

SHRI VISWANATH PRATAP SINGH : I cannot answer when go many members ask question at the same time. If a question is put by one member, I can answer it.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Nothing will go on record.

*(Interruptions)***

SHRI VISWANATH PRATAP SINGH : If a question is put in a proper manner, I can answer it.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : In view of the fact that you have not agreed to write off the dues from small and marginal farmers, which are overdue since a long time, is it not a fact that some of nationalised banks are writing off loans that were given to the industrialists under 'bad' debts? Is it not a fact? Then why there is discrimination? Is it not unconstitutional? Therefore, will the Government reconsider the stand taken towards the small and marginal farmers and write off the loan dues lying for very very long time?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : Sir, unfortunately the Hon. Members did not understand my answer properly. As I have already stated there is Deposit Insurance and Guarantee Corporation. When it is beyond the capacity of the person to pay and when it is found that it is not a willful default, 75 percent of it is taken care of by that insurance corporation.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Where is insurance? It is only on paper.

SHRI JANARDHANA PCOJARY : This body has written off bad dues earlier and it is writing off every year. But it is not for the Government to write off the dues I have made it very

clear. It is written off by that institution. If it finds that the dues cannot be recovered from the weaker sections, 75 percent of that loan will be absolved by the Deposit Insurance and Guarantee Corporation.

Another point is whenever it is found that these cannot be recovered at all for special reasons and that he is not in a position to pay at all and that it is not at all a willful default, in such cases there is a provision to write off. So, when banks find that it is not at all recoverable for special and convincing reasons, in such cases these are written off.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Then why don't you write off in the case of farmers?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH : We write off for rural sectors also. He has explained that.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Now, next question. Shri Shivendra Bahadur Singh.

SHRI BRJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Sir, since we are disciplined people, we should not be deprived of the opportunity to ask questions.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : If it is so important a topic, you can give a motion and then we can discuss it. Why should the time of Question Hour be taken for this small topic. There are other Members waiting for the turn of their questions.

Growth rate of central coalfields limited during seventh plane

*248. **SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH** : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Coalfields

Ltd. is expected to achieve a record growth rate of 14 percent in the Seventh Five Year Plan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the incentives being given to the officers of Coal India Limited therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND COAL (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

As per the report of the Working Group on Coal and Lignite set up by the Planning Commission, in Central Coalfields Ltd., the production of coal is envisaged to grow from 38.5 mt. in 1984-85 (terminal year of Sixth Plan) to 70.2 mt. in 1989-90 (terminal year of Seventh Plan) The linear growth rate projected during the period 1985 to 1990 comes to over 16%.

(c) No specific incentive scheme for the executives working in the Central Coalfields Ltd. has been framed so far. However, the overall growth potential of the coal company will result in more avenues for accelerated promotions and career growth to both executives and non-executives.

SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether they have included the Singrauli Coalmines in the CCL or not.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Singrauli Coalfields in Madhya Pradesh are included .

SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : I would like to know whether incentives are given to the public sector officers specially in the Coal India Ltd. to encourage them to boost up the growth and once you encourage them, I am sure the public also will be satisfied and corruption can be eradicated.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : In the service conditions themselves there are

incentives for officers in the form, as I said, of promotion and other facilities. I do not understand what type of incentives my friend has in mind. If he has the ideas that they should have incentives as we have for the ordinary workers, it is a different matter, we will consider all these things.

[*Translation*]

SHRI YOGESHWAR PRASAD : In 1983, some people were engaged in illegal mining in the Chapapur Colliery in the Eastern Coalfields. At that time, an accident occurred there and dozens of labourers were killed. After that it has not been made known as to what punishment was given and what kind of treatment was meted out to those officers who were engaged in illegal mining ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : This questions to a specific mine, for which I require notice. If you write to me, I shall be able to collect the information.

SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : I would like to know whether in view of 14 per cent growth rate in production, Government propose to allocate some funds in the Seventh Plan for Bhopalpalli Coal Mines of Andhra Pradesh and if so, the amount thereof ?

[*English*]

SHRI VASANT SATHE : If you give me notice by giving a specific question about the coalmines in Andhra Pradesh, I can give a reply. There are so many coalfields. I cannot go by every mine and say how much is produced.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it has been the policy of the Government of India not to grant extension to those persons who are due to retire. But the Chairman of Coal India, Shri Gujral, has been granted extension in service, who had already retired. Does the Hon. Minister propose to grant him further, extension also ?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Granting of extension is based on the merits of an officer.

SHRI RAMSWAROOP RAM : But it is the policy of the Government not to grant extension in service.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We shall act according to the policy of the Government.

[English]

Setting up of Nijaynagar Steel Plant at Hospet in Karnataka.

*249. **SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND COAL be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi had laid the foundation stone of the Vijayanagar Steel Plant at Hospet in Karnataka some nine years back;

(b) If so, the total amount spent so far on the about plant;

(c) the amount required to commission the plant;

(d) whether Government propose to provide more funds in the coming years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) : Yes, Sir, in October, 1971.

(b) Total amount spent so far is about Rs. 8.5 crores.

(c) In accordance with the Detailed Project Report, based on direct reduction technology, submitted by MECON in October, 1984, the capital cost of the first phase of the Plant (including captive power generation) has been estimated at Rs. 422 crores,

(d) and (e) Investment decision on this Project has not so far been taken by the Government.

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir, it is a very disappointing reply. The foundation stone of this steel plant was laid in 1971 by no less a person than Shrimati Indira Gandhi, the then Prime Minister. You have spent already about Rs. 8.5 crores. The people of Karnataka are very much agitated over this. It is a question of life and death for them. The Steel Plant is a must for the economic prosperity of the State. I want a categorical reply from the Government whether they would like to take up this plant. The Honourable Steel Minister should give a definite reply as to whether he is going to take up the execution of this Steel Plant.

SHRI NATWAR SINGH : My distinguished senior colleague, Shri Vasant Sathe replies to a question the other day and he said that our Department has requested the Planning Commission to provide Rs. 400 crores. (Interruptions)

SHRI NARAYN CHOUBEY : But the foundation-stone was laid back.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him reply.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : If you do me the courtesy of listening to me. You might have your answer.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE AND SUPPLY (SHRI VISHWANATH PARTAP SINGH) : That is precisely the problem.

SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH : I am trying to answer your question. The answer is that after the allocations are made in the Seventh Plan, we will go ahead.

If you want to know about the details as to what work has been done so far, we can give this to you. But unless the allocation is made in the Seventh Plan, it is impossible for us to give any definite answer. (Interruptions)

SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Sir, his answer is not clear as probably I