

Department till the other day. Both his residential telephones were out of order. Even telephone No. 198 kept me waiting for more than half an hour to have it recorded that these telephones were out of order. So, the Delhi telephones also seem to be in a bad condition. Is the Minister aware of it?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : मैं जानता हूँ कि यहां पर भी खराबियां हैं और कलकत्ता की तो खराब हालत है। इसको दुरुस्त करने के लिए जल्दी कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं। सिस्टम में बहुत सी जो खराबियां आ गई हैं उनको दुरुस्त करने के लिए एक एक्सपर्ट कमेटी बनाई गई है।

श्री सोमजीभाई डामोर : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, क्या इण्डस्ट्रीज डिपार्टमेंट में अनफ्रिट हुए कम्युनिकेशन्स मन्त्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सारे हिन्दुस्तान में टेलीफोन में शिकायतें हैं... (ब्यवधान) सारे देश में जो शिकायतें हैं उनके लिये कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था की जाएगी कि शिकायतें कम हों, जैसे आपने कहा कि 14 हजार में से 700 शिकायतें ठीक हुई हैं। तो सारे देश की जो टेलीफोन से सम्बन्धित शिकायतें हैं उनको ठीक करने के लिये कोई उचित व्यवस्था है कि नहीं ?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : सारी शिकायतों के लिये, इनको दुरुस्त करने के लिये एक्सपर्ट कमेटी बैठी हुई है जिसमें सारे देश के चिह्न भी लोग हैं इसके जानकार उनकी एक कमेटी बनाई गई है और सारे देश में जो खराबियां हैं उनको कैसे दुरुस्त किया जाए इसकी रिपोर्ट लगभग 2 महीने के अन्दर वह कमेटी प्रस्तुत करेगी।

SHRI ASOKE KRISHNA DUTT: The hon. Minister stated that these problems can be dealt with by the Telephone Advisory Committee. Like my hon. friend, Shri Samar Guha, I was

a Member of this Committee for a very long time. This Committee merely decides about the priority amongst the pending applications, nothing more than that. The problems of the Calcutta telephones are very much more acute because for over ten years there has been an annual backlog of over 100,000 telephones. Besides, there are certain new cross bar exchanges which have been introduced there and when you try to get a cross bar exchange number from a traditional number, the answer that you get is that the exchange is out of order. So, will the hon. Minister appoint a small parliamentary committee to look into these chronic problems?

श्री बृजलाल वर्मा : मैंने आपको बताया है कि एक्सपर्ट कमेटी सारी खराबियों को दूर करने के बारे में विचार करने के लिये बैठी हुई है जो दो महीने में रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करेगी, इसलिये पालियामेंटरी कमेटी बनाने का अभी विचार नहीं है। परन्तु इसके बाद भी अगर दुरुस्ती नहीं होगी तो विचार करेंगे कि पालियामेंटरी कमेटी उस पर विचार करे या न करे।

Expansion of Public Sector Steel Plants

*567. DR. HENRY AUSTIN:
SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to expand the existing integrated public sector steel plants; and

(b) if so, the salient features in regard to capacity and expenditure involved?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) and (b). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Expansion of existing public sector steel plants are being undertaken in a

phased manner keeping in view changes in demand pattern, availability of resources etc.

2. The Expansion of Projects cover not only increase in capacity but also diversifications that result in production of more sophisticated products. The Salient Features of the schemes presently under implementation/consideration are as given below:—

(i) **EXPANSION OF BHILAI STEEL PLANT**

Bhilai Steel Plant expansion from 2.5 million tonnes to 4.0 million tonnes to produce additionally .95 million tonnes of Heavy Plates and 238 million tonnes of Billets at an estimated cost of Rs. 937 crores including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 126.5 crores.

(ii) **EXPANSION OF BOKARO STEEL PLANT**

Bokaro Steel Plant expansion from 1.7 million tonnes to 4.0 million tonnes with increased production of Cold Rolled Flat Products at a total cost of Rs. 947 crores including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 154.4 crores.

(iii) **ALLOY STEEL PLANT, DURGAPUR**

The proposal to set up additional melting facilities to produce ingots for rolling into blooms/billets in the existing blooming and billet mill with an estimated cost of Rs. 8.46 crores inclusive of a foreign exchange component of Rs. 0.18 crores, has been approved by SAIL.

(iv) **COLD ROLLED GRAIN ORIENTED AND NON-ORIENTED SILICON ELECTRICAL SHEETS AT THE ROURKELA STEEL PLANT**

The proposal to manufacture Electrical Sheets with an estimated cost of about Rs. 111 crores is under consideration.

(v) **INDIAN IRON AND STEEL CO. (Rehabilitation Scheme).**

In order to bring up the capacity of the Plant to its rated level of 1.0 million tonne, a rehabilitation scheme with an estimated cost of Rs. 61.0 crores is under implementation.

(vi) **DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT**

Certain diversification proposals are under consideration of Government.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: From the statement it is understood that the Government are undertaking in a phased manner the expansion of the existing public sector steel plants. I also understand that the expansion projects cover not only increasing capacity but also, diversification resulting in production of more sophisticated products. May I know from the hon. Minister whether, in view of the insipient glut situation in the steel market, this programme of increasing the capacity of production will result in the utilisation of steel in a socially desirable way? May I also know whether the proposed expansion programme will affect the steel projects reported to have been already sanctioned in the country, particularly in Vizag, Salem and Vijayanagar (Hospet).

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The hon. Member has made a statement instead of asking a question. He has assumed that Vishakhapatnam and Hospet steel plants have been sanctioned which is only partially correct.

As far as the expansion of plants is concerned, there is a schedule of expansion and it is continuing. It will be completed by 1980, 1981 and 82 and by that time both the internal as well as the external demands will be there.

As far as the other projects—Salem, Hospet, Vishakhapatnam are concerned, the hon. Member knows very well that a Task Force was appointed by the previous Government and new locations recommended for consideration of Government were:

1. Vishakhapatnam plant based on Bailadila ore.

2. Another plant based on Bonaigarh iron ore deposits in Orissa.
3. A plant on the Western Ghat based on Kudremukh iron ore deposits.
4. Another plant based on iron ore deposits of Goa Supplemented by iron ore from Bellary-Hospet reserves.

These were the possible locations recommended by the Task Force. As I have said earlier during the debate on the Demands for Grants of my Ministry, all these matters are receiving the urgent attention of the Government.

DR. HENRY AUSTIN: What are the particular sophisticated products which various steel mills are proposing to produce? Whether these sophisticated products made as a result of diversification programme are meant for the consumption of affluent segments of our society or whether they are meant for export purposes.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: Any sophistication of these products does not mean that it will go to the affluent sections of the people. All the sophisticated products are meant for the consuming industries like the electrical and other industries which need better class of steel for quality manufacture for internal consumption as well as for export.

SHRI S. KUNDU: For a long time the expansion programme of Rourkela Steel Plant is hanging fire. When we demand a second steel plant, we are told that Rourkela Steel Plant will be expanded and when we ask for its expansion, we are told that it has not yet reached its rated capacity. For a long time, the people of Orissa in particular and the people of India in general have been befooled. Dust has been thrown in their eyes and the national interest has been given a go-by for political interest by the former Congress Government. I would like the present Minister to announce a firm date by which time the expansion of the Rourkela Steel Plant will

begin. Secondly, when will the second steel plant be located in Orissa?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I can assure the hon. Member from Orissa that all the political or economic imbalances which appear to be there, according to the Member, in planning and location of steel plants will be corrected by this Government.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: The hon. Minister is rather very lucky in going to a Ministry which has given an all-time high record of production of 10 million tonnes of steel to this country. In 1947, we had only two integrated steel plants with a capacity of 1.3 million tonnes. Then, there was an ambitious steel programme in the Second Five Year Plan to raise the production from 1.3 million tonnes to 6 million tonnes. Later on, the capacity was raised to 8.9 million tonnes. I am sure he will keep up this progress because this is an indication how the country should progress.

May I know from the hon. Minister as to by what time the 4-million-tonne stage of the Bokaro Steel Plant without the cold rolling mill or with the cold rolling mill will come into operation and, secondly, what is the latest position with regard to steel plants of Salem, Vizag, Vijyanagar and Hospet and whether he has made any further feasibility studies of locating steel plants without political considerations in other parts of the country?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: This is a counter question to the question asked by the hon. Member from Orissa. As to when the expansion of Bokaro Steel Plant is expected to be completed, as I said earlier, it will be done by 1981-82. About the other plants, I have said that any political or economic imbalances that may be found in the location of all these steel plants, these will be taken into account and corrected.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: He has not replied to my question. My question was as to when the 4-million-tonne stage of the Bokaro Steel Plant without the cold rolling mill or with the cold rolling mill will come into operation.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have said already that it will be done by 1981-82.

SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI: Without cold rolling mill?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: With cold rolling mill. There is no expansion without cold rolling mill. That is the only expansion which the hon. Member should know.

SHRI M. SATYANARAYAN RAO: In reply to the hon. Member, Dr. Henry Austin, the hon. Minister mentioned some projects, like, Vizag and others and he said that that has not been sanctioned. Is it a fact that the Vizag project has not been sanctioned? If that is so, how is it that the Andhra Pradesh Government has spent so much money on acquisition of land and other things?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: The feasibility studies were ordered; the land acquisition had been ordered by the Steel Authority of India under the instructions of the then Government. Till today, the feasibility report, what is called the detailed project report or the DPR, as it is sometimes called, of the Vizag project has not been received by the Government as yet. Therefore, you cannot say that the project has been sanctioned. The allocation of funds and everything has been done by the Planning Commission and the Cabinet. But I would assure this House that what the previous Government had done only for political considerations, we shall implement it for economic considerations.

श्री कचरलाल हेमराज जैन : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा व्यवस्था कर्ष प्रश्न है। एक

प्रश्न 569 गरीब मजदूरों के विषय में पूछा गया है। उसके लिए समय देना चाहिए।

PROF. R. K. AMIN: The expansion programme which has been stated by the hon. Minister must have been based on certain demand projections and these demand projections were based on the basis of the pattern of investment which we were going to have according to the Congress Party manifesto. But now the Janata Party is having a different pattern of investment and, therefore, the demand projections will be different. Will the hon. Minister make changes in the expansion programme according to the investment pattern which the Janata Party is going to have?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: As far as the investment pattern of the Janata Party and its Government is concerned, I can assure the hon. Member that there will be no conflict in the investment pattern regarding the present expansion of the steel plants and future rapid expansion of the steel industry.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I think, the other day also, the hon. Minister, while replying expressed certain doubts regarding in coming steel plants located in various parts of the country including Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. When Mr. Kundu put a question, he had politicalised it and now he is not correctly coming out with an answer. On the basis of that, he said that they were politically sanctioned projects and now he is recommending on economic consideration. That means he wants to do some injustice for the consideration of the steel plants located in South. A suspicion has been created in the minds of the agitated Members from South. I want a categorical answer. We have spent a lot of money. I want a categorical assurance from him, as far as the economic aspect is concerned and he must also see that the economic imbalances of the southern States are

also taken into consideration. He should also assure us that they are going to implement all the projects which are under consideration.

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I do not know what Mr. Lakkappa, my friend, was trying to get at. I have answered the question of my friend. (*Interruptions*) I will not let them down. Even so, if the Andhra friends take up cudgels against me for the Karnataka friends because you are contiguous, I have to say that there is a possibility of steel plant being located in Karnataka, but the location may change. But there is a clear possibility. As I have said earlier, the Visakhapatnam Plant will have the first priority in the expansion programme of the Janata Government. Salem production will be on stream by 1981. As far as the plant at Vijaynagar is concerned, I had discussions with the Chief Minister, experts and other people. It is very clear that the cost of production of the land-locked plant located in Karnataka will be far higher than the port based plant in Karnataka, in Mangalore. The economic possibilities are being studied and I can assure the hon. Member that I will not deal with such massive investment for any political consideration, whatsoever.

SHRI D. D. DESAI: The items which are imported, namely, cold rolled grain oriented silicon steel electrical sheets for electric industry as well as tin plate—I would say tin sheets—which are required for the container industry, both are continuing to be imported. Would the hon. Minister say what is the time table for manufacture of both these items within the country?

SHRI BIJU PATNAIK: I have already given it in the statement. Perhaps the hon. Member wants to know about cold rolled grain oriented and non-oriented silicon electrical sheets. I think what he says is about CRGO sheets. A project of Rs. 111 crores is now under consideration of the Gov-

ernment which will produce about 65,000 to 70,000 tonnes of CRGO sheets, and other improvements are being made in the Rourkela Steel Plant itself for which we have recently sanctioned Rs. 27 crores to re-vamp the hot strip mills so that more cold-rolled sheets could be produced from that plant. By 1981-82 when the Bokaro expansion is complete, the entire demand of the cold-rolled sheets of India will be more than fully met.

Sixth National Conference on Communicable Diseases

*568. **SHRI SHIV SAMPATI RAM:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sixth National Conference on communicable diseases had urged the Government to establish a statutory agency to look into the problem of water pollution and enforce effective control through suitable measures to be adopted by local agencies;

(b) whether the Conference had also said in a resolution that the tuberculosis programme in the country was not progressing satisfactorily; and

(c) the reaction of Government and the steps taken in this regard?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री
(श्री राज नारायण) : (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) जी हाँ।

(ग) सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ कदम उठाये हैं। उनका एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(ग) सरकार ने निम्नलिखित कदम उठाये हैं :—

1. भारत सरकार ने 1974 में एक अधिनियम लागू किया था जिसका नाम