

के लिये आप क्या उपाय कर रहे हैं; और अगर पूरी क्षमता का प्रयोग करें तो कितना उत्पादन हो जायगा ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR RAMANGALAM): The steps we are taking for increasing production are really of two kinds. One is that we are not merely using the flash smelter at Ghatsila in the Indian Copper Complex but we have also brought into operation the old reverberatory furnace, and therefore, the capacity for smelting in Ghatsila has substantially increased. Secondly, we are expecting this year to be able to bring the Khetri copper concentrator into production and we will use the concentrates from Khetri to smelt them in the smelter in Ghatsila. That is the basis for our assessment that we hope to go up to 20,000 tonnes.

श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री : अगर मंत्री जी व्रता मकें तो व्रताने की कृपा करें कि देश में तांबे की कुल कितनी आवश्यकता है और उस को आप कब तक पूरा कर देंगे ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM: I am glad that the hon. Member has put another question. It is a very substantial gap. Even when they reach the figure of 20,000, the need total is in the region of a lakh. But I will give it to him afterwards.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: Would the hon. Minister be in a position to give information regarding the present status of Khetri, because the plans have been revised and you say that only the concentrate would be operated there and the smelter part of it would be at Ghatsila. May I know the revised capacity of it and what will be the investment in it?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM: The regular production of copper metal in Khetri will start in the year 1974-75 with the commission-

ing of the smelter. But, during 1973-74, as I mentioned in my answer to the previous question, when the concentrator plant at Khetri would come into operation, we expect the concentrates adequate to produce 8,000 tonnes of copper metal to be taken from Khetri to Ghatsila to be smelted there. I do not think that the progress new being made in Khetri is unsatisfactory.

Daily wage workers employed in military farms/military engineering service/ordnance installations

*528. **SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers who have been employed at daily rates of wages in Military Farms, M.E.S. and Ordnance Installations and since how long;

(b) whether most of the workers have come to complete 5 to 15 years of regular service at daily rates in 1 Corps O.M.C. and Military Farms; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to bring them at regular establishment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI J. B. PATNAIK): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

श्री हुकम चन्द कच्छवाय : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे बहुत ही दुख है कि काफ़ी समय पहले यह प्रश्न पूछा गया, सरकार को 21 दिन का समय दिया गया लेकिन फिर भी उत्तर यह आ रहा है जानकारी इकट्ठी कर रहे हैं। सरकार के पास सब प्रकार के साधन हैं, जानकारी मंगा सकते हैं, लेकिन

जानबूझ कर इस प्रश्न को टालने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बड़े लम्बे सालों का पूछा था इसलिये देर लग सकती है । मंत्री महोदय, सूचना जल्दी दीजिये ।

SHRI J. B. PATNAIK: There are a large number of installations and organisations, and naturally it will take some time to get the information collected. As and when they are collected, it will be laid on the Table of the House.

Loss of Defence Production in Ordnance Factories of U.P. due to Power Cut

*529. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a considerable loss of the Defence production in the various Ordnance Factories in U.P. including Kanpur due to power cut;

(b) whether representations have been made to the Ministry for restoration of power cut in the larger interest of Defence production; and

(c) if so, whether this question has been taken up with the Chief Minister of U.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): (a) There has been some loss of production in the Ordnance Factories in U.P. due to Power Cut particularly in the Engineering Factories located in Kanpur.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. Power cut was extended to the Ordnance Factories by the U.P. Government vide a U.P. Government Gazette Notifica-

tion No. 570 dated 8th February, 1973 which restricted the Power supply to 15 hours a day. Subsequently, in the last week of February, U.P. Government imposed further Cuts with effect from 27th February, 1973 reducing power supply to 9 hours a day to the Ordnance Factories, so as to make power available for Rabi Irrigation and Cold Storages. The question of exemption of the Ordnance Factories from the scope of the Power Cut was taken up by this Ministry with the U.P. Government officials and also with the Chief Minister, U.P. Power supply has since been partially restored to the Ordnance Factories for 15 hours a day.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: These defence establishments and especially the four ordnance factories in Kanpur—and another factory is in the offing there—are manufacturing highly sophisticated weapons which are needed for our army, I would like to know whether it is a fact that this matter was brought to the notice of the Uttar Pradesh Government and that in spite of this fact, they have given only 15 hours, while previously they had reduced it from 15 to 9 hours. What was the reaction of the U. P. Government? Are they likely to restore it to normalcy?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: This matter was brought to the notice of the U.P. Government and as a result of that, as I indicated in my answer, they had restored the power cut. Now we are getting power for fifteen hours a day. We have further requested them to make this 16 hours from 15 hours so that we can work at least two shifts of eight hours in our factories and this request is under their consideration and we hope to have a favourable response from them.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Is the hon. Minister aware that the working hours instead of starting from 7.30 or 8, had been fixed from 5 A.M.