

get an assurance or will you enlighten the House that enormous delay will be avoided and the employees who get through will be accommodated as soon as possible? Will you give an assurance?

SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKH-DEO SAI: Yes, there was enormous delay previously. As soon as the Janata Government took the charge, we have done all these things and for the last three years there was no selection and all that. We have set things right now. We will be doing it for others also.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Thank you very much. You are doing good for the workers.

एल्युमिनियम का आयात

* 804. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आगामी कुछ वर्षों में भारत को एल्युमिनियम का आयात करना पड़ेगा ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितना ;

(ग) देश में उसकी वर्तमान उत्पादन क्षमता क्या है ; और

(घ) इसे बढ़ाने के लिए क्या उपाय किये गए हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity of import of aluminium would be proportionate to the rising demand in the country.

(c) The production capacity for aluminium in the country by the end of this year would be 316,000 tonnes per annum.

(d) With possibility of using the very large deposits of bauxite recently discovered on the east coast, two feasibility studies have already been

commissioned one for Orissa and the Other for Andhra Pradesh. The former study, for an alumina plant of 600,000—800,000 tonnes and an aluminium plant of around 160,000 tonnes per annum to start with and the latter, that is Andhra State, for an alumina plant of 600,000 tonnes capacity initially would be ready around the middle of 1979. With a projected production capacity of at least 1 million tonnes of aluminium metal per annum in course of time, these two projects are expected to put the country in a commanding position in the world aluminium industry.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो उत्तर दिया है, उसमें मेरे प्रश्न के (ख) तथा (ग) भाग का उत्तर बिलकुल नहीं दिया गया है। मैंने पूछा था कि देश में इस की उत्पादन क्षमता क्या है ? मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ—वर्तमान उत्पादन क्षमता के अनुसार यदि उत्पादन नहीं हो रहा है, तो इस का क्या कारण है, विशेष कर मध्य प्रदेश के कोरबा स्थित संयंत्र "बालको" में उत्पादन क्षमता के अनुसार उत्पादन न होने का क्या कारण है ? आप ने कहा है कि उड़ीसा और आन्ध्र प्रदेश में दो अध्ययन दल अध्ययन कर रहे हैं जो अपनी साध्यता रिपोर्ट भेज करेंगे, उसके बाद नए संयंत्र लगाने पर विचार करेंगे। लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो संयंत्र इस समय अपनी क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग नहीं कर रहे हैं, उन की क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग करने के लिये आप क्या कदम उठा रहे हैं ?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The Production capacity as I have said, in the aluminium industry in the country by the end of this year will be 316,000 tonnes of which 50,000 tonnes of the capacity in BALCO at Korba will be ready in another few months. The loss in production in the aluminium industry is largely due shortage of power both in M.P. Korba and in Karnataka. With the

new developments in the power sector, the position may improve. This Government has undertaken huge power projects. Our requirements of aluminium will be much higher in the coming years and that is why, as I said, the other two major projects are also taken in hand.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : मैं संत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ—क्या यह सही है कि मध्य प्रदेश, आन्ध्र प्रदेश और उड़ीसा में बाक्साइट का काफी बड़ा भण्डार है। इस समय भी मध्य प्रदेश के भण्डार का ठीक से उपयोग नहीं किया जा रहा है। आप की साध्यता रिपोर्ट 1979 तक आयेगी। क्या इन सूचनाओं के आधार पर आप किसी प्रकार का कोई संयंत्र लगाने का विचार कर रहे हैं, यदि कोई ऐसा निश्चय किया है तो वह संयंत्र कब तक लग कर तैयार हो जायेगा। वर्तमान में कर्नाटक और मध्य प्रदेश में जो संयंत्र लगे हुए हैं—उनकी क्षमता का पूरा उपयोग हो सके—ऐसी व्यवस्था की जाय, ताकि देश की वर्तमान आवश्यकता को देखते हुए हम निजी उत्पादन से उसको पूरा कर सकें और आयात पर व्यय न करना पड़े। कृपा कर यह भी बतायें कि 1978-79 में आप कितना आयात करने जा रहे हैं, क्योंकि जो उत्तर आप ने दिया है, वह पर्याप्त नहीं है ?

MR. SPEAKER: You have asked many questions; it is very difficult to remember them.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I think I have answered all the questions. Dr. Pandeya, need not be under the misapprehension that there is a lot of bauxite ore in Madhya Pradesh.

In fact, to feed the BALCO plant in Korba, a very considerable quantity of bauxite has to be brought from Orissa also. I am glad to inform the House that the Orissa Government has very kindly agreed to allocate certain areas of bauxites for the Madhya Pradesh plant. The present constraint is due to power. The

power position, I hope, will improve in not too distant a future. But, when the power position improves the total capacity would be 3,16,000 tonnes. When you and the new capacity, that can only come by taking a very large deposit, as I mentioned in answer to question (d).

SHRI JAGNNATH RAO: Sir, at present, the private sectors like HINDALCO, INDALCO, MALCO and Asanzol Aluminium Corporation have been producing. What is the production of these private sector units and what is the demand of the country? Is it mainly because of shortage of power that the production has gone down? What is the actual demand in the country and what is the shortfall if any? How are you going to improve it because when aluminium is going to replace copper, the demand will be very much higher. Is there any projection of demand and Supply?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have answered that to part (d) of the question of the hon. Member. I have explained that it was due to shortage of power. I have also said that the quantity of aluminium import would be proportionate to the rising demand of the country. I do not wish to give the tonnage. That is a commercial intelligence which I do not wish to give. If I say this, it will raise the price in the world market.

SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, the hon. Minister has given a very happy thought to the House that some day India will have a commanding height in the aluminium market of the world. To starving and struggling industries in India, to-day, it is a very comforting thought.

We would like to know, firstly what is the proven quantity of bauxite both in Orissa and in Andhra; secondly, what is the amount of power that would be required to utilise this proven quantity in that

area and, whether provision has been made for the supply of adequate power and thirdly, in view of the commanding position that the Minister wants India to have, will he consider giving up the idea of export of alumina and see that every bit of it is manufactured into aluminium in the country?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Sir, the hon. Member who had been a very competent Minister of Industries here as also a Member of the Planning Commission here, should know that the feasibility studies are being made and when these feasibility studies are in the hands of the Government, then only we would be able to plan investment. Possibly, when we talk of one million tonnes of aluminium metal, there is a need of—as Mr. Venkataraman knows well—nearly 2,500 M.W. of power. Recently for 600 M.W. hydroelectric power plant in that area, the Prime Minister put the foundation stone. Therefore, that is for the peaking load. Both in Andhra and in Orissa, there is unlimited coal reserve which will generate as much thermal power as we require and, when we talk of going in stages of one million tonnes of aluminium metal, I have no doubt that the planning of large power plants of 500 M.W. capacity, thermal capacity, would also form part of the package deal in terms of investment or credits or whatever we plan to obtain.

The second question was as to why we should export alumina. As I said, on the basis of a feedback system of credit, for a few years, we have to export some quantity of alumina to obtain the credit for building these plants. This is the normal procedure. There is an estimate of more than 2 billion tonnes between Andhra and Orissa. The proven reserves are already nearly 700 million tonnes. I have no doubt that these reserves are world's biggest findings in bauxite. It is lucky we have it. We must exploit it to the best ad-

vantage of the nation. When today's total aluminium production is only 15 million tonnes in the world the capacity of 1 million tonne of India will give it a commanding height. That is what I have said.

Early Motherhood

*806. **SHRI ANNASHEB GOTK-HINDE:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether early motherhood is on the increase in the country;
- (b) if so, the names of such States where the problem has assumed serious levels;
- (c) whether Government have ascertained the factors contributing to the problem;
- (d) if so, the nature of those factors; and
- (e) the measures undertaken to minimise its severity?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राज नारायण) : (क) और (ख). महर्षिजीयक द्वारा 1972 में किये गये जनन क्षमता सर्वेक्षण के आधार पर प्रथम प्रसव के समय वाली मध्यम (मीडियम) आयु के अनुमान विवरण-1 में दिए गए हैं। मध्यम आयु गांवों में 21.04 वर्ष और नगरों में 21.84 वर्ष थी। एक लाख से भी अधिक जनसंख्या वाले कस्बों और शहरों में हुए जन्म-पंजीकरण के आधार पर 1962, 1971, 1972 और 1973 के जो अनुमान लगाए गए हैं, उनसे ज्ञात होता है कि प्रथम प्रसव के समय वाली मध्यम-आयु जो 1962 में 21.2 वर्ष थी, वह 1971-73 की अवधि में बढ़कर औसतन 22.2 वर्ष हो गई। राज्यवार अनुमान विवरण-2 पर दिए गए हैं।

मध्यम से तात्पर्य है कि 50 प्रतिशत प्रथम प्रसव तो उस आयु से अधिक में होते हैं और 50 प्रतिशत उस आयु से कम आयु में।