

The under utilisation of capacity at Paradip and New Mangalore was largely due to under utilisation of the captive facilities for iron ore, because there has been serious recession in the international iron ore market. Bombay Port worked far beyond its capacity because of available infrastructure facilities such as rail and road transport, bunched arrivals of vessels due to shipowners and shippers preferences based on the facilities developed by/available to them at Bombay.

(d) In order to avoid imbalances in capacity utilisation of parts, the Standing Committee on the Rationalised Distribution of Cargo of this Ministry meets once in a quarter to allocate Government imports/exports in a rationalised manner among various ports so that under utilisation of available capacities is reduced and pressures on over busy ports released to the extent possible.

Utilisation of Coal Handling Facilities at Calcutta and Haldia Ports

6949. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the coal handling facilities at Calcutta and Haldia ports are under utilised;

(b) if so, the main reasons for low performance of the coal handling facilities at Calcutta and Haldia ports;

(c) the average level of utilisation of such facilities; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to improve the performance of coal handling at Calcutta and Haldia ports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) and (b). The coal handling facilities available at Calcutta and Haldia are not being utilised to the optimum level. The main reasons for below optimum utilisation of facilities at Calcutta and Haldia are as under :

Calcutta

(i) Non-availability of suitable colliers pliable in low draught in Hooghly;

(ii) Erratic supply of coal wagons and non-synchronisation of arrival of coal rakes and colliers;

(iii) non-availability of conventional four-wheeler wagons which only can be handled by the mechanical coal handling plant at Calcutta.

Haldia

(i) repeated receipt of lumpy coal, stones and boulders, un-suitable for handling through the coal plant, causing damage to the plant and machinery;

(ii) idle time due to grizzly cleaning,

(iii) non-availability of adequate number of wagons;

(iv) inadequate/irregular nomination of vessels by the user agency.

(c) The average level of capacity utilisation is 20 per cent at Calcutta and 50 per cent at Haldia.

(d) The Calcutta Port Trust have taken up with D.G. Shipping and Indian Coastal Conference for increased availability of ships for movement of coal from Calcutta Steps to increase coal handling capacity at Haldia, including modification of the existing coal handling plant and conversion of the ore handling plant for handling coal, regular nomination of vessels by Tamil Nadu Electricity Board, despatch of proper sized coal from the collieries are also being taken. The performance is monitored on a daily basis, and bottle necks attended to.

News Item Captioned "New Hope for Asthama Patients"

6950. DR. G. S. RAJHANS : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "New hope for Asthama patients" appeared in Indian Express dated 24 April, 1985;

(b) if so, the details of the said new device;

(c) whether the similar device will be introduced in the other Central Government hospitals also; and

(d) if so, by when and to what extent the asthmatic patients will get relief from this disease ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mini Peak Flow Meter is a simple device which has now been developed in India and is available in the market. It helps in monitoring the severity of airway obstruction in patients with asthma. It is not a remedy in itself but only a monitoring device for recording the efficacy of the treatment.

(c) and (d). Most of the chest centres and clinics in India have equipments (mostly imported) to assess airway resistance of the patients. As already stated, these equipments by themselves do not cure asthma; they only enable the physician to assess the severity of the disease and periodically monitor the efficacy of the treatment.

Institutional Finance for Super Thermal Power Projects

6951. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry proposes to avail of institutional finance from IDBI through newly established power Generation Corporation to execute some Super Thermal Power Projects;

(b) whether such type of institutional finance had been taken earlier for some other power projects;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to avail similar institutional finance for proposed Talcher Super Thermal Power Station, Orissa; and

(d) the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) There is no newly established power generation corporation.

(b) IDBI assistance has not been obtained for any power project in the Central Sector.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Mancheswar Railway Workshop, Orissa

6952. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated cost of Mancheswar Railway Workshop, Orissa;

(b) whether the workshop has become fully operational;

(c) if so, since when, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The sanctioned estimated cost is Rs. 18.15 Crores.

(b) to (d). The workshop initially became operational for corrosion repairs of coaches in April' 83 and coaches after periodical overhaul were first turned-out in Feb'84. The present level of the out-turn of the periodical overhaul of coaches is two units (Four Wheeler) per working day.

The capacity of the workshop will be progressively increased to eight units per day by additional inputs during the VIIth Plan period, depending upon the availability of funds.

Generation of Power in Orissa in Seventh Plan

6953. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Electricity Authority has made any revised forecast on the generation of power in Orissa during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) what are the basis on which the power generation assessment has been made by Central Electricity Authority ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) and (b). The power generation assessment in respect of Orissa has been reviewed by the Twelfth Power Survey Committee headed by the Chairman, Central Electricity Authority. The energy availability in utilities has been assessed as 7839 MU