

12.37 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER SUGAR UNDERTAKINGS (TAKING OVER OF MANAGEMENT) ACT, 1978.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 21 of the Sugar Undertakings (Taking Over of Management) Act, 1978:—

(i) S. O. 218 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Aju-dhia Sugar Mills Limited, Rajak-Ka-Sahaspur (U. P.).

(ii) S. O. 219 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Rai Bahadur Narain Singh Sugar Mills Ltd., Lhaksar (U. P.).

(iii) S. O. 220 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Shree Sitaram Sugar Company Limited, Baitalpur (U. P.).

(iv) S. O. 221 (E) published in Gazette of India dated 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Deoria Sugar Mills Limited, Deoria (U. P.).

(v) S. O. 222 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Jijamata Sahkari Sakhar Karkhana Limited, Shankarnagar (Maharashtra).

(vi) S. O. 223 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Seksaria Sugar Mills Limited, Babhnan (U.P.).

(vii) S. O. 224 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th

March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Cauvery Sugar and Chemicals Limited, Cauvery Factory, Pettaivayalai (Tamil Nadu).

(viii) S. O. 225 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th March, 1980 regarding moratorium from liabilities in respect of Shri Keshoraipatan Sahkari Sugar Mills Limited, Keshoraipatan (Rajasthan).

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-795/80].

ANNUAL REPORT OF INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, BOMBAY FOR 1978-79

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi version) of the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, for the year 1978-79. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-796/80].

STATEMENT RE. RESULT OF MARKET LOANS FLOATED BY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IN 1980 AND NOTIFICATION RE. ISSUE OF BANKS (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER) COMPENSATION BONDS.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A statement (Hindi and English versions) indicating the result of market loans floated by the Central Government in May, 1980.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-797/80].

(2) A copy of Notification No. F. 4 (7)-W & M/80 (Hindi and English versions) dated the 19th May, 1980 regarding issue of Banks (Acquisition and Transfer) Compensation Bonds. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-798/80].

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED IN RELATION TO THE VARIOUS STATES UNDER THE PRESIDENT RULE

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): I beg to lay on the

@English version of the Report was laid on the Table on the 28th January, 1980.

[Shri Bhisma Narain Singh]

Table a copy each of the following Ordinances (Hindi and English versions) under article 123(2)(a) of the Constitution:—

(1) The Essential Services Maintenance (Assam) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 2 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 6th April, 1980.

(2) The Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 3 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 15th April, 1980.

(3) The National Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 4 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 27th April, 1980.

(4) The Police (Incitement to Disaffection) (Gujarat Second Amendment) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 5 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 1st May, 1980.

(5) The Essential Services Maintenance (Maharashtra) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 6 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 12th May, 1980.

(6) The Gujarat Essential Services Maintenance (Amendment) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 7 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 12th May, 1980.

(7) The Essential Services Maintenance (Orissa) Ordinance, 1980 (No. 8 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 24th May, 1980.

(8) The Code of Criminal Procedure (Assam) Amendment Ordinance, 1980 (No. 9 of 1980) promulgated by the President on the 5th June, 1980.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-799/80].

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT AND BALANCE-SHEET OF TELECOMMUNICATION BRANCH OF INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPT. FOR 1977-78 AND INDIAN TELEGRAPH (1ST AMDT.) RULES, 1980

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):
I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy of the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet (On accrual basis) (Hindi and English versions) of the Telecommunication Branch of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department, for the year 1977-78.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-800/80].

(2) A copy of the Indian Telegraph (First Amendment) Rules, 1980 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 132 in Gazette of India date, the 26th January, 1980, under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-801/80].

12.39 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

ACUTE POWER SHORTAGE IN THE COUNTRY

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY (Mangalore): Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Energy to the following matter of urgent public importance and would request him to make a statement thereon:

“the acute power shortage in the various parts of the country leading to huge production losses.”

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND COAL (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I fully share the anxiety and concern expressed by the honourable Members through this Calling Attention Notice on the acute shortage of power in various parts of the country and its adverse impact on production. On the 30th of January, 1980, in reply to a similar Calling

Attention Notice, I had made a statement in this august House and informed the honourable Members that while we are fully seized of the difficult power situation in the country, and are taking all necessary steps to improve the position, because of the lower availability of power from hydel reservoirs particularly during the months of April and May, it is expected that power position till June, 1980 would continue to be difficult. That there is power shortage, today, in the country, there is no doubt about that. There are various factors responsible for this. There has been an unprecedented drought last year resulting in the reduction of the hydro generation to the extent of 30 per cent. States depending mostly on hydro have suffered the most. Then there is 10-15 annual increase in the demand. In addition the demand for power from agriculture sector increased due to drought. Again, most of the units are managed by the State Electricity Boards, autonomous bodies, who are responsible to their respective State Governments. In a federal polity like ours the Centre can only render expert advice and help the States in the allocations from Plan funds.

Our immediate and prime concern on taking over has been to provide the necessary direction, support and supervision for better management of the existing wherewithal of power. The basic fact is that capacity utilisation has to be stepped up.

Before we took over in January, 1980, the capacity utilisation was only around 45 per cent. Today the capacity utilisation is around 48 per cent. We intend to improve it further and take it to 50 per cent or higher. Capacity utilisation in some of the States e.g. Bihar, West Bengal, including D.V.C., is extremely low. There are various factors such as lawlessness, inter union rivalries and lack of suitable working conditions and facilities etc. which are responsible for this State of affairs particularly in the Eastern Region.

There are other difficulties like inadequate supply of quality coal, but it is not the scarcity of the coal. The main bottleneck is transportation of coal because transportation has not matched the increased requirement of coal.

I do not personally think that there are any insurmountable difficulties. Various inputs have to be planned in time and the coordination has to improve.

According to our policy, the Government is keen to have super thermal power stations at pitheads to meet the power needs of the country. In addition it is proposed to establish as early as possible a centrally owned and operated National Grid. This will mainly consist of 400 KV transmission lines, step down sub-stations and load despatch centres etc. At the same time we are determined to see that thermal power stations run efficiently. There are other bottlenecks, for example there is lack of quality control in manufacturing, erection and commissioning of main equipment and timely ordering as well as supply of spare parts. Training of personnel for operation and maintenance of more sophisticated larger thermal power generating units has to be more intensive. We are taking measures to plug all these gaps so that capacity utilisation improves.

We are also keen for the expansion of hydro generation. Unfortunately, the expansion of hydro has been neglected. For this power planning will have to be done on a long term basis. It is also, perhaps, due to lack of expertise in completing the civil works like tunnels etc., in a shorter time. For this foreign technology may have to be imported if found cost effective.

One of the most important long term measures for meeting the increasing demand is to cut down delays in implementing of new power projects. We have made significant