

[16 May, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Foreign Training Programmes to which officers of various Services are nominated/deputed by the Department of Economic Affairs for training in foreign countries are under the Technical Cooperation Programmes such as Colombo Plan and Indo-Australia Training in Capacity Building Project in various bilateral/multilateral arrangements between the donor countries and Govt. of India and the entire cost thereon is borne by the foreign donor country. Under these programmes, the cost of training is not required to be borne by the public exchequer/Government of India.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be furnished as soon as available.

Rate of WPI in the week ending on 8th April

15397. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of wholesale price index was 4.64 per cent in the week ending on 8th April, 2000;

(b) if so, the reasons, for such a price rise; and

(c) the percentage of increase in the price of foodgrains, finished goods and fuel items attributed to this price rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes Sir. The provisional rate of inflation (point to point) based the wholesale price index was 4.64% in the week ending on 8th April, 2000.

(b) The recent rise in inflation rate is largely due to the increase the prices of administered items like LPG, kerosene, ATF and electricity. The direct impact of this price rise was reflected in the inflation rate by April 22, 2000.

(c) The increase in prices of some of the administered items pushed up the wholesale price index from 148.2 on April 1 to 151.5 on April 22, 2000 representing a 2.2% increase in the index in the first four weeks of April 2000. There was no increase in the prices of foodgrains and manufactured products in the original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

April. Only fuel group (which includes coal, electricity, gas, kerosene and other petro fuels) rose by 13.4% in the month of April.

References from CPSUs and SPSUs to BIFR

5398. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of references from Central and State Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs and SPSUs) received by BIFR for registration under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions)' Act, 1985 till 31st December, 1999;

(b) the number of those out of the above which have been registered;

(c) whether it is a fact that out of those references registered, BIFR have recommended winding up of 9 CPSUs and 20 SPSUs;

(d) if so, the names of CPSUs and SPSUs recommended to be wound up; and

(e) what is Government's stand in regard to the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 31.12.1999 reference from 88 Central PSUs and 154 State PSUs were received. Out of these 72 references from Central PSUs and 99 references from State PSUs were registered with the Board.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) A list is laid on the Table of the House and enclosed as statement (See below).

(e) The Government will consider the recommendations and take decisions about the Central PSUs, taking into account the interests of all concerned.

Statement

Names of Public Sector Undertakings recommended to be wound up S.NO.

CENTRAL PSUs

1. National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd.
2. TK gfgin Mills Ltd. British India Corporation Ltd.