

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY
(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Assessment of capacity utilisation is a continuous exercise. The constraints for under-utilisation of capacity are several, like sluggishness in domestic demand, non-acceptability by customers of products manufactured by certain units, constraints in power availability, temporary scarcity of inputs, labour management problems etc.

The steps taken by Government to secure fuller utilisation of capacity include close monitoring to achieve targets, availability of requisite inputs, including through imports of raw materials in a timely manner stress on power generation and distribution and quick implementation of projects including diversification, generation of exports etc.

CIA device planting in Andaman Islands

*116. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:
SHRI LAKSHMANA MAHA-
PATRO:

SHRI S. KUMARAN:

SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the 'Amrita Bazar Patrika', Calcutta, of the 23rd May, 1978 under the heading "CIA device planting in Andaman Islands";

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action, Government have taken in the matter?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To the best of our knowledge no such device was planted in or around the Andaman Islands.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of dry docks

*117. SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN:
SHRI M. KADERSHAH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to construct any dry docks in the near future;

(b) if so, what are the locations selected for the purpose; and

(c) by when the proposed dry docks are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A dry dock-cum-Ship repair Complex is proposed to be set up at Haldia in West Bengal. Proposals have also been received for establishment of a dry dock and Ship-repair complex in the Visakhapatnam Outer Harbour, a dry dock at Madras Port and a Steel floating Dry Dock at Kandla Port, by way of replacement of the old R.C.C. dry dock.

(c) It is not possible to indicate the likely dates of completion till the schemes are accepted and necessary sanctions are issued by Government.

Shortage of coal for thermal power stations in the Southern and Western regions

*118. SHRI ARVIND GANESH
KULKARNI:
SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-
DARA MENON:
SHRIMATI USHI KHAN:
SHRI T. BASHEER:
SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question 100 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th April, 1978 and state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to meet the shortage of coal

faced by the thermal power stations in the Southern and Western regions of the country particularly in Maharashtra;

(b) what long term remedial measures Government are taking to ensure uninterrupted power supply from these stations; and

(c) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to instal new thermal power stations in the Southern and Western regions during the Sixth Five Year Plan period and if so, at what places?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Shortage of Coal for Thermal Power Stations in the Southern and Western Regions

(a) and (b) A number of steps have been taken to improve the supply of coal to the power stations in the Southern and Western Regions to ensure uninterrupted power supply from these stations. These include:

1. Railways/Coal Companies have been directed to step up supplies to these power stations on priority basis.
2. Ad hoc linkages of additional quantities of coal have been arranged for some of the power stations in the Southern and Western Regions from sources of coal in Bengal-

Bihar and Singareni coal fields, to which they were normally not linked.

3. Power Stations authorities in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have been advised to move as much coal by road as possible, particularly to power stations situated within a distance of 60 kms., from collieries, to supplement the efforts of Railways in moving coal to power stations.

4. A control Room has been set up in the Railway Board to monitor the coal stocks held by the power stations closely. Daily meetings are held which are attended by representatives of Railways, Department of Power, Department of Coal and Central Electricity Authority and necessary steps are taken to move coal to power stations with low coal stocks.

5. The position is also periodically reviewed by Secretaries of the Departments of Coal, Power and Railways to ensure movement of linked quantities of coal to the power stations.

6. Steps have been taken to increase coal production in the various coalfields to meet the increasing demand of coal from various consumers.

(c) According to the Draft Five Year Plan 1978-83 document, the following new thermal projects have been included for installation/commissioning during 1978-83:—

	Capacity sanctioned	Capacity scheduled to be commissioned during 1978-83
Southern Region.		
1. New Thermal Station at Raichur (Karnataka)	2x210 MW	1x210 MW
2. Neyveli Super Thermal Station (Central)	3x210 MW	1x210 MW
3. Ramlingin Super Thermal Power Station (Central)	3x210 MW 1x500 MW	1x210MW
Western Region.		
1. Satpura Thermal Station Extension II (Madhya Pradesh) (8th & 9th Units)	2x210 MW	2x210 MW
2. Trombay Thermal Station (Maharashtra)	1x500 MW	1x500 MW
3. Korba Super Thermal Station (Central)	3x210 MW 1x500 MW	1x210 MW