

**World Bank Aid to U.P.**

899. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be please to state:

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has prepared the Uttar Pradesh Urban Development Project for the development of the important towns of the State to get aid from the World Bank;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government has prepared any other project with International Development Assistance (IDA) etc. for the development and for improving the facilities in the slums; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal sent by the Uttar Pradesh Government which is in the form of an approach document, contains the following components : shelter, municipal services, water supply and sanitation, traffic and transportation, technical assistance and training etc. The estimated cost of the Project is Rs. 600 crores. The Project is proposed to be completed in 6 years. The Project was discussed by the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment with the officials of the World Bank. However, since a rethinking is going on at the Bank at present regarding the funding of urban sector projects, it is not possible to comment as to when the project is going to be considered by the World Bank.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[English]

**Visakhapatnam Steel Plant**

900. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of STEEL be please to state:

(a) whether mounting losses incurred by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited is seriously affecting the very financial viability of the public sector giant;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for mounting losses in VSP; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to bring VSP out from the red?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Company is expected to turn around and attain 100 percent capacity utilisation by the year 1996-97 and earn net profit by the year 1997-98. The Company has not been able to achieve this target so far due to the following reasons:—

(i) Heavy capital related charges towards interest and depreciation.

(ii) Initial gestation period.

(iii) Increase in cost of inputs.

(iv) Recessionary market trends.

(v) Problems faced in the stabilisation of production in the Steel Melt Shop and continuous Casting Machines due to certain unanticipated logistics problems, skill gaps, inadequate automation and requirement of additional facilities subsequent to commencement of operation.

(c) For making the Company financially viable, Government of India approved in July, 1993 the proposal for restructuring the capital base of the Company. With this, the Company received a relief of over Rs. 350 crores per year on interest payment due to conversion of outstanding Government loans partially into equity and partially into 7% Non-Cumulative Preference Shares. Further, the Company has also taken up modifications as well as installation of additional facilities in the Steel Melt Shop and Continuous Casting Machines and obtaining necessary technological assistance from reputed foreign firm in order to achieve the target.

[Translation]

**Coal Based Power Stations in M.P.**

901. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals under consideration to set up coal based power houses through private sector in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the locations and the capacity thereof;

(c) the quantum of coal required each year for each power station; and

(d) whether assent of Coal India Limited has been received in regard to meet the requirement of coal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) The details of proposals under consideration to set up coal based power houses through private sector in M.P. are as under:—

S.N.	Name of the Project	Location (Dist.)	Capacity (Proposed)
1.	Pench TPS	Chhindwara	500 MW
2.	Bhilai TPS	Durg	500 MW
3.	Korba West Extn. TPS	Bilaspur	420 MW
4.	Korba West TPS	Bilaspur	500 MW
5.	Bina TPS	Sagar	1000 MW
6.	Birsinghpur TPS	Shahdol	500 MW
7.	Korba East TPS	Bilaspur	500 MW
8.	Raigarh TPS	Raigarh	1000 MW

(c) Out of the above mentioned power projects, annual coal requirement of three projects are available which are as under:—

S. No.	Name of the Project	Estimated annual coal requirement (In Mt.)
1.	Korba West TPS	2.35
2.	Pench TPS	2.00
3.	Bhilai TPS	2.47

(d) No, Sir.

#### **N.R.I. Licences for Beer production**

902. SHRI RAM PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have introduced any new policy for issue of licence to Non Resident Indians for production of beer etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the incentives to be given to Indian citizens in setting up such industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No fiscal or financial incentives are given by the Government of India to Indian citizens or NRIs.

[English]

#### **Employment for Rural Women in FPI**

903. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of rural women are being employed in the Food Processing Industries;

(b) whether the Government have any scheme to assist women to start their own business;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Ministry does not operate any specific scheme targetted only for women. However, the Ministry is assisting in setting up of Food Processing Training Centres in the rural areas and assistance has been provided through the first 3 years of the 8th Plan for setting up 140 such centres. These Centres besides training, would, alongwith District Industries Centres and State Nodal Agencies, disseminate information on various aspects of Food Processing. Emphasis for training rural women in the Agro Food Industries is given in the Food Processing Training Centres so as to ensure that they get "hands-on experience" in setting up and managing small Food Processing Units. Finances are available for women entrepreneurs from Mahila Udyog Nidhi Scheme operated by SIDBI.

[Translation]

#### **Widening of National Highway-2**

904. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether tenders have already been invited for implementation of the project for widening of Mathura and Agra road on the National Highway No. 2 and converting it into four lane road; and

(b) if so, the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon, and construction work started on this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As the work is in tendering stage, it is too early to indicate the date of start of the work.

[English]

#### **Four Laning of Road**

905. PORF. SAVITHRI LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Alwaye-Cochin-Quilon-Trivandrum route has been indentified for four laning;

(b) if so, whether Trichur-Ernakulam is also included in the plan for four laning;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The work of four laning of Alwaye to Vyttila and Aroor to Sharthalai sub-sections of Alwaye - Cochin - Quilon - Trivandrum route is under progress.

(b) & (c) Land acquisition for four laning work between Chalakudy to Alwaye sub-section of Trichur - Ernakulam section is included in the 8th Plan at an estimated cost of Rs. 3 crore.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Import of Coal by SAIL**

906. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has decided to import Coal from Australia and China;

(b) if so, the reasons for importing coal instead of using indigenous coal;

(c) whether before taking the decision to increase import of coal, the SAIL has consulted the Coal India Limited (CIL);

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of CIL thereto;

(e) the quantity of coal likely to be imported during 1995-96 and 1996-97 as compared to earlier years and the foreign exchange involved therein;

(f) whether the imported coal is cost-efficient vis-a-vis the indigenous coal; and