

(b) what steps are being taken for the revival of these units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL) (a) As on 30.6.98, 22 CPSUs having registered office in the State of West Bengal are sick and registered with the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). A list of these units is at the statement *(see below)*

(b) These CPSUs have been referred to the BIFR for formulation of revival/rehabilitation packages.

Statement

List of BIFR referred Central PSUs having Registered Offices in West Bengal

| Sl. No. | Company Name |
|---------|---|
| 1. | Bengal Chemicals & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. |
| 2. | Bengal Immunity Ltd. |
| 3. | Bharat Brakes & Valves Ltd. |
| 4. | Bharat Ophthalmic Glass Ltd. |
| 5. | Bharat Process & Mechanical Engineers Ltd. |
| 6. | Biecco Lawrie Ltd. |
| 7. | Braithwaite & Co. Ltd. |
| 8. | Burn Standard Company Ltd. |
| 9. | Cycle Corporation of India Ltd. |
| 10. | Damodar Cement and Slag Ltd. |
| 11. | Eastern Coalfields Ltd. |
| 12. | IISCO Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Co. Ltd. |
| 13. | Indian Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. |
| 14. | Jessop & Co. Ltd. |
| 15. | Mining & Allied Machinery Corpn. Ltd. |
| 16. | National Instruments Ltd. |
| 17. | National Jute Manufacturers Corporation Ltd. |
| 18. | NTC (West Bengal, Assam, Bihar & Orissa) Ltd. |
| 19. | RBL Ltd. |
| 20. | Smith Stanistreet & Pharmaceuticals Ltd. |
| 21. | Iyre Corporation of India Ltd. |
| 22. | Weighbird (India) Ltd. |

Meeting on PSUs Disinvestment

4346. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has

been drawn to a news-item "Central Unions to meet on PSU disinvestment" published in "Business Standard" dated 7th July, 1998.

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to discuss the issue of disinvestment of PSUs with Central Trade Unions including the Bhartiya Majdoor Sangh (BMS); and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Finance, the nodal Ministry concerned with disinvestment policy, have not received any proposal from any of the Central Trade Unions for discussing the issue for disinvestment.

(c) Does not arise.

Impact of Economic Sanctions

4347. DR. ALLADI R. R. IYER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the impact of Governmental and non-Governmental industry initiatives, like those of Confederation of Indian Industry, in foreign countries to counter the impact of economic sanctions; and

(b) if so, the changes in the policy framework being contemplated especially for countries like United States of America, Japan, United Kingdom etc. to attract more foreign capital and to promote bilateral trade?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) The various initiatives taken seem to have had a positive impact. The foreign aid from the World Bank, which had initially be deferred has since been approved. Also, the US Senate has given flexibility to waive the sanctions upto one year.

(b) To promote the flow of foreign capital, various initiatives have been taken by the Government which includes inter alia, allowing unlisted companies to tap overseas market, encouraging foreign direct investment and investment from NRIs/OCBs and FIIs, launching of new India Millennium Scheme by Un to invite subscription in dollars from NRIs, launching of new Resurgent India Bonds, allowing investment by FII in unlisted domestic debt securities, promoting

accelerated processing and implementation of FDI, enlarging the list of industries eligible for automatic approval of FDI liberalising norms for automatic approval of technological collaboration, reducing the number of industries under compulsory licensing, allowing for 100% foreign equity participation in power sector for electricity generation, transmission and distribution provided foreign equity does not exceed Rs. 1500 crores. All these measures are expected to promote investment and attract more foreign capital to India. No country specific policy changes have been proposed.

Development of growth centres in Maharashtra

4348. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the development

of five growth centres in Maharashtra is very dismal due to non-release of funds by the Central Government and neglect by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details of each of the industrial growth centre with their latest status and reasons for their non-completion so far; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to complete the growth centres in the State so that pace of industrialisation begins?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT): (a) to (c) No, Sir. The five growth centres allotted and approved in the State of Maharashtra have already been released Central assistance of Rs. 23.40 crores and the State Government has incurred a total expenditure of Rs. 39.68 crores for development of the growth centres as detailed below:

(Rs. Lakhs)

| Name of Growth Center | Central Assistance Released | Total expenditure reported upto 31.12.97 | Remarks |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|
| Akola | 750 | 1347 | 625 hect. of land acquired 689 plots developed |
| Chandrapur | 400 | 836 | 630 hect. of land acquired. |
| Dhule | 200 | 327 | 707 hect. of land acquired |
| Nanded | 550 | 986 | 645 hect. of land acquired |
| Ratanagiri | 440 | 472 | Rs. 414 lakhs have been spent on industrial infrastructure. |

Central assistance limited to Rs. 10 crores per centre is to be released depending upon the financial and physical progress achieved by the State Government which is responsible for the implementation of the Growth Centres.

Public Audit for PSUs

4349. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the PSUs do not come under the purview of public audit;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR

SINGH BADAL): (a) to (c) PSUs are subjected to audit by the Comptroller and Auditor General and Parliamentary scrutiny, which ensure public accountability.

Workers covered by VRS

4350. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of workers covered by the Voluntary Retirement Scheme since the inception of National Renewal- Fund;

(b) the total amount disbursed so far; and

(c) the number of workers who were redeployed after their retirement under the scheme?