

Improvement in Production of Aluminium

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NAIK :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of Aluminium has improved in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that with the present rate of production and stocks of aluminium it would be possible to meet the domestic requirement;

(c) if so, the total domestic requirement and the production rate of Aluminium in the country as on 30th June, 1982;

(d) whether Government have a proposal to stop import of the above metal in 1982-83 in view of the increase in production ; and

(e) if so, the likely savings of foreign exchange on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA) : (a) to (e) The production of Aluminium during the first quarter of 1982-83 was 51,897 tonnes as against 52,343 tonnes during the corresponding period in the previous year. Production has been adversely affected by the shut down of the Hirakud Smelter and low utilisation of capacity in other smelters because of shortage of power. The performance of the industry is likely to improve when hydel generation goes up.

The demand for Aluminium has remained slack as the State Electricity Boards have not been placing orders for conductors and cables in accordance with the earlier projections. The increase in the price of Aluminium consequent on increase in the cost of power and other inputs has also effected the consumption of commercial grade aluminium. The offtake of metal from the producers and MMTC

during the first quarter of 1982-83 was 58,636 tonnes.

Imports have been drastically cut since 1981-82 and there has been no import so far during the current year. The situation is under constant review and should a shortage be anticipated, necessary imports would be made to meet the gap between the demand and the indigenous production. The stock of Aluminium with the producers and MMTC at the end of June, 1982 was about 37,000 tonnes.

(नए 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम का कार्यान्वयन

5214. श्री नरसिंह मकवाना : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नये 20-सूत्री कार्यक्रम के कार्यान्वयन के लिये राज्य सरकारों को क्या अनुदेश दिये गये थे और ये किम तारीखों को दिये गये थे;

(ख) क्या इस कार्यक्रम को क्रियान्वित किया जा रहा है अथवा नहीं तथा इसके सुचारू और व्यवस्थित कार्यान्वयन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिये क्या प्रशासनिक उपाय किये गये हैं; और

(ग) कौन-कौन सी राज्य सरकारें इस कार्यक्रम को ठीक ढंग से क्रियान्वित कर रही हैं?

योजना मंत्री (श्री एस० बी० बन्हाण) : (क) प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस कार्यक्रम को प्रभावी रूप से कार्यान्वित करने के लिये सलाह देते हुए दि० 21-1-82 को राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों को लिखा था । इस कार्यक्रम में शामिल सभी स्कीमें जारी स्कीमें हैं और कार्यान्वयन के लिये अनुदेशों की दृष्टि से किसी नई बात की आवश्यकता नहीं थी । योजना आयोग द्वारा इस कार्यक्रम की प्रगति के प्रबोधन के बारे में दि० 29-1-82, 17-4-82 और 26-6-82 को अनुदेश जारी किये गये थे ।

(ख) और (ग) यह कार्यक्रम सभी राज्य सरकारों द्वारा कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा है । इस कार्यक्रम की प्रगति की प्रत्येक महीने में समीक्षा की जा रही है ।