

says that not more than 90 percent of the plant load factor can be achieved in thermal power stations. When the capacity of the plant load factor of the national thermal power plants is not more than 75 percent, how the Minister is giving a blank cheque to Gujarat Electricity Board? I would like to know whether their installed capacity is more and their target for capacity utilisation is 103 percent or less than that. I also want to know whether the Government of Gujarat are showing less when their installed capacity is more. I want to know the categorical answer of the Minister as to what is the exact plant load factor in the thermal power stations in our country.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, the capacity utilisation of the power sector is dealt with by the Ministry of Power. I have only to supply coal to them as fixed by the Central Electricity Authority. Therefore, I will not be able to say about the plant load factor at all because it is concerned with the Power Ministry. I have brought in the figure of generation of power in Gujarat to show that they have achieved 103 percent of their target only to substantiate my point that we have supplied them 99 percent of their requirement. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER: Please maintain some silence in the House. Let the questions and replies be heard by the Members. (*Interruptions*)

MR SPEAKER: You are creating unnecessary trouble. Yes, Mr. Trivedi.

[*Translation*]

SHRI ARVIND TRIVEDI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has said that the Union Government has met 99 percent of the requirements of the power stations in Gujarat. If so, why was it necessary to hold discussions with the Chief Minister of Gujarat? Coal is sent in wagons from here, but by the time it reaches there, it is 20 percent less. Will the Government make arrangement to weigh it at the destination. As the demand of

coal of Gujarat is not being fully met, does the Centre propose to conduct a survey to find out whether there are deposits of coal in Gujarat or not. Besides what is the shortfall in power generation by thermal power stations in Gujarat owing to inadequate supply of coal and the losses incurred by the farmers and industries as a result of load-shedding resorted to by the Electricity Board? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

MR SPEAKER: Very good dialogue.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Sir, it is so satisfying to know that the hon. Members from Gujarat have so much of concern for the welfare of their State. (*Interruptions*) I fully congratulate you for that. I can assure you that the Chief Secretary of Gujarat is constantly in touch with the Home Secretary. The Chairman of the Gujarat Electricity Board has also interest in that and whenever occasion arises the Chief himself talks to me, we try to solve the problem of every State, not only of Gujarat. But what I am saying is that Gujarat has done well in power generation and that was possible because we have been able to give 99 percent of their requirement. That is what I am saying. And I don't say that Gujarat has no problem and we will not attend to that whenever there are some specific problems you kindly bring them to my notice and I will certainly help to solve the problems.

[*Translation*]

Operation of Coal Mines by Private Sector

*209 SHRI LAL BABU RAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government propose to accord approval to power generating units of private sector to operate coal mines, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIP A SANGMA) (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) Coal mining is at present reserved for public sector with the exceptions of captive mining and consumption by Iron & Steel Industry and mining in small isolated pockets not amenable to economical development and not requiring rail transport

No decision has been taken to accord approval to power generating units of private sector to operate coal mines

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL BABU RAI Mr Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon Minister whether a unit 2 private-Sector Company "TISCO" has been Given permission to operate coal mines? (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIP A SANGMA) Not yet

MR SPEAKER The reply is, "Not yet" Yes, you may ask the second Supplementary

[*Translation*]

SHRI LAL BABU RAI A great difficulty is experienced when power is to be generated from very poor quality of coal and that is why the supply of power is disrupted in Bihar Would the hon Minister take some measures in this regard?

[*English*]

SHRI P A SANGMA I do not think it

has got any connection, because the question is whether we are going to allow private mining

SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK May I know from the hon Minister, through you, whether the Government is formulating any guidelines on safety for the operation of coal mines private sector If so, I would like to know the details thereof

SHRIP A SANGMA There is no coal mine in the private sector as such, because mining is under the public sector, but there are some captive mines which we have given to TISCO and some other companies So, this question does not arise

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA Sir, will the Minister clarify 'captive'ness' and 'private-ness'? He has said that no decision has been taken at the Government level for privatisation, but there are captive mines like Tata Why was this decision taken to give a mine to be operated privately by a private company? On the other hand, the Minister has said that the coal mines will not be privatised May I know from the hon Minister as to how many applications are pending with him and at what stage this consideration is taking place? Is the Cabinet considering something? I would like to know whether the Minister has said no to the proposal of privatisation

SHRI P A SANGMA Sir I do agree with the hon Member that there is a difference between privatisation of coal mines and giving a lease for captive mines As far as the coal mines are concerned, there is no proposal under the consideration of the Government of India to privatise coal mines That is very clear, but there is no bar on the part of the Government to give a lease on captive basis as we have done already in the case of TISCO

Now that the Government of India has decided to allow the private sector to come into thermal power generation, whether the Government will also give captive mines to them That is the main question and how

many such application have come so far I would like to state that no application has come so far for that. But wherever there are some applications, the Government will take an appropriate view on those applications

SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI: Sir, I would like to know from the Government, that after the private enterprises are allowed to enter the field of power generation, whether there are some conditions laid by some foreign entrepreneurs willing to invest in this sector. Particularly, I would like to know whether the Orissa Chief Minister had made a request to the Government of India to give this benefit of captive mining to an American firm for the setting up of a power industry in Orissa. Our experience is bitter about private mining as the Minister was referring to cooking coal mining which was left half way through in an unscientific manner by the private manners who are engaged in that sector. What precautions will the government of India take in case the captive mines and other mines are given to private entrepreneurs for mining as a safeguard against unscientific mining etc. ?

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: Since we have not yet taken a firm decision on the matter, the question of what will happen if the mines are given to the private people does not arise at this stage.

SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: There are several coal mines and the number of people who are working in those mines far exceed the number that is required and the Government is not in a position to retrench them. Therefore, the cost of production is becoming very high.

In view of this, when the private organisations come forward to set up power plants near the coal fields, will the Government come forward and relax certain present rules to facilitate them to take up such operation of power generation for utilizing coal that is available nearby.

SHRI P. A. SANGMA: As it is, we have not yet taken a decision. But as I said earlier,

we have an open mind on this issue. Whenever a request comes, we will examine it.

[*Translation*]

Industrial Development of Delhi

*210 **SHRI BALRAJ PASSI:**
SHRI RAMKRISHNA
KUSMARIA

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have accorded approval to open a separate planning division to give new direction to the industrial development of Delhi,

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the time by which the said planning division is likely to become operational?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (c). A separate Planning Cell already exists in the Industries Department of Delhi Administration. The Planning Cell consists of an Officer on Special duty and two assistants. One of the Joint directors of Industries supervises the working of this cell.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the hon. Minister has already pointed out, a separate planning cell under Delhi Administration is already functioning, but this cell has not been able to pay full attention to the industrial development. Delhi city has become an extremely polluted city, because industrial development is not being done in a planned manner. I would like to know from the Government whether this Planning division is proposed to be opened during Eighth Plan period for which Planning Commission has already made its recommendation to the Delhi Administration?