

**Akashvani Kendra in Akol District in Maharashtra**

[*Translation*]

7445. SHRI BHAOOSAHEB PUNDLIK PHUNDKAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction work of Akashvani Kendra in Akol district in Maharashtra has been completed: and

(b) if not, the time by which it is likely to be completed and start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b). The radio station at Akola is envisaged for commissioning during 1990.

[*English*]

**Capacity Utilisation of Steel Plants**

7446. SHRI A.K. ROY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the steel plants which are working below the 'break-even point' at present;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the capacity utilisation of these steel plants?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES AND THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) The planned operations of Steel Authority of India Limited for 1990-91 are above the 'break-even point'.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken to improve the capacity utilisation of steel plants inter-alia include,

- i) Change in work culture conducive to higher productivity and quality;
- ii) Modernisation and technological upgradation of the plants;
- iii) Ensuring adequate availability of inputs of right quality and in the required quantity;
- iv) Special drive to increase awareness to reduce energy consumption;
- v) Improved maintenance of plant and equipment; and
- vi) Strict adherence to technological norms.

**Profit and Loss of M.M.T.C.**

7447. SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the profit/loss figures of each of the subsidiaries of the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) and those of the MMTC over the last three years;

(b) the list of all the metals and minerals that MMTC trades in order of priority and major trading countries/organisations;

(c) whether MMTC also enters into transactions with private trading houses;

(d) if so, the reasons and circumstances therefor; and

(e) the export target of MMTC for 1990-91?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU):**

(a) Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC) has only one sub-

sidary viz, the Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MITCO). The profit/loss figures of MMTC and MITCO for the last three years are given below:—

(Figures in Rs. Crores)

Year	MMTC (Profit before tax)	MITCO (Loss)
1	2	3
1987-88	38.01	1.47
1988-89	69.07	1.74
1989-90 (P)	66.36	1.15

(P) = Provisional

(b) The metals in which MMTC trades are Steel, Pig Iron, Copper, Zinc, Nickel, Tin, Lead, Platinum, Antimony and Mercury, and the minerals in which MMTC trades are Iron Ore, concentrates, Chrome Ore, Manganese Ore, Coal, and Bauxite. In addition, MMTC also exports some value added minerals like Barytes, Graphite, Granite etc.

The major trading countries of MMTC are Japan, Soviet Union, German Democratic Republic, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Zimbabwe, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Canada, United Kingdom, Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland, France, Malaysia, Zambia, Togo, Senegal, Morocco, Netherlands, South Korea and Australia. MMTC trades with a wide range of trading organisations in these countries

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) In case of imports, MMTC floats global tenders, in which producers and trading organisations, including private trading houses participate. Wherever the prices and

other terms of supply are competitive in such tenders, whether from private trading houses or otherwise, MMTC enters into transactions with them. In case of exports, if the overseas customer happens to be a private trading house MMTC enters into transactions with them to generate exports.

(e) MMTC has fixed an export target of Rs. 1221 crores for the year 1990-91.

**Plan to Develop a Tourist Centre at Nanded (Maharashtra)**

7448. SHRI VENKATESH KABDE: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a plan from the Government of Maharashtra to develop a tourism centre at Nanded where Sri Guru Gobind Singhjee laid down his life;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which this schemes is likely to be approved?