

Effect of Power Shortage in Tamil Nadu Industries

551. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether industries were greatly affected in Tamil Nadu due to the power shortage in the State;

(b) if so number of industries which suffered loss;

(c) whether Tamil Nadu cement industry was restored to its original production only on the intervention of the Union Minister; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take to avoid shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There has been a general decline in production, and more particularly of aluminium, fertilizers and caustic soda, etc. It is, however, difficult to assess precisely the number of industries affected or the extent of loss in production solely due to power shortage.

(c) The Union Minister of Commerce & Civil Supplies wrote to the Tamil Nadu and Kerala Governments, Under an agreement between the two Governments, Kerala State Electricity Board agreed *inter-alia* of spare power for the cement units in Tamil Nadu.

(d) Steps have been taken to commission an additional capacity of 345 M.W. of power during the next two years—110 MW in 1977-78 and 235 MW in 1978-79. Besides, a nuclear station at Kalpakkam is also under construction. In addition to these measures it is proposed to meet the power requirements of Tamil Nadu by increased thermal generation, import of hydel power from Kerala, increased hydel generation from the State's own power stations and by rational management of power resources in the southern region.

Murders and Police Firings in the Country

552. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: (a) the number of murders in the country committed during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the number of political murders out of them, State-wise;

(c) the number of persons belonging to political parties who died of police firing during this period, State-wise;

(d) the number of cases of deaths through police firing investigated into by the erstwhile Central Government and the State Governments; and

(e) whether Government propose to consider to order a thorough probe into the alleged police excesses during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(e) Police excesses during the period of Emergency are covered by the terms of reference of the Shah Commission.

Denationalisation of Public Sector Undertakings

553. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state: (a) whether there is a proposal for denationalisation of some of the public sector undertakings/projects including nationalised banks on the plea that nationalisation has led stagnation of the economy and thus strengthened private sector at the cost of public sector;

(b) if so, main features of the Government proposals in this regard;