

8. The best solution of the complicated and anomalous situation would be to take action against Titaghur Paper Mills under section 408 and remove Mr. Souren Biswas which would automatically prevent him from being a Trustee of the Savings Trust.

#### **Resource base of State Electricity Boards**

1705. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals under Government's consideration to strengthen the resource base of State Electricity Board; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to improve the operational efficiency of the State Electricity Boards?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) A Committee on Power has been set up to go into "the working of the power supply industry in the country, both in the Central and State Sectors. The Committee will examine all aspects of the functioning of State Electricity Boards and Central Organisations engaged in electricity generation, transmission and distribution, including organisational structure, management practices planning systems, efficiency of operations, financial performance, tariff structure and legislative framework and make recommendations for improving them.

Some of the important steps already taken to strengthen the resource base of the State Electricity Boards, and to improve their operational efficiency are indicated below:

(i) The Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 has been amended recently enjoining upon the Boards to carry on their operation so as to ensure that the total revenues in any year of account shall, after meeting all

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expenses properly chargeable to revenue, including operating maintenance and management expenses taxes (if any) on income and pro. fits; depreciation and interest payable on all debentures, bonds and loans, leave such surplus as the State Governments from time to time specify.

(ii) The provisions relating to depreciation have been amended requiring the Boards to provide for depreciation, such sum calculated in accordance with such principles as the Central Government may after consultation with the Central Electricity Authority lay down from time to time.

(iii) The State Governments have been enabled to subscribe to the share capital of the Boards.

(iv) The Boards are being advised from time to time to adopt modern management techniques to improve their operational efficiencies and also exercise greater control over their finances. The performance of Power Stations, system losses etc. are being monitored regularly.

#### **Installed capacity of Aluminium Corporations**

1706. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state;

(a) the rated and installed capacity of the Bharat Aluminium Corporation, Hindustan Aluminium Corporation, Indian Aluminium Corporation and Madras Aluminium Corporation;

(b) the annual production for the years 1976, 1977 and 1978 of each Corporation;

(c) what are the reasons for the shortfall, if any; and

(d) what steps have been taken to achieve production in each of the units to the installed capacity?