

LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, August 25, 1987/Bhadra 3, 1909
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]]

[Translation]

MR SPEAKER Please sit down Shri Ramoowalia ji is looking cheerful now a days

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA
It is due to your kindness, Sir

MR SPEAKER Then, let us start

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Industrial Production in Northern Region

*414 SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the industrial production in the northern part of the country registered a sharp decline from January to March 1987

(b) if so the facts in this regard,

(c) the reasons for such decline and

(d) what remedial steps were taken and are proposed in this regard?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

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DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M ARUNACHALAM) (a) to (d) A Statement is given below

STATEMENT

(a) The Index of Industrial Production is maintained on an all-India basis and not on State basis. The quick Index of Industrial Production for January - February 1987 for the country as a whole showed a growth rate of 14.6 per cent as compared to 5.6 per cent for the corresponding period of 1986. Available data does not indicate any significant decline in the industrial production in the northern region of the country during January - February 1987.

(b) to (d) Do not arise

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA
Sir, I have gone through the statement placed on the Table of the House. The point is that there has been a large scale publication and some memoranda were given to the Government saying that the shortfall is there in the supply of coal to the industry. The shortfall is 4,68,235 tonnes - a shortfall of 88 per cent. Similarly the shortfall in the supply of sugar, rubber, engineering goods and chemicals goods is 56 per cent. In the case of kerosene oil, against the total requirement of 765 kilo litres, the supply is only 50 kilo litres in the northern region. In the answer the Minister has said that the all-India figures show that there is a growth rate of 14.6 per cent. But, Sir, if you go through the question in the question itself I have asked whether there is a decline in the industrial production in

the Northern region. I think the Minister or ** have not fully understood my question. Again my question is.... (*Interruptions*)

PROF MADHU DANDAVATE: Where do the ** come in, Sir?

MR. SPEAKER: That should not form part of the record.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: All right, I think the Minister has not fully understood my question. So, I stick to my point that there is a shortfall in the supply of zinc, copper, aluminium. Similarly, the PHDCCI Chairman, Shri P.K. Jain has made a statement which has not been denied so far. So, my question is whether the Government agree or admit that there is a shortfall in the industrial production in the Northern region.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, we have understood the question fully well. It is very difficult to understand my dear colleague. As per the information available with us, the critical inputs during January to March 1987 have improved, as compared to January - March 1986, for the Northern region. As far as coal is concerned, in 1985-86, 299.45 lakh tonnes of coal has been supplied. In 1986-87 it has increased to 324.1 lakh tonnes. As far as kerosene is concerned, 3,88,805 tonnes of kerosene had been supplied in 1985-86 to the region, in 1986-87, 4,13,398 tonnes have been supplied. As regards furnace oil, in 1985-86, 40410 tonnes have been supplied to the Northern region. As far as sugar is concerned, the supply has increased by 9.8 per cent in April - Feb 1987.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Sir, my question related to a particular period from January 1987 to March 1987. He is giving the over-all figures for the whole year. The point is, due to erratic supply of coal to the industry also a cut in the power supply and other related reasons, in Ludhiana, Patiala and Ropar dis-

tricts, 50,000 persons have been rendered jobless because of short supply of coal, kerosene, power, raw material, etc. So, you please check up again. Will you tell the House what measures are you adopting to make the supply normal of all the things which are required for the industry?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: We have checked up and we are constantly....

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Again you will have to check up.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : I will check up again.

[*Translation*]

Gas Agencies and Connections In Rajasthan

*415. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gas agencies in Rajasthan at present and whether the number of gas agencies will be increased in near future;

(b) whether Government will consider a request for giving more LPG connections to Chittorgarh in Rajasthan; and

(c) the number of gas connections likely to be given to Chittorgarh during the current year?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The number of gas agencies functioning in Rajasthan as on 30.6.1987 was 104. These will be increased from time to time in the near future.

(b) Yes, Sir.