

in the various public undertakings under his Ministry ;

(b) the reasons thereof ;

(c) the losses being sustained by these undertakings as a result thereof ; and

(d) the action proposed to be taken for full utilisation of the capacity of these undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to the industrial undertakings of the Central Government. A statement indicating utilisation of capacities is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—103/71.*]

(b) The main reasons for under-utilisation of capacities have been :

- (i) Lack of proper maintenance of equipment resulting in high equipment down time ;
- (ii) Lack of proper production planning and control and slow development of manufacturing designs ;
- (iii) Low productivity of labour due to slow development of labour skills, lack of performance standards and weaknesses in supervisory control ;
- (iv) Disturbed labour conditions ;
- (v) Shortage and poor quality of raw materials and components ;
- (vi) Power shortage and failure ;
- (vii) Lack of demand in some cases.

Indeed, in big engineering complexes, it takes some years to attain capacity production not only due to sophisticated nature of these plants but also to the long periods of interval necessary for developing operative and technical skills, setting up design, tooling and production support services, etc.

(c) The losses could also be due to reasons other than under-utilisation of capacity. A statement showing the losses incurred during 1969-70 is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—104/1970.*]

(d) To achieve better utilisation of capacity which will also improve the financial results of operations, action is being taken in the following main directions :

- (i) Improvements in managerial and operational efficiency ;

(ii) Development of operating skills by better training and establishment of performance norm and standards ;

(iii) Better maintenance of equipment ;

(iv) Increasing labour productivity by providing adequate incentives ;

(v) Diversification of product-mix ;

(vi) Greater export efforts.

Place of Urdu Language in India

219. **SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state the further steps taken to grant proper place to 'Urdu' language in India ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI SIDHARTHA SHANKAR RAY) : A statement containing the required information is attached.

Statement

The Government Resolution on Language Policy as adopted by both the Houses of Parliament enjoins upon the Government to take concerted measures for the full development of Indian languages as specified in the Constitution besides Hindi. Urdu is one of the officially and constitutionally recognised national languages of the country. It is being given the same respect and recognition as is being given to other State languages of the country. Urdu being a non-State language, the Government of India have decided to provide direct financial assistance for further development of the language. As stated in reply to Starred Question No. 539 answered in the Lok Sabha on the 4th December, 1970 by the then Education Minister, the Government of India have set up a Central Board called the Tarraqi-e-Urdu Board under the chairmanship of the Education Minister, to make available under the centrally sponsored scheme of production of literature in Indian languages, academic literature as well as other types of literature in Urdu including science books for disseminating modern knowledge. The Board shall also publish children's literature, reference works, encyclopaedias and basic texts and shall pay special attention to the production of general

literature in Urdu in modern topics which would give to the vast number of Urdu-reading people an opportunity to come in contact with modernity in various forms. As in the case of other Indian languages a sum of Rs. 1 crore has been made available to the Board for its book production programmes.

The Board has already taken steps to evolve suitable a terminology for scientific and technical subjects. So far more than 20,000 terms have been coined. Terms evolved in Political Science, History, Archaeology, Geography, Law and Geology have been finalised. The various Subject Panels set up by the Board have so far selected 606 titles for translation and original writing in Urdu out of which 487 titles have already been allotted to the translators and authors. Two books have been published so far.

In order to accelerate the pace of production of books and other literature, a Standing Committee of the Board has been set up to look after and guide day-to-day work. A whole-time officer has been appointed to assist the Board and also to function as Secretary of the Standing Committee.

The other important steps that have been taken by the Board to accelerate the pace of book production are :

- (1) Qualified Urdu scholars are being encouraged to apply to the UGC for grant of fellowships for writing original books in Urdu.
- (2) In order to strengthen the printing capacity of the Urdu presses, arrangements are being made to import Urdu type matrices for manufacture of Urdu types for supply to various presses.
- (3) Steps are being taken in collaboration with various Urdu academic bodies to provide training facilities in Urdu calligraphy and type-writing.

Apart from the steps taken by the Government for the development of the Urdu language as indicated above, the Government is rendering liberal financial assistance to various voluntary organisations engaged in the development of Urdu as a language and for enrichment of its literature,

As stated earlier in reply to Starred Question No. 539 answered on the 4th December, 1970, the Government of India have offered a grant of Rs. 4 lakhs to the Anjumau-e-Tarraqui-e-Urdu Hind, Aligarh for construction of "URDU GHAR" in Delhi which shall also house the offices of the Tarraqui-e-Urdu Board and a National Urdu Library. A Ghalib Academy has already been set up in Delhi for conducting research in Urdu literature.

Trade with East Pakistan

220. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the State of Meghalaya has been allowed to carry on trade with East Pakistan ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether similar facilities will be given to the West Bengal also ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) The State of Meghalaya has not been allowed to carry on trade with East Pakistan.

(b) to (d). Does not arise.

Excise Duty on Aluminium Extrusions

221. SHRI S. P. VERMA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government have withdrawn the mode of assessment of excise duty on Aluminium extrusions which was according to tariff value of the commodity ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to revert to the old practice of assessing the Excise Duty on aluminium extrusions ad-valorem in view of the practical hardships experienced by the secondary manufacturers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the Finance Act, 1970, the mode of levy of excise duty on aluminium, which