

(b) whether it is also suffering from maintenance lag due to lack of adequate monitoring and non-availability of technical personnel; and

(c) the steps being taken to remedy both the above unhappy situations?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) No, Sir. However, the expected Traffic growth of around 12 per cent in the international aviation industry has not materialised because of recession in the world market. As a matter of fact, the actual traffic growth has been around 4 per cent. However, Air India's load factor during 1979-80 was 59.5 per cent as against the average of 57.9 per cent for IATA carriers during the same period.

(b) Although the exodus of technical personnel has lead to some inconvenience in work but provision of Engineering facilities and monitoring of work has been adequate.

(c) In order to remedy the shortage of technical personnel, Air-India recruited 77 graduate engineers trainees during 1979 and is in the process of recruiting 50 more such trainees. Moreover, considering the market conditions, Air-India has decided not to order three Boeing 747 aircraft for which Letters of Intents were issued for delivery, in 1982.

आवश्यक वस्तुओं का वितरण

*72. श्री बोलत राम सारण :

श्री लक्ष्मण मलिक :

क्या नगरिक पूर्नि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने बढ़ते हुए मूल्यों और आवश्यक वस्तुओं की कमी को देखते हुए जीवन निर्वाह के लिए आवश्यक वस्तुओं की सूची बनाई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो सूची में शामिल वस्तुएं कौन-कौन सी हैं ; और

(ग) क्या इन वस्तुओं के वितरण के लिए कोई व्यवस्था की गई और यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है और इन्हें किस तारीख से लागू किया जाएगा ?

नगरिक पूर्नि मंत्री (श्री विद्याचरण शुक्ल) : (क) में (ग). इस देश में सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली दो दशको से भी अधिक समय से विद्यमान है। सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के विक्री केन्द्रों के माध्यम से आम तौर पर गेहूं और चावल जैसे अनाज, लेवी-चीनी, कंट्रोल के कपड़े, मिट्टी के तेल और साफ्ट कोक का वितरण किया जा रहा है। जुलाई, 1979 से नहाने का साबुन, चाय, काफी, दियासलाइयां और कांपियां जैसी अतिरिक्त वस्तुएं इस प्रणाली के अन्तर्गत लाई गई है। देश में खाद्य तेलों की आम कमी को देखते हुए वर्ष 1977 से पामोलीन, आर० बी० डी० ताड़ का तेल और रेपसीड तेल का आयात कर के इन्हें सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से बेचा जा रहा है।

इन वस्तुओं की खरीद और आपूर्ति की व्यवस्था केन्द्रीय सरकार की विभिन्न एजेंसियों द्वारा की गई है और इनकी विक्री राज्य सरकारें अपनी सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के माध्यम से कर रही हैं। भारतीय खाद्य निगम अनाज और लेवी-चीनी की वसूली तथा आपूर्ति के लिए जिम्मेदार है, और राज्य व्यापार निगम आयातित खाद्य तेलों, राष्ट्रीय सहकारी उपभोक्ता संघ कंट्रोल के कपड़े तथा चाय, काफी बोर्ड, काफी और खादी तथा ग्रामोद्योग आयोग दियासलाइयों की व्यवस्था करने का कार्य कर रहा है। नहाने के साबुन की आपूर्ति करने की

व्यवस्था "इण्डियन सोप एण्ड टायलेटरीज मेकर्स एसोसियेशन" के साथ की गयी है। सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र की तेल कम्पनियों को मिट्टी के तेल और कोल इण्डिया लि० को साफ्ट कोक की आपूर्ति करने की जिम्मेदारी सौंपी गई है।

Shortage of coking coal in Steel Plants

*73. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:
SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that steel plants in the country are facing acute coking coal shortage;

(b) if so, the steel plants which are likely to be affected; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the six integrated steel plants viz. Bhilai, Rourkela, Bokaro, Durgapur, IISCO and TISCO are affected due to coking coal shortage.

(c) The following steps have been taken to cope with the demand of coking coal:

(i) Close and constant liaison is being maintained with the coal supplying agencies and the Railways so as to secure maximum supplies of coking coal. Constant monitoring of the position in regard to the availability of coal is also being done at various levels through inter-ministerial consultation. The Cabinet Committee on Industrial Infrastructure reviews the position regularly as to ensure that necessary steps to improve the position are taken in the most effective and coordinated manner.

(ii) Steps have been taken to maximise production in the captive collieries of steel plants.

(iii) In order to supplement the indigenous supplies of coking coal, import of 1.2 MT of coking coal was arranged in 1978-79. Orders for supply of a further quantity of 0.5 million tonnes in 1979-80 have been placed and the coal has started arriving. Tenders have been received by SAIL for an additional quantity of 1 million tonnes.

Inclusion of Tobacco, Coffee, Tea, etc. in G.S.P. Scheme of E.E.C.

*74. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approached the European Economic Community (EEC) to include tobacco, coffee, tea and animal feed in Generalised System of Preferences Scheme; and

(b) if so, what are further developments?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b). The current status of Tobacco, Coffee, Tea and Animal feed in the GSP scheme of the European Economic Community (EEC), the initiative taken by India for the improvement of GSP treatment of these products and the results thereof are indicated below:

Unmanufactured tobacco is included in the GSP Scheme of European Economic Community. But the tariff reduction is limited and is subject to a tariff quota. The question of improvement by way of further tariff reduction and enlargement of quotas, particularly of Flue Cured Virginia tobacco has been taken up with the EEC in the past and some improvements secured. A recent improvement is reduction of minimum specific duty from 15 European