

Categorisation of PSUs

3127. SHRI AHMED PATEL : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have categorised its PSEs into strategic and non-strategic PSEs;

(b) if so, the details of PSEs in each of the categories;

(c) whether Government have decided to sell out most of the non-strategic PSEs; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) and (b) As of now, the PSEs in the the following areas have been classified as strategic :

(i) Arms and ammunitions and allied with defence equipment, defence aircraft and warships.

(ii) Atomic energy-except in the areas related to the generation of nuclear power and applications of radio-isotopes to agriculture medicine and non-strategic industries.

(iii) Railway transport.

(c) and (d) Government have decided that in non-strategic PSEs Government equity will be reduced to 26% or less consistent with Government's policy of disinvestment.

Praga Tools Ltd.

3128. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Praga Tools Ltd. of 1943 has started incurring losses;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether workers' Union is demanding its transfer back to the Defence sector for technological upgradation; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

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

(b) Main reasons for losses are change in market conditions like loss of export markets of the former USSR and Bulgaria, slow down in demand, high interest burden, high manpower cost, lack of up-to-date technology, high inventory etc.

(c) and (d) Praga Tools Workers Union made representations requesting for transfer of administrative control of Praga Tools Limited from the Department of Heavy Industry to the Ministry of Defence. The matter was examined in consultation with the Ministry of Defence. Such a transfer was not found feasible.

Evaluation of Market Value of the Assets of PSUs

3129. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made any evaluation of the market value of the assets of each public sector industry;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to complete such an evaluation with the help of any public sector agency ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) As of now there is no proposal to make such an evaluation.

Implementation of Rehabilitation Package for RBL

3130. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKERJEE : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the status of implementation of the BIFR approved rehabilitation package for Reyrolle Burn Ltd. (RBL);

(b) whether the same is not being implemented because of non-adherence to the commitment by the Banker;