

### Bhilai Steel Plant

1882. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bhilai Steel Plant is working on full capacity;

(b) if so, the details of production of different sections of steel produced in the plant during January 81 to July 81; and

(c) average percentage of utilisation of production capacity during these months?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). The Table below gives the details of production of different categories of saleable steel in Bhilai Steel Plant during January to July 81 when its capacity utilisation was 93 per cent.—

Category	(000 tonnes)
Semis . . . . .	207
Rails & Heavy Structural . . . . .	382
Merchant Mill Products . . . . .	248
Wire Rods . . . . .	221
TOTAL . . . . .	1058

### Under-utilisation of Calcutta and Madra International Airports

1883. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the policy of keeping the Calcutta and Madras international airports underutilised has created a serious imbalance in the distribution of flights; and

(b) if so, steps take by Government to remove the imbalance in the distribution of flights, in details?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) It is the policy of the Government to encourage foreign carriers to operate scheduled services through Calcutta and Madras Airports as per the entitlement available to them under the various bilateral air services agreements. Calcutta and Madras Airport are in a position to receive a larger number of services than is the case now.

The final choice of airports to be touched by foreign airlines rests with them.

(b) The Airports at Calcutta and Madras are fully equipped with versatile and sophisticated equipment to handle any type of aircraft including wide bodied aircraft.

While negotiating bilateral air services agreements, foreign airlines are offered Calcutta and Madras as points of call in India.

### Decline in prices of spices

1884. SHRI M. M. LAWRENCE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether this decline in prices of spices such as cardamom, pepper, turmeric etc. has come to the notice of Government; and

(b) what were the prices of each produce in the years 1978, 1979, 1980 and 1981?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b). A statement showing the monthly average of index numbers of wholesale prices of selected spices is attached.

**Statement**  
*Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices of Selected Spices.*  
*(Monthly Average)*

(Base year 1970-71 = 100)

Commodity/Year.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	S-pt.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual Average
<b>Cardamom/</b>													
1978 . . . . .	226.9	210.5	208.7	204.1	210.9	222.0	221.2	216.9	227.7	253.6	230.1	233.6	222.0
1979 . . . . .	215.4	215.4	224.2	224.2	210.9	211.9	225.7	226.2	221.2	223.2	205.6	194.6	216.6
1980 . . . . .	207.8	217.5	203.1	186.3	174.7	173.1	171.0	158.8	158.0	149.6	108.5	144.0	174.6
1981 . . . . .	146.8	156.8	158.2	151.4	161.0	164.8	173.6	181.8					
						(27/6)	(25/7)	(1/8)					
<b>Black paper/</b>													
1978 . . . . .	254.3	246.0	243.1	259.6	258.6	262.3	269.1	257.8	259.2	264.5	261.1	249.1	257.0
1979 . . . . .	235.0	225.9	225.9	223.4	224.2	224.7	240.5	243.2	243.9	251.8	249.3	223.1	234.2
1980 . . . . .	219.2	212.8	202.1	200.8	198.1	197.2	193.7	194.0	197.4	205.2	217.6	217.9	204.2
1981 . . . . .	208.0	202.9	200.0	210.3	215.4	215.6	219.1	213.7					
						(27/6)	(25/7)	(1/8)					
<b>Turmeric/</b>													
1978 . . . . .	230.5	217.1	9233.4	265.4	275.8	285.1	288.8	279.7	259.1	266.4	272.4	248.8	260.2
1979 . . . . .	245.3	215.4	196.3	184.8	188.2	142.5	257.7	157.2	153.4	143.8	140.1	131.4	169.6
1980 . . . . .	127.2	113.4	212.7	101.4	94.1	90.8	86.5	95.2	90.8	91.2	106.6	105.2	104.5
1981 . . . . .	113.3	125.4	146.2	122.7	120.5	99.9	98.8	90.0					
						(27/6)	(25/7)	(1/8)					

Commodity / Year	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual Average
<b>Ginger/</b>													
1978	145.8	141.0	137.4	148.0	160.3	154.2	144.7	133.8	124.5	122.2	117.4	104.4	136.2
1979	95.1	88.6	87.6	85.1	72.7	76.5	79.2	79.0	79.3	78.6	76.2	74.8	81.1
1980	74.5	68.4	68.5	50.5	58.6	56.2	50.6	46.9	50.6	57.6	65.4	62.8	59.8
1981	73.8	77.2	76.2	82.1	85.1	84.1 (27/6)	79.6 (25/7)	83.4 (1/8)					
<b>Chillies/</b>													
1978	127.3	121.6	122.7	119.8	116.9	120.2	118.7	122.5	144.5	162.8	169.2	159.5	133.8
1979	150.8	128.5	119.9	124.4	117.3	120.6	136.9	135.9	142.9	140.8	132.6	130.1	132.5
1980	117.2	107.8	101.2	103.1	107.0	113.3	109.1	106.3	106.6	109.3	112.5	113.0	108.9
1981	117.8	132.1	164.3	177.6	171.7	178.9 (27/6)	200.1 (25/7)	205.2 (1/8)					