

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c). 23 out of 61 Power Stations of capacity 20 MW and above have achieved the Plant Load Factor of 60 per cent or above during the period April '77—February '78. While the National average of the Plant factor increased from 52 per cent in 1975-76 to 56 per cent in 1976-77, it is unlikely to keep up this figure this year in view of higher forced outage rate of thermal generation units commissioned after 1974, long outage of some of the thermal units.

(d) To set-up the capacity utilisation of thermal plants, State Electricity Boards have been advised.

(1) to flatten the load curves of the individual power systems by offering load promotional incentives to off peak consumers,

(2) Monitor closely the performance of the power stations. Assistance is given by C.E.A. in expediting repairing/recommissioning the units under forced and planned outage by streamlining the repair work

(3) Modernise the maintenance procedures in thermal power stations in order to reduce the duration of planned and forced outages and introduction of preventive maintenance.

(4) Integrated operation of the different power systems so that thermal stations can be operated at high plant load factor

(5) Formation of multi-disciplinary groups to undertake project renovation of the sick units.

(6) BHEL have been urged to improve the quality and reliability of the units manufactured in this country.

(7) A central pool for stocking of spare parts for imported Russian and American thermal units has been set up and expeditious and

liberal release of foreign exchange for import of spares is ensured.

(8) BHEL will ensure availability of spares for equipment manufactured by them.

(9) Arrangements for supply of requisite quality of coal.

(10) Reorganisation of the electricity supply industry.

Theatres built by Film Finance Corporation

2012. SHRI AMARSINH V. RATHWA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) how many theatres in urban and rural areas have been built up by Film Finance Corporation in various parts of the country including Gujarat since April, 1977; and

(b) what is the programme in the matter for the year 1978 and 1979 and the conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Film Finance Corporation has not built any theatres in the country so far nor does it plan to build any theatre on its own. It is, however, planning to finance the construction of lowcost theatre particularly in rural areas. The details of the scheme have not yet been finalised.

Punjabi programme on A.I.R.

2013. SHRI KISHORE LAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime back on every Thursday morning half-an-hour "shabad" programme was broadcast on the All India Radio in Punjabi programme;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these devotional songs have been replaced by other Punjabi songs; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Only partially replaced by Soodana Kalam/Short story/poetry recitation/Talk etc. for the first 10 minutes. However, it has been decided to review the matter.

बिहार में औद्योगिक उत्पादन में कमी

2915. श्री सुरेन्द्र नाथ कुशन : क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में ऊर्जा की कमी से औद्योगिक उत्पादन में कमी आई है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस बारे में पूरे तथ्य क्या हैं ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती आशा भाईति) : (क) और (ख). हालांकि बिहार में किसी भी प्रकार के उपभोक्ता के लिए बिजली की कटौती करने की घोषणा नहीं की गई है तो भी जब राज्य में आवश्यकता से कम मात्रा में बिजली उपलब्ध होती है तो उस समय बार बार बिजली के सभरण में कमी हो जाती है। औद्योगिक उत्पादन पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ता है। किन्तु केवल बिजली की कमी की वजह से औद्योगिक उत्पादन में हुई कमी के बारे में पता पाना बहुत मुश्किल है क्योंकि औद्योगिक उत्पादन पर कमी, बिजली मांग में मन्दी, श्रमिक विवाद, निवेशों की उपलब्धता आदि जैसे अनेक निवेशों का प्रभाव पड़ता है।

Registered Small Industrial Units

2916. SHRI NATHU SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) total number of small units (including ancillaries) registered with each State Director of Industries and the Development Commissioner, Small

Scale Industries as on 1-1-1978 vide para 2 of Appendix V (p. 83) of Guidelines for Industries 1976-77 of the Department of Industrial Development and what were these figures at the end of the first and the third five year plans respectively;

(b) how many small units not exempted from licensing under para 16(i) and (ii), page 18 of 'Guidelines for Industries 1976-77' were there in the country on 1-1-1978 and what were these figures at the end of first and third five year plans; and

(c) approximate estimate of the firms in (a) and (b) above which were exporting their products as on 1-1-1978 and at the end of the first and the third five year plans respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI): (a) According to the registrations made after the Census of small scale industrial units in 1973, the total number of working registered small scale industrial units under the purview of Development Commissioner (SSI) is 2,70,898. State-wise break-up is placed as in the attached statement. The earlier reliable figure of working registered units based on the census of small scale industries is 1.60 lakhs units as at the end of 1973. Comparable figures at the end of the 1st & 3rd Five-year Plans are not available.

(b) The information on units enjoying exemption from income-tax referred to under para 16(i) and (ii) page 18 of guidelines for industries 1976-77 is not available in the Small Industries Development Organisation.

(c) Small scale industrial units registered with the Export Promotion Councils relating to engineering goods, chemical and allied products, plastic products and cashew kernels would be approximately 700 as on 1-1-1978.