

एच.ई.सी.रांची में धातु को क्षति

679. **श्री शिवू सोरेन:** क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हाल ही में भारी इंजीनियरी निगम लिमिटेड रांची में प्रबंधन की लापरवाही से 20 लाख रुपये से भी अधिक मूल्य की धातु बर्बाद हो गई ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(ग) इस संबंध में दोषी पाये गये अधिकारियों के खिलाफ की गई कार्रवाई का ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(घ) भविष्य में इस प्रकार की बर्बादी को रोकने के लिए कौन-कौन से उपाय अपनाए जा रहे हैं; और

(ङ) विगत पांच वर्षों के दौरान निगम में इस तरह हुए घाटे का वर्षवार ब्यौरा क्या हैं ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सुखबीर सिंह बादल): (क) और (ख) ग्राहकों से प्राप्त हुए दो अलग-अलग रेखाचित्रों की गलत व्याख्या करने के कारण 7.5 लाख रुपये की सामग्री की घाटा हुआ था, यद्यपि भविष्य के संचलनों में कुछ सामग्री को बचा लिया जाएगा।

(ग) उत्तरदायी अधिकारी के खिलाफ अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की गई है और दंड दिया गया है।

(घ) प्रौद्योगिकी (प्रक्रिया) की तैयारी और जांच पड़ताल की द्विस्तरीय प्रणाली को लागू किया गया है।

(ङ) पिछले पांच वर्षों में कोई नुकसान का दृष्टांत नहीं हुआ है।

Operation of PMRY

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680. **SHRI JAYANT KUMAR MALHOUTRA:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a detailed study of the operation of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana particularly in the backward districts in the country;

(b) if so, the number of people benefited from this scheme in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to make this scheme better result oriented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir. Evaluation/sample survey on All India basis have been carried out of Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana.

(b) As per the report received from the Uttar Pradesh Government, 181126 persons were sanctioned loan, 136915 persons were disbursed loan since 1993-94 (inception of the scheme) up to 1998-99 (up to Jan., '99).

(c) The scheme has recently been modified. The salient features of the modifications are : Age relaxation by 10 years for women, scheduled . Castes/ Scheduled Tribes, physically handicapped and ex-servicemen; the educational qualification has been lowered to VIIIth passed; agro & allied activities excluding direct agricultural operations have been brought under the ambit of the scheme. Further, from the forthcoming financial year i.e. 1999-2000, project cost shall be revised from Rs. 1.00 lakh to Rs. 2.00 lakh for all activities, except business activities.

Patents for products derived from Indian plants

681. **SHRI K.R. MALKANI:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether US Patent and Trade Marks Office has granted scores of patents for products derived from more than twenty Indian plants, as reported in the Asian Age, dated the 8th March, 1998; and

(b) what Government are doing to stop this bio-piracy of India's natural wealth?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) and (b) Patents are granted by respective Governments under their patents laws and rights thereunder are restricted to the territorial boundary of the country. Whenever information is received about patents being taken on certain products

which are not considered patentable, steps are taken to assess whether grant of patent can be challenged.

In order to protect our biodiversity and prevent bio-piracy, a legislation on biodiversity with the broad objectives of conservation, sustainable utilisation of biological diversity, and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the use of biological resources is being formulated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

FDI in road and port projects

682. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision regarding automatic approval of 100 per cent FDI in road and port projects:

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the project proposals would still be subject to the vagaries of case-by-case clearance and routine opaqueness; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Government have permitted projects for "construction and maintenance of roads, highways, vehicular bridges, toll roads, vehicular funnels, ports and harbours" for foreign equity participation upto 100% on the automatic route provided the total foreign equity in any such projects does not exceed Rs. 1500 crore.

Closure of Units

683. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers/employees rendered jobless as a result of closure of

the Units and also due to V.R.S introduced by the companies during the last five years;

(b) whether Government are aware that a few companies have resorted to closure only to divert their valuable land assets to the real estate market; and

(c) if so, what is the number of such units and Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) According to information available, under the relevant provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, a total number of 64,368 workers have been affected due to closure of units during the period 1994 to 1998. Under the voluntary retirement scheme of the NRF, 84,816 workers of Central Public Sector Units have benefited during the period 1993 to 1998.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Implementation of package for the North East

684. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a revised North-East Industrial package was announced by Government in December, 1997;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the announcements made by Government in this regard have not yet been implemented;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for such a long delay; and

(d) by when all the decisions will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. Most of the necessary notifications including extending transport subsidy scheme, grant