of the Durgapur steel plant year-wise from 1980-81 to 1985-86

Then, Sir, what are the factors responsible for the rise and fall in steel production? Why is it that the Durgapur Steel Plant in spite of its potentiality has virtually become a sick industry?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, I do not have all the production figures of Durgapur steel plant.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may put a separate question.

SHRI K. C. PANT: I can tell the lady Member that unfortunately the Durgapur Steel Plant, which has a capacity of 1.6 million tonnes has been producing far below its rated capacity. In fact it has never produced according to its rated capacity and it has been one of the sick child's of the steel industry.

AN HON. MEMBER: Because of strikes.

SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Why, what are the reasons?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Well, I do not think that one should blame it only on strikes. Certainly the work culture there particularly at an earlier period, has affected production but I would say that today the work culture there is better. But still it, has a long way to go. But there is improvement in the work culture. But there are technological changes to be made. But, when I say work culture, I include management as well as labour in it. There will have to be a lot of rehabilitation of plant and equipment before we can hope to get anywhere near the rated capacity from this plant.

SHRI M. VINCENT: From the Minister's statement we find there are some steel plants facing losses. At the same time, the existing Tamil Nadu Salem steel plant is profitable. In the circumstances, why has the Government not converted it into a full-fledged integrated steel plant as initially contemplated?

SHRI K. C. PANT: Salem steel plant is at present really a rolling

plant and nothing more. I know there is a desire on the part of friends from that state that there should be further expansion of that unit. In the Seventh Plan, no provision has been made for expansion but if at all one can squeeze out any money, I would like to see at least a second mill being set up in that unit. I cannot give an undertaking to that effect because there is no provision in the Plan and if extra money can be found, we can consider it.

श्री सत्यपाल मलिक : एक बहुत चिन्ता की बात यह है कि जो पब्लिक सेक्टर के कारखाने हैं चाहे आपके स्टील के हों या आपके दूसरे हों उनमें इस तरह का घाटा बढ़ रहा है कि जो चीज हम उनसे पैदा करते हैं। वे अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में सस्ती हैं। अगर बाहर से मंगाये तो वे चीजें सस्ती पड़ती हैं। कुल मिलाकर बड़ा भारी नुकसान होने वाला है। जो पार्टी का कमिटेमेट है पब्लिक सेक्टर के लिए उसको काफी नुकसान इन चीजों से हो रहा है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि घाटा या कुल जो इन्स्टाल कैपेसिटी है उसका यूटीलाइजेशन सही से नहीं हो रहा है तो क्या इसके लिए प्रबंधकों में से कोई जिम्मेदार पाया गया है और अगर आपने जिम्मेदारी किसी पर आगत करने की कोशिश की तो उस सिलसिले में क्या कार्यवाही हुई है ?

श्री कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त : सभापति जी जो माननीय सदस्य ने चिन्ता व्यक्त की है वह अपनी जगह ठीक है। क्योंकि हमारे देश में इस्पात की कीमत पिछले वर्षों में बढ़ी है और यह आवश्यक है कि इसकी कास्ट आफ प्रोडक्शन घटाई जाए या कम से कम उसको बढ़ने से रोक़ा जाए। आपने देखा होगा हमारे मुख्य उत्तर में कि 17 महीने से हमने इस्पात के दाम बढ़ाये नहीं हैं। हर साल बढ़ रहे थे लेकिन पिछले 17 महीनों में नहीं बढ़े, कुछ उत्पादकता भी बढ़ी है और सेल को मुनफा भी इन साल होगा और इतना मुनफा होगा कि ये लॉस इसमें दिखाया गया है आंकड़ों में इंटिग्रेटेड

स्टील प्लांट का बह प्रोफिट में बदल जायेगा। लेकिन इसके बावजूद इस बात की आवश्यकता है कि उत्पादकता बढ़ाई जाय, ऊर्जा की खपत घटाई जाए और हर तरह से इनका आधुनिकीकरण किया जाए। नहीं तो इस्पात के कारखाने अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कभी नहीं आ सकते। जैसे दुर्गापुर स्टील प्लांट की चर्चा है, राउरकेला स्टील प्लांट की या बर्नपुर की, सब का आधुनिकीकरण हो और भिलाई और बोकारो का एक्सपेंशन इसी लिए किया जा रहा है कि हम इस्पात के दाम ठीक स्तर पर रखें।

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Losses in steel industry in the public sector is an extremely complicated business. Prices today in India are almost double the prices prevalent in the international market for steel and if Rs. 4500 had not been realised in the interregnum by way of increase in price, perhaps, the entire capital invested in the public sector in steel industry would have been wiped out. May I, therefore, know from the Minister, going to the basic root of all these problems in view of these heavy losses, whether or not it is a fact that the technology of production of steel which is based on blast furnace route today is the real cause of the losses? Are they thinking of shifting to direct reduction process so that in future we are able to take care of ourselves without every time increasing the price?

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SHRI K. C. PANT: Sir, the direct reduction route must also be adopted by the country, in addition to the blast furnace route. There is very little time and I do not want to encroach on the time of the House after Question Hour. Otherwise, I would have very much liked to give a longer answer to this question. But in Visakhapatnam, we would like to achieve much better productivity norms and technological norms than we have done in the other plants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Setting up of separate news service under the Directorate-General of Doordarshan

*125. **SHRI KAPIL VERMA:**

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set-up a separate news service under the Directorate-General of Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when it is likely to start functioning and the expenditure to be incurred for the same as also the strength of the staff; and

(d) whether a similar news service is proposed to be set up in the States also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) to (c) A proposal regarding establishment of a separate news service set-up is at present in initial stages of consideration and the various details are yet to be worked out.

(d) No, Sir.

Mini steel plants in the private sector

*126. **SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to assign some mini-steel units to the private sector;

(b) if so, what are the details of the same and the companies to which those units would be assigned; and

(c) the quantity of steel expected to be produced by the above units?