

वाणिज्य तथा इस्पात और खान मन्त्री
(श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी) : (क) जी, हाँ।

(ख) से (ङ) : चूँकि ये मामले वाणिज्यिक किस्म के हैं तथा उत्पादक स्वयं इन मामलों पर निर्णय लेते हैं, इसलिए प्राप्त हुए इन अभ्यावेदनों को स्टील अथॉरिटी आफ इंडिया लि० (सेल) को उनके विचारार्थ भेज दिया गया था। वर्ष 1979 में सेल ने एक शक्यता अध्ययन किया था। उस समय यह पता चला था कि उस क्षेत्र की लोहे और इस्पात की कुल मांग, जो जोधपुर के स्टाकयार्ड से पूरी की जानी थी, सीमित थी और यह मांग मुख्यतः छोड़ों और गोल छोड़ों की थी जिसकी आपूर्ति अन्य उत्पादकों द्वारा भी की जा सकती थी। अतः सेल का निम्नलिखित कारणों से इस समय जोधपुर में एक स्टाकयार्ड खोलने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है :—

- (1) राजस्थान के जयपुर और कोटा में सेल के पहले ही स्टाकयार्ड कार्य कर रहे हैं ;
- (2) इस क्षेत्र की लघु उद्योग इकाइयों की मांग कुछ हद तक राजस्थान लघु उद्योग निगम के अच्छे माल के डिपो द्वारा पूरी की जा सकती है ;
- (3) मांग सीमित है तथा कुछ श्रेणियों तक ही सीमित है; और
- (4) मीटर गेज की रेल लाइन पर स्टाकयार्ड खोलने से परीक्ष रूप से हानि होती है, क्योंकि इसमें बड़ी रेल लाइन के वैननों से छोटी रेल लाइन के वैननों में माल बदलना पड़ता है।

Model Bill for Sales Tax

3444. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to draft a model Bill for Sales Tax to

ensure uniformity of taxation and convenience to the public; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SAWAI SINGH SISODIA): (a) and (b). The Chief Ministers' Conference on Sales Tax held in New Delhi on the 16th and 17th September, 1980 had adopted a resolution recommending, *inter-alia*, that the Law Commission be requested to undertake on a high priority basis the drafting of a model Sales Tax law for consideration by the States.

As the reconstitution of the Law Commission is presently under consideration, it is proposed to request the Commission to take up on a high priority basis the drafting of a model sales tax law as recommended by the Conference, as soon as the reconstituted Commission formally comes into existence.

Amount owed by Sick Companies to Public Sector Banks

3445. SHRI R. PRABHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several sick companies owe more than rupee one crore each to the public sector banks;

(b) if so, the total number of such companies and the total amount they owe to the Government;

(c) of these companies how many owe to Government more than Rs. five crores;

(d) the names of such companies owing more than Rs. 5 crores and the amount owed by each of them; and

(e) whether Government propose to take any stringent measures to enforce the repayment such as appointment of Government Directors on the Board, investigation or inspection of these companies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MAGANBHAI BAROT): (a) to (c). As per the latest information available with the Reserve Bank of India, as on 31-12-1979, the outstanding advances of public sector banks to 357 sick industrial units enjoying bank credit of Rs. 1 crore and above, amounted to Rs. 1094.28 crores. Out of these, there were 49 sick industrial units enjoying bank credit of more than Rs. 5 crores each.

(d) In accordance with the practices and usages customary among the bankers and also in conformity with provision of the statute governing the nationalised banks, information relating to individual constituents of the banks cannot be divulged and as such the names of sick units enjoying bank credit exceeding Rs. 5 crores cannot be disclosed.

(e) Banks make all possible efforts to ensure the timely payment of dues through constant follow-up, increase in the frequency of periodical inspections, frequent personal discussions with the promoters/chief executives of the defaulting concerns, etc. In deserving and viable cases on detailed examination of requests from the assisted companies rescheduling of loan instalments and interest payment is permitted. In regard to sick units after detailed examination, rehabilitation programmes are drawn up in suitable cases. In appropriate cases, banks resort to recall of advances, enforcement of securities and legal remedies. Banks also appoint Directors on the Boards of assisted industrial units with a view to maintain a close watch over their affairs.

TISCO Slowing down production of coking coal from captive mines

3446. **SHRI K. K. TIWARI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether TISCO is slowing down and reducing production of cooking coal from its Captive Coal Mines in order to conserve its coal reserves;

(b) whether TISCO is sitting over 30 per cent of total prime coking coal reserves of the country;

(c) whether TISCO is producing only 70 per cent of its coking coal consumption and drawing upon coal India's production meant for public sector steel plants;

(d) whether coking coal costing four times the price of our own Coal is being imported for Public Sector steel plants in order to continue supply of Public Sector coal to TISCO;

(e) whether TISCO Captive Coal Mines were not nationalised on the ground that TISCO would produce its complete requirements of coking coal; and

(f) if so, what steps Government propose to take against the TISCO in view of great scarcity of coking coal in the country and its consequent import involving huge foreign exchange reserves?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE):

(a) Due to inadequate supply of power in the eastern region of the country during the first six months of the current year, production of coal was adversely affected in the mines of TISCO as well as those of BCCL. The Government, however, are not aware nor have any reason to believe that TISCO is deliberately slowing down and reducing production of coking coal from its captive coal mines in Jharia Coal belt in order to conserve its coal.

(b) The total reserves of coking coal, according to one report, are estimated at 5,600 million tonnes upto a depth of 600 metres. The reserves in the leasehold areas of TISCO are being verified by the Department of Coal from the Geological Survey of India. However, according to TISCO their proven reserves of prime coking coal are 306 million tonnes and based on above figures TISCO's share of reserves does not come to 30 per cent.

(c) It is true that TISCO draws substantial quantity of washed and direct feed coking coal from C. I. L. sources.