

Loss making NTC mills

†*577. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government during the last three years to turn loss making textile mills of National Textile Corporation into profit earning ones;

(b) if so, the number of sick textile mills which were turned into profit earning ones from 1999 till the end of the year 2002; and

(c) the amount spent by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA): (a) The BIFR, based on the Government's proposal, has sanctioned the rehabilitation schemes for all the 8 sick subsidiaries of the NTC in 2002, consisting closure of unviable mills and revival of viable mills. Government has agreed for sacrifices/concessions amounting to Rs. 5,500 Cr. by way of capital restructuring for making the schemes viable.

(b) The rehabilitation schemes were sanctioned by the BIFR only in 2002 and the implementation period is two years beginning from 2002-03. The mills slated for revival are expected to turn around only after implementation of the rehabilitation schemes.

(c) The rehabilitation schemes, sanctioned by the BIFR, would largely be self-financing through sale of surplus land and assets of the NTC. However, the Government is providing all necessary support for successful implementation of the schemes which includes giving guarantee to oblize Rs. 750 Crores through NTC bonds, apart from releasing Rs. 350.47 Crores for meeting shortfall in wages/salaries during 2002-03.

Massacre of Kashmiri Pandits

*576. SHRI AMAR SINGH:

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since identified the persons/organisations involved in the recent massacre of 24 Kashmiri Pandits at Nadimarg in South Kashmir by militants and if so, the details thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government have decided to play greater role in Jammu and Kashmir Security after the sad massacre and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to win the confidence of Kashmiri Pandits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) As result of coordinated operations based on intelligence inputs and the interrogation of a terrorist subsequently arrested, the Security Forces have been able to establish involvement of Pak backed LET terrorists in the Nadimarg massacre. Case under relevant provisions of law has been registered.

(b) Pursuant to the decision taken in the High Level Meeting held on March 31, 2003, a Special Group has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Special Secretary (JKA), MHA to review existing macro-strategies of the security forces and intelligence agencies in J&K and to suggest appropriate strategies to be followed to counter terrorism in J&K.

In addition to diplomatic initiatives at various levels and intensive pressure on terrorists in the hinterland, the Government conjointly with the State Government, has taken a series of steps to contain cross border terrorism perpetrated by the pro-Pak terrorist outfits/Pak ISI which includes strengthening of border management to check infiltration; proactive action against terrorists; gearing up intelligence machinery; protective measures for remote and scattered populations and minorities; and action as per law against over-ground supporters of the terrorists.

The strategies tactics and dynamic deployment to counter the terrorist are constantly reviewed, refined and monitored at various levels in the State and Central Government.

(c) Leaders of the coalition Government in J&K visited some of the minority pockets from March 24 onwards to build confidence amongst the Kashmiri Pandits. The State Government has also been reviewing security measures for Kashmiri Pandits in the Valley and has informed that static guards have been established at pockets/villages inhabited by minority (both Sikh and Kashmiri Pandit) families and Area Domination is also being ensured in minority community pockets.