

drawing upon your knowledge as Steel Minister.

**SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV:** That is not just my knowledge. It is a document of the country. I have personal knowledge because the report was prepared, but it is with the Ministry. They should know about it.

**SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA:** I repeat having said that this question does not have relevance to the data required by the hon. Member. I am not questioning the report at all. I am also not questioning the availability of the data, as far as perspective planning is concerned, because it is a continuous process. But 1975-76 data might be an obsolete one. The second part of the question which the hon. Member had raised was the development of the steel industry towards self-sufficiency to meet the requirement of the country, as far as steel is concerned. The hon. Members and the House would be knowing that the steel industry and steel plants in our country have, in fact produced a surplus steel so much so that we have today steel worth Rs. 400 crores which we are selling. Secondly, we are changing the product-mixed so that we have import substitution for the type of steel that we are importing today. Now that is a process which was already initiated and it will take time to complete import substitution, as far as meaningful substitution is concerned.

#### Allocation of Levy Cement to cottage and tiny cement based Industries

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\*193. **PROF. RUPCHAND PAL:**

**SHRI R. P. DAS:**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cottage and tiny cement based industries were providing cheap building materials for low budget housing and hutments besides providing near-

ly one million jobs throughout the country;

(b) whether Government are also aware that as a result of new cement policy these industries are closing down; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken to provide control (levy) cement to them?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI):** (a) to (c) Under the scheme of partial de-control of cement which has come into effect from 28.2.1982, no levy cement was made available for industrial units using cement as raw material. However, on receipt of representations from the small scale industries and a number of Members of Parliament, it was decided that small scale and tiny industries would be eligible for levy cement as the new 20 Point Programme envisages extending all facilities to such industries to grow and update their technology. The decision was announced through a Press Note dated 21.4.1982 a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-4299/82]. Since it has been decided to provide levy cement to such units at controlled prices, the question of such units closing down on account of non-availability of cement at control price does not arise.

**PROF. RUPCHAND PAL:** The tiny and cottage industries, cement-based industries have been enjoying certain amenities since the days of independence; and even in 1981, the Central Government had allowed 10 per cent of the cement quota as the reserve for the tiny and cottage industries, cement-based industries which are employing several thousands of workers in our country. May, I know from the hon. Minister—it is not mentioned in the Press note—whether the Government is prepared to announce that the amenity of the 1981 period, that is, 10 per cent reservation for the cement-based industries would be continued?

**SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI:**  
We have not considered it necessary to fix a percentage on this account, but we have asked all the State Governments to provide this levy quota facility to all the small industries which have been referred to in the question. We have not received any complaint from any scale industrial units that they are not having this levy cement. If the hon. Member has any reports with him we will be thankful to him if he forwards them to us for necessary inquiries and action.

**PROF. RUP CHAND PAL:** In view of the incidents of large scale malpractices and blackmarketing after the new cement distribution policy was announced by the Government, may I know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has got any monitoring cell to look into the large scale malpractices that are being indulged by the cement factories and unscrupulous traders of our country?

**SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI:**  
I will be thankful if the hon. Member furnishes some details about these malpractices to which he has referred to because we have not received any such complaints and there is little scope for any blackmarketing since our dual pricing system has been announced.

**MR. SPEAKER:** Shri R. P. DAS.  
Not here, Yes, Geetaji?

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:**  
Will the Minister kindly inform the House, after the issue of the instructions what percentage of the levy sugar—not suger, cement, I would have been happier had it been sugar..

(Interruptions)

**MR. SPEAKER:** Sugar is much sweeter.

**SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:**  
What is the percentage of the levy cement that was allowed to this cottage and tiny sector?

**SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI:**  
These details must be available with

the State Governments. We do not have all the details. But as I said, we have not received any substantive complaints from any small scale units, at least, on this matter

### Production of Aluminium

\*194. **SHRI A. T. PATIL:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether the indigenous production of aluminium was hit by low production due to operation of the plants at a low rate of about 60 per cent of their capacity, on the average, during the past two years;

(b) the reasons for such a low operation of the plants;

(c) steps taken by Government to improve the situation;

(d) the actual demand of aluminium during 1980-81 and 1981-82 and the projected demand during the next three years; and

(e) the actual indigenous production of aluminium during 1980-81 and 1981-82 and expected production during the next three years?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF INDUSTRY AND STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MATI RAM DULARI SINHA):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reason for low capacity utilisation is inadequate supply of power to the aluminium smelters.

(c) It has been decided in principle to set up a captive thermal power station to meet the full requirement of power by BALCO's aluminium complex at Korba. The concerned State Governments have also been requested to accord priority to supply of power to the aluminium smelters.

(d) and (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

### Statement

A Working Group for non-ferrous Metals constituted by the Planning commission in June, 1980 had project-