

Losses suffered by sail

1751. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) steps which are being taken to reduce the losses of the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and to revamp it;

(b) the latest figure of loss sustained by the SAIL and the value of stocks held by it ; and

(c) the stage at which the sale of one million tonnes of steel to U.S.S.R. stands at present and whether it will be a barter deal or payment made by the buyer in soft currency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N.K.P. SALVE) : (a) In order to reduce losses, the Steel Authority of India Ltd. (SAIL) is making every effort to diversify its product-mix to better match demand, accelerate sales by the adoption of an aggressive marketing strategy and thereby reduce stocks of finished goods, raw materials, stores and spares and export the surplus production. Special measures to achieve cost reduction by improving technological processes, better maintenance to maximise the availability of equipment by timely repairs and minimisation of purchases of stores and spares and restriction of expenditure in all possible ways have been also adopted.

(b) The value of stocks of saleable steel held by SAIL has declined from Rs. 627 crores on 1.4.1983 to Rs. 430.58 crores as on 1.2.1984.

The 1982-83 financial performance of SAIL showed a loss of Rs. 105.76 percent crores after charging full depreciation and payment of all interest on loans : the position in 1983-84 will be known only after the Profit and loss statement has been finalised.

(c) The Soviet Union has expressed its interest in purchasing some quantities of steel from India. Data on these has been supplied to the Soviet Union and preliminary discussions have been held and these are being

pursued, the quantum that the Soviet Union will be prepared to purchase and its value is awaited : if it is anticipated that these sales will form a part of the normal trade (in rupees) between the two countries.

Capacity utilisation of paper industry

1752. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

SHRI P.K. KODIYAN :

Will the Ministry of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the capacity utilisation of the paper industry has fallen from 77.49 percent in 1976 to about 48 percent last year resulting in an increase in the cost of production of various types of paper and boards by atleast 15 per cent which is about Rs. 900 per tonne ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether it is due to some racket launched by the paper manufacturers, cartel ; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to retrieve the position and maintain the tempo of paper and board manufacture in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI PATTABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) to (c) : The capacity utilisation of the paper industry was about 61 percent in the year 1983, as compared to about 84 percent in 1976. The main reason for the fall in capacity utilisation is the faster rate of capacity build-up during these years, when the installed capacity increased from 10 lakh tonnes to 19 lakh tonnes. Stoppages of production in some large paper mills during part or whole of the year 1983 due to industrial disputes and financial problems, and infrastructural constraints, also contributed to the lower capacity utilisation.

(d) : The installed capacity of the paper industry has already exceeded the Sixth Plan

Target. Various fiscal reliefs are being extended to improve the performance of the industry. The infrastructural support is also being improved to enable the industry to achieve higher capacity utilization. Government have also initiated a dialogue with the financial institutions, State Governments and the Paper Industry to work out the other specific measures required to improve the performance of the paper mills.

Finalisation of annual plan 1984-85 for Madhya Pradesh

1753. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Annual Plan of 1984-85 for Madhya Pradesh has been finalised ;

(b) if so, proposed and final plan outlays (Sector-wise and total) ;

(c) the agricultural and industrial growth rates contemplated thereunder ; and

(d) the targets to be achieved there-under in respect of different sectors of economy and how the same compare with the actual or likely achievements in each sector during the years, 1982-83 and 1983-84 ?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) : The total annual plan outlay

as finalised is Rs. 1060 crores. The sector-wise details will be indicated in the Annual Plan document which will be placed before parliament as soon as possible after the presentation of the State Budgets.

Crimes in capital

1754. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any increase or decrease in serious crime in the Union Territory of Delhi in 1983 as compared to the previous 3 years 1980, 1981 and 1982 ;

(b) if so, the comparative figures for the cases registered with the police for each of the categories of (i) murder (ii) rape (iii) dacoity (iv) stabbing (or attempt to murder) (v) theft (vi) arson, and (vii) robbery.

(c) whether any streamlining of the police force has been attempted and any other steps taken to improve the situation by reducing the incidence of serious crime ; and

(d) if so, the nature of the steps taken in this regard and the impact thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) and (b) : The requisite figures under various Heads of crimes for the last 4 years are indicated below :

Head of Crime	1980	1981	1982	1983
(i) Murder	185	200	240	247
(ii) Rape	63	66	71	83
(iii) Dacoity	31	24	24	15
(iv) Stabbing for Attempt to murder	177	153	127	142
(v) Theft	22253	17209	13626	13029
(vi) Arson	57	59	67	67
(vii) Robbery	294	185	155	211