

lakh tonnes respectively. As for future production, the capacity of cement plants installed in Orissa is more than 12 lakh tonnes per annum, and a further capacity of 7 lakh tonnes has been approved for implementation.

SHRIC.K.KUPPUSWAMY: Sir, I would like to know whether the Government has taken steps to control the pollution problem in all the cement factories, particularly in Madukkarai in Coimbatore district in Tamil Nadu because the farmers have complained about the pollution problem many times.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: Sir, the question is about the supply of cement to Tamil Nadu. Cement is mostly produced in Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and a few other States like Rajasthan

AN HON. MEMBER: It is regarding the pollution problem.

SHRI AJIT SINGH: The question of pollution does not directly come under our Ministry. It should come under the Environment Ministry but we are taking steps to reduce pollution due to these cement plants.

Dumpers and Shovels in Coal India Limited

*210. **SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of dumpers and shovels are lying idle in the Coal India Limited;

(b) if so, the number of such idle dumpers and shovels and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken for their proper utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Out of a total of 700 shovels and 3278 dumpers in CIL, 57 shovels and 572 dumpers are under major break-down/overhaul which is about 8% and 17% respectively of all shovels and dumpers.

Due to constant use, resulting in wear and tear, some equipment always go out of circuit for major overhaul/maintenance.

(c) Rehabilitation of equipment in order to put them back in action is a continuous process and action in this regard is regularly taken by the coal companies. Some of the steps being taken by the coal company to ensure better equipment availability and utilisation include:—

- (i) Updating the existing workshop with modern tools and tackles and construction of new workshops wherever needed.
- (ii) Opening of spare parts depots by the manufacturers at suitable sites in the coal companies
- (iii) Opening of Service Centres by the manufacturers for servicing their equipment deployed in coal companies.
- (iv) Entering into long term agreements with the manufacturers for reconstruction of the sub-assemblies for reduction of the down-time of the equipment.
- (v) Crash programme for rehabilitating the sick equipment departmentally and with manufacturers' help.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: Sir, the Minister is very intelligent, and the reply has also been written in a very intelligent manner. The question was about the number of dumpers and shovels lying idle in Coal India Limited. The Minister says: "57 shovels and 572 dumpers are under major break-down/overhaul which is about 8% and 17% re-

spectively." I strongly dispute this figure. My information is, out of the total 4000 stock of the shovels and dumpers, 50% are lying idle. You will be horrified to know that these dumpers cost between Rs. 70 lakh to Rs. 1 crore each. If 2000 dumpers remain idle, it means, practically, Rs. 1600 crores are remaining idle. I have been informed that in the purchase also, there have been kick-backs. Therefore, I would like to request the Minister to go deep into the matter and examine it and to find out, if these are the major figures, then what are those breakdowns. He should also enquire into the whole gamut of it.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Since the hon. Member wanted to know about the number of dumpers and shovels that are lying idle, this is the information which has been furnished by the Coal India Limited. I have made it available. But since the hon. Member is disputing the figure, I consider that this is a very serious matter. I have furnished this information as made available by them. But the hon. Member is giving a different information. Definitely, Sir, there is no need even for his asking me to go into the matter. This is a matter which deserves full probe. I would like to assure the hon. Member through you that if these figures are not found correct and whosoever is found responsible for furnishing wrong information, whatever action is necessary will be taken.

SHRI SAMARENDRA KUNDU: This trend of dumpers lying idle started about five to six years back. Now the colliery in which I am the President of the Trade Union, the Talchar Unit, you will be surprised to know that there is a machine called dumper and shovel which replaces 10,000 people per day and definitely more than that. I would like to request the hon. Minister to probe also into the matter of heavy mechanisation that is going on in one of our biggest public sector units. I would like to know whether he can ask the engineers to have those machines which will not displace more than 500 or 1000 persons from employment.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Sir,

this is a very important thing to ensure that those who are working are not displaced. At the same time, the economic factors are also taken into consideration—the total cost of the coal production, how economical it is. The suggestion which the hon. Member has given, I have taken note of the suggestion and we will see what can be done.

SHRI A.K. ROY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the paradox of this coal economy is that with the introduction of the machines, both the loss and the price of the coal is increasing. I would like to know whether the Minister's attention has been drawn to a statement of the Chairman, Coal India Limited, made some time back, that more than 1000 worth of machine has become junk. I would like to know whether the Minister has enquired into the capacity utilisation of these machines which he has purchased.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Since this question was specifically about the number of dumpers and shovels that are lying idle, I have given answer to those questions.

According to the information given by the Ministry, the point which I wanted to make was that these are long term plans. About what machinery is to be deployed, a decision is taken on the basis of the targets that the Coal India sets for itself to achieve.

I am not aware of the statement of the Chairman of Coal India to which the hon. Member has referred. Our effort will be—and this is the constant endeavour—that the targets which are set are achieved and there is enough coal production in the country.

SHRI K.S. RAO: This is a classic example as to why the public sector is failing in this country. As my hon. colleague earlier asked, the cost of the machinery, as I know, will be exceeding Rs. 1300 crores. If the hon. Minister were to go into the detail, it is not the long-term or the short-term planning that is affecting this. Many of the machines must not have worked more than four hundred or five hundred hours. The nexus is such in

these organisations that they will be made sick in less than four hundred or five hundred hours of working and they will be either utilised indirectly by some private individuals or thrown as junk. Whether it is the property of the public sector or the private sector, it is a national asset and so it has to be put to use continuously. Keeping this machinery idle on account of a major breakdown or overhaul, is a great loss to the nation.

Already promised by the Minister I would like to know from him whether he will take care of all such public sector undertakings under him as such large machinery is being purchased and made as junk in no time and see that this is not continued in future and a decision is taken immediately to dispose it of in the open auction instead of keeping it idle for years together.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: The reply that I had given was in relation to the point made by the hon. Member disputing the figures which have been given in the answer. As far as the figures which are given in the answer are concerned, I would like to mention that they are percentage achievement of availability. This is in the context of the figures which are given in the answer. The availability against the norms upto the third quarter of 1989-90 in Coal India Ltd. is as follows:

Dragline	—	91%
Shovel	—	81%
Dumper	—	82%
Dozer	—	75%

That is not very much on the higher side. Still, as I said earlier, it is a continuous process. We are making efforts to see that these are put back into service as soon as possible.

SHRI ANIL SHASTRI: I would like to know from the Minister whether these shovels which have been purchased are very expensive and whether they are manufac-

ured in India. I would also like to know from the Minister where from these shovels are purchased.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN: Most of the manufacturers are indigenous manufacturers. Some of them are HML, GMMCO BEML, KCL, L&T, Premnath Diesels. Most of these are indigenous sources.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Thermal Power Plant in Karnataka

*211. **SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up any thermal power plant in the coastal area of Karnataka during the Eighth Plan period; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Thermal Power Corporation have taken up the implementation of the Mangalore Super Thermal Power Project Stage-I (2 x 210 MW) in the Dakshina Kannada district of Karnataka.

Supply of Coal to Raichur Thermal Power Station

*212. **SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:** Will THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether coal was supplied to Raichur Thermal Power Station from Singareni