

[27 November, 2000] RAJYA SABHA

(a) whether Government are going to appeal against the BIFR's decision on Messers Jessop in the review hearing;

(b) if so, the details of the same; and

(c) if not, the present revival status of M/s. Jessop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) BIFR, vide its order dated 19.9.2000 declared that the revival scheme of Jessops sanctioned on 6.5.1998 had failed and directed the Operating Agency, i.e. SBI to issue an advertisement for change in management giving 12 weeks time for submission of offers. BIFR also stated that Government of India, as promoter, can submit a scheme for rehabilitation of Jessop in response to the advertisement, with or without a joint venture partner. Government had already initiated action for a joint venture formation on 30.3.2000. Therefore, an appeal was filed in AAIFR against the order of BIFR on 11.11.2000, which is pending.

Package for Bengal

733. SHRI KHAGEN D'S: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a public meeting in Calcutta on 10th February, 1999 special emissary of the Prime Minister had announced a package for Bengal as reported in 'Business Standard' Calcutta edition, dated 1st February, 1999, which included revival of Tyre Corporation Of India Ltd. (TOL); and

(b) if so, the reasons for reversing the public declaration and selling TCIL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the issue of revival of TCIL, Government of India (GOI) has conveyed its views to BIFR. BIFR has now invited offers for a change in management.

Closure of Regional News Units of AIR

734. SHRI RS. GAVAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close All India Radio's regional news units in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;