

milk is sold at Rs. 4 per kilo. Kisan is suffering.

SHRI K.C. LENKA: We are giving the remunerative price today. The Delhi Milk Scheme and the Mother Dairy are supplying milk to the consumers at the subsidised rate. The Delhi Milk Scheme is providing milk to the consumers at Rs. 5 per kilo whereas the cost of production of this milk is more than Rs. 6 per kilo.

[*Translation*]

Pig Iron Plants in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh

*796. **SHRI VILASRAONAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR:** Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pig iron plants in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Union Government for setting up of some more such plants in the Public/Private Sector in the above States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) There is no plant for exclusive production of pig iron in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. The Bhilai Steel Plant of Steel Authority of India Ltd, however produce Pig Iron as part of its product-mix.

(b) and (c). Production of Pig Iron has so far been largely confined to Public Sector Steel Plants. With a view to enabling inte-

grated steel plants to produce steel for which substantial investments have been made, it has been decided to create fresh capacity for manufacture of pig iron in the secondary sector. There has been encouraging response from the entrepreneurs who are examining the feasibility of setting up of pig iron manufacturing in different parts of the country, including the States of Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. A few of them have firmed up their project proposals and initiated steps for their implementation.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VILASRAO NAGNATHRAO GUNDEWAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has replied that there is no plant for exclusive production of pig iron. I would like to know whether there is any proposal to set up such a plant in Maharashtra or in my constituency, Hingoli, to produce pig iron for producing steel?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: As I said in my answer, there is no such plant in the public sector. But there is one application which is being cleared by IDBI of M/s Usha Ispat Ltd., Village Redi, District Sindhudurg; it is in Maharashtra. There are other aspirants who are trying for it. There is one in Nagpur-M/s Nagpur Alloy Castings limited; it is in District Nagpur in Maharashtra. This is an area which the hon. Members has mentioned. There is another prospective party who wants to do it- M/s Trimbak Steel Ltd; it is in Aronda District, Sindhudurg, Maharashtra.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VILASRAO NAGANTHRAO GUNDEWAR: Have some persons submitted proposals for setting up plants and if so, Government attitude towards them? If several companies have submitted such proposals then what is the intention of the Government?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MAHAN DEV: For Maharashtra, there is no other application. There are other applications from other parts of the country numbering five. Applications have already been submitted; they are under consideration of the IDBI. There are entrepreneurs who are trying to start it in other parts of the country.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: What are the names of these entrepreneurs who have submitted their proposals and which are the State and the sites selected by these entrepreneurs?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: There is a long list. If I read it, it will take a long time. I shall lay it on the table of the House.

SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE: What is the number?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: As I said, five loans have already been sanctioned by the IDBI, five are already under the process of sanction and seventeen more are interested to set up, but they are in the process of clearance by the authorities.

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Satya Narayan Jatiya.

SHRI RAM NAIK: This question relates to Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh. Other States may not be interested. We will come to know some things.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: I have already given the reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SATYNARAYAN JATIYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you are aware the good quality iron found in Madhya Pradesh is being exported to foreign nations at very low prices. It would be beneficial if such a plant is set up in the country. It would meet domestic requirements and we will be able to even export to other nations. Through you, I

would like to know the target of production of pig iron in the country and the proposed capacity expansion target?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: At present we are producing roughly 14 million tonnes and the demand is 16 million tonnes and our production by 2000 AD will be 28 million tonnes. Enough iron ore is available in the country and the hon. Member is very much right that we are exporting iron ore and we are not undertaking production within the country. We are producing more value added items so that we can earn more. At present the Government policy is to increase the value added items and we are shaping our policy in that direction and that is why delicensing has been done so that more private sector steel plants come up. Orissa is having one, Karnataka is having two and there are other applicants coming up and I am sure that the aspirations of the hon. Members will be fulfilled in the next four to five years.

SHRI ARVIND NETAM: I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government have issued licences for pig iron plants in Bastar District in Madhya Pradesh, and if so, the details.

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: As I said, in 1986 pig iron production has been delicensed. So, there is no question of giving any licence to anybody to produce pig iron. Only the bank finance and other things are available for which they come and from the list which is with me. I do not see anything in Bastar. Anyhow, I will again check up and send the information to the hon. Member.

[*Translation*]

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that the proposals have been submitted to set up such plants in Madhya Pradesh and those are being scrutinised. I would like to know when were the proposals submitted to the Government and by what time a decision

is likely to be taken on them, so that the iron ore of Madhya Pradesh at present being exported to Japan, is put to use in Madhya Pradesh, by setting up plants there. Will the hon. Minister make the position clear?

[*English*]

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: There is still some confusion. There is no restriction from the Steel Ministry because the pig iron production was de-licensed in 1986. We are only there to help and in Madhya Pradesh, M/s. MBF Ispat Limited, and M/s. BEC Sponge Iron Limited are there. The first one is at Borai Industrial Growth Centre and the second one at Raipur. There is also another, SMDyechem limited in Bastar, Madhya Pradesh. That is one project. These are the projects and from our side there is no difficulty. We are only to help them to give them feed-back and when they go to IDBI we also give the feed-back, feasibility and other things.

We are also interested to help because there is a gap of 4.7 lakh tonnes of pig iron in the country, and this is an employment-oriented industry and it also helps the other industries like the cottage industries and the small scale industries. The Government is very willing that this gap should be covered and there is a trend in the world and in modernised countries also to stop pig iron production and they are also trying to import pig iron. If we increase our production, we will be able to give jobs to many unemployed persons and we will be able to send it outside also. We have got total interest in it and any State which is coming we are trying to help.

SHRI SHRIKANTA JENA: Sir, after hearing the Minister's statement I feel that the Government of India is only a consultative agency and the private entrepreneurs go to IDBI and other financial institutions to get the money and they go in for production of pig-iron and steel. May I know from the hon. Minister as to what exactly the responsibility of the Government of India in the investment sector and in the production of pig-iron and steel?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DAV: Sir, the hon. Member is trying to do injustice to our Department. We have a Task Force. And this Task Force has identified certain areas. Also we have invited some foreign collaborators so that small blast furnace can also be done. One of the necessities is merchant coke. Only one factory in West Bengal is producing that. No other plant is producing that. Either you have to import it or you have to depend on West Bengal. [Whatever West Bengal is producing, 77,000 tonnes, that is being taken by your State, Orissa.] So, we have taken up the responsibility as a nodal Ministry and we are taking various steps. There are various collaborations. I have got a list with me here. Various foreign technologies have been approved. Various Indian parties have been indentified for production of pig-iron through small blast furnace. Seven of such collaborations are under study. We are not sitting idle. We will keep your request in mind.

As regards finance, the Steel Ministry never gives finance. Nationalised banks are financing them. IDBI is also a Government Bank. You cannot say that the Government of India is not financing. We are giving finance.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE: Sir, it is quite possible that the Department is not sitting idle. It could be that they are now golfing their way. In the past also, there was a role for the Centre. What we are afraid from the past is that using the licensing mechanism, in certain cases, those who wanted to establish enterprises in certain areas of India were discouraged. Here he says: 'There is no licensing. Anybody can come. The Centre has a role. Assistance from IDBI and others are given.' Now to what extent, that assistance discretionary? There are laid down guidelines that under such conditions the IDBI assistance will be granted and under such conditions the IDBI assistance will not be granted.

Part B of my question is this. Were/ there, up-till now, any MRTP companies involved in applications?

SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV: As far as I know, there is no MRTTP applications. I am not quite sure about that and if there is any one, I will let the hon. Members know.

The Member has said that delicensing will discourage the entrepreneurs to go to the backward areas. It is the responsibility of the respective State Government to declare special incentives for the entrepreneurs to go to the backward areas such as giving land at a very nominal rent, or a long term lease, giving exemption in sales tax and such other facilities. When many Chief ministers met me, I discussed this. Many States have agreed to give such concessions so that more titles go. I can tell the hon. Member that now people are willing to go to West Bengal and North Eastern States because various incentives have been given there and they are going now. It all depends on the initiative of the administration as to how fast they clear the applications. I know that in one State application is pending for twelve years and nothing has been done. Naturally entrepreneurs will not go there. In another State, Gujarat, where clearance of application is given within one to two months and the people are willing to go there and start. It is the responsibility of the State Government.

We, on our part, are also trying to encourage the industrialists to go to the backward areas and that process will continue.

As you have said about golfing, here also I part as I part in the golfing.

Central Assistance for Maintenance of Law and Order in Maharashtra

*797. SHRI MOHAN RAWLE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Central Reserve Police Force Battalions in Maharashtra;

(b) whether any Central Assistance is being provided to Maharashtra for the maintenance of law and order in the State; and

(c) if so, the details of such assistance provided to the State during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). No CRPF Bn. is presently deployed in Maharashtra. Para-military forces are provided to the extent possible whenever requested by the State Government, but no Central assistance is given for maintenance of law & order.

[*Translation*]

SHR MOHAN RAWLE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister the number of revolvers asked for by Maharashtra Government with a view to supply these revolvers to their all Police officers and the number of revolvers supplied by Central Government against this request? Has Maharashtra Government also made a request for supply of high speed cars and if so, by what time these cars will be made available to Maharashtra Government?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B.CHAVAN): Sir, this question is about the maintenance of law and order and the Central Government. If the hon. Member wants, I will be able to give the entire information. The information is like this: