

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) (a) and (b) 13 Industrial units have been allotted land/built up space in Visakhapatnam Export Processing Zone (VEPZ). Units are approved and allotted land and built up space in Export Processing Zones keeping in view factors like level of exports, and value addition projected. The units which have been allotted space broadly fall under the product groups of computer systems and fax paper rolls, ready made garments, pharmaceutical products, plastic goods, automobile wheels, beer etc. Exports from the Zone have commenced only in 1994-95. The value of exports made from VEPZ during 1994-95 and 1995-96 were of the order of Rs 40 lakhs and Rs 89 lakhs respectively.

(c) No units has been declared sick before commencement of commercial production.

(d) Steps taken to increase exports from Export Processing Zones include broadening of the area of activity to include trading re-export after re-packing/labeling, repairs, re-conditioning and re-engineering, higher access to the domestic market, flexible value addition norms and simplification of custom procedures. In addition, the Zone administration are also making efforts to attract industrial projects into the Zone through suitable publicity measures, addressing Indian Missions abroad, conducting Seminars with entrepreneurs, Chambers of Commerce etc.

HMT Expansion

438 SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the Hindustan Machine Tools propose to expand its units.

(b) whether it also proposes to revive the units which have fallen sick.

(c) whether there is a need for introducing of modern technology in the HMT Units, and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) to (d) HMT has taken steps to modernise its operations and improve the functioning of its weaker

units. The steps taken include locating joint venture partners for technology transfer, financial investments and modernisation etc.

Dues against State Electricity Boards

439 SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Coal India Limited continues to face a financial crunch following failure of the State Electricity Boards to pay the coal bills.

(b) if so, the details of the dues outstanding against each SEB as on July 31, 1996, and

(c) the steps taken by the CIL to realise its dues outstanding against SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of dues outstanding against each State Electricity Board as on 31st July 1996 are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Following steps have been taken by the Government/Coal India Limited to recover the outstanding dues from State Electricity Boards:

(i) Coal India Limited have been advised to supply coal to power utilities only against advance payment or Letter of Credit Cash and Carry Scheme has been implemented with greater rigour since 1st June, 1995.

(ii) Recovery of dues by way of adjustment against energy bills is also being done in respect of DVC, BSEB, UPSEB, MSEB and WBSEB.

(iii) State Governments have been requested to persuade/enable SEBs to clear their outstanding dues at the earliest.

(iv) Recovery from Plan Assistance to NCT, Delhi towards dues to CIL and the Railways outstanding against BTSPS was made in 1995-96. This is being continued for 1996-97.

(v) Umpires have been appointed for resolving the disputed dues between coal companies and State Electricity Boards.

STATEMENT

Coal sale dues of CIL against SEBs/Power Utilities as on 31.7.96

(Rs. in crores)

Name of SEBs/	Disputed	Undisputed	Total
1	2	3	4
1. Bihar State Electricity Board	21.38	63.90	85.28
2. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board	86.23	245.33	331.56
3. Punjab State Electricity Board	130.64	39.96	170.60