

that we get rid of this menace. we have to put more pressure on the drug peddlers because children are the main victims of this. We should tackle the problem at the root. The rehabilitation aspect would come later on. These are the two questions.

अगर आपके पास इसकी जानकारी नहीं है तो आप बाद में दे दीजियेगा।

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया: मैडम, मैं नेक्स्ट मंथ जनवरी में लेबर मिनिस्ट्री, एज्युकेशन मिनिस्ट्री और स्टेट्स के रिप्रेजेंटेटिवज की एक मीटिंग बुलाने का फैसला किया है। उसमें हम चाइल्ड लेबर और स्ट्रीट चिल्ड्रन के मुद्दों पर गौर करेंगे और स्टेट्स से जो भी इन फार्मेशन आयेगी, उसकी पूरी जानकारी मैं सदन को दे दूंगा।

दूसरी बात जो आपने कापी के बारे में कही
"exemption has been given"

वह चिट्ठी तो मेरे पास भी आई है, उसकी पड़ताल मुझे नहीं करनी है, उसका संबंध फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री से है। लेकिन तमिलनाडु में या किसी एरिया में कुछ ऐसा है, तो उसकी पड़ताल फाइनेंस मिनिस्ट्री करेगी।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. I was a member of that Committee. Madam, I will take only half-a-minute. The Minister of state in the Ministry of Finance was the chairman of that Committee, concerning drug abuse. We recommended to the Government. In fact, the report has been submitted, saying that poppy cultivation has to be stopped. But we find that the Finance Ministry has issued a notification, giving exemption to the farmers...

SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI: Condoning it.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: They have given exemption to the farmers from giving the minimum quantity of poppy cultivated by them, from giving the mandated quantity to the Government. Madam, this is going to create a big problem in the country. The drug would be available within the country. It is going abroad. It is going to other countries. It would now be available within the country also. Therefore, what steps are being taken?

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I can take any step only after consulting the Ministry of Finance.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please consult the Ministry of Finance and come up with a comprehensive plan. Not only with the Ministry of Finance. I think you will have to take it up with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the state Government as well. Make it a comprehensive plan. I would suggest that you have a meeting of the various Ministries and other representatives and evolve a comprehensive plan during the inter-session. By the next session, we should have some proper information in this regard.

SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: I will abide by your direction, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sure.

*342. [The Questioner (Shrimati Jayanti Patnaik) was absent. For answer, vide col....infra].

औद्योगिक एककों का रूग्णता के कारण बन्द होना

343. श्री रामजीलाल: क्या उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में भट्ठी (फर्नेस) एककों जैसे कितने औद्योगिक एकक रूग्णता के कारण बन्द हो चुके हैं;

(ख) इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इन एककों के बन्द होने के कारणों में एक कारण इनका बिना पूर्वानुमान लगाये उद्योगों का पंजीकरण करना रहा है;

(घ) क्या सरकार किसी एकक का पंजीकरण करने से पूर्व उसके उत्पादन और खपत का अनुमान लगायेगी और उसकी जानकारी उद्योगपतियों को भी देगी; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) As per the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, the total number of establishments reported to be closed were 228 in 1994,

183 in 1995 and 56 in January—September, 1996. The closure of units is mainly on account of financial stringency, lack of demand, shortage of power, raw material shortages, etc.

(c) to (e) Industrial licensing has now been restricted to 14 industries enabling the entrepreneurs to make investment decisions based on their own commercial judgement. In case of SSI units, registration is voluntary. The individual entrepreneur assesses the demand supply situation independent of government interference.

श्री रामजीलाल: उपसभापति महोदया, मैं आपके द्वारा मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ और मंत्री जी ने बड़े विस्तार से इस प्रश्न का उत्तर दिया है। उत्तर तो ठीक है, उन्होंने कहा है कि 1994 में 228 यूनिट्स, 1995 में 183 और जनवरी-सितम्बर, 1996 में 56 यूनिट फेल हो गई हैं। उन्होंने इसका मुख्य कारण भी बताया है कि विद्युत तंगी, मांग की कमी, बिजली की कमी और कच्चे माल की कमी। मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब सरकार लोन देती है तो वह एग्योरेंस देती है और वह टारगेट पूरा करने के लिए लोन देती है। उसके कारण जो भोले इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट होते हैं वे इन बातों में आकर लोन ले लेते हैं और फैक्टरी चलाने के लिए तैयार हो जाते हैं। लेकिन जब फैक्टरी चल पड़ती है, लोन आ जाता है, फैक्टरी खड़ी हो जाती है तो बिजली की कमी हो जाती है, वर्किंग कैपिटल भी नहीं देते हैं। इन कारणों की वजह से वे फेल हो रही हैं। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन फैक्ट्रियों को बचाने के लिए क्या उपाय करने जा रहे हैं ताकि इनको बचाया जा सके। जिसकी फैक्टरी फेल हो जाती है उसका घर-बार और जमीन सब कुछ विक्रि जाता है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इनके लिए क्या उपाय करेंगे ताकि फैक्ट्रियां फेल न हों और वे सुचारुरूप से चल सकें।

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam, I have given the reasons. According to the Industrial Disputes Act the reasons are: financial stringency, lack of demand, shortage of power—all those things. Now we are in a delicensing period—only 14 industries are under licensing. All projects have to be bankable. Therefore, it is for the entrepreneurs to use their com-

mercial judgement to see that the projects are viable.

श्री रामजीलाल: उपसभापति महोदया, मंत्री जी ने जो बात बताई है, मैंने पहले ही आपसे प्रार्थना की थी कि इसके उपाय सरकार के हाथ में हैं। नंबर एक फाइनेंसियल सहायता, फैक्ट्रियां वालों को लोन देकर फैक्ट्रियां तो खड़ी हो जाती हैं लेकिन वर्किंग कैपिटल के लिए उनको रुपया नहीं दिया जाता। इस वजह से वे फेल हो जाती हैं क्योंकि फैक्ट्रियां वालों के पास वर्किंग कैपिटल नहीं होती। उनको इसके लिए रुपया न सरकार देती है और न बैंक देते हैं। इसलिए वे फेल होती हैं। दूसरा कारण आपने बताया शार्टेज आफ पावर। यह बात ठीक है, जब हमारे हरियाणा में कोई फैक्टरी लगती है तो वह लिखकर देते हैं कि बिजली दोगे। लेकिन जब फैक्टरी चलने लगती है तब बिजली की कमी आ जाती है। इसलिए जैसा हैवी इंडस्ट्री के अंदर कन्टिन्यूएस प्रोसेस होता है और उनका बिजली का कोटा फिक्स कर दिया जाता है कि 10 घंटे बिजली मिलेगी, 8 घंटे मिलेगी, 6 घंटे मिलेगी, ऐसा ही इनके साथ भी होना चाहिए। लेकिन जो स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज हैं वहां अगर एक दफे बिजली आ जाती है तो आधा घंटे बाद चली जाती है, फिर आ जाती है तब तक भट्ठी ठंडी हो जाती है। मेरे कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि इसके लिए कोई उपाय किया जाए। आप कहें कि यह स्टेट सबजेक्ट है लेकिन ऐसा कहने से काम नहीं चलेगा। इसका हल क्या है, आप हल बतलाइए? जो स्माल स्केल इंडस्ट्री फेल हुई है उनके लिए आप क्या उपाय कर रहे हैं? दूसरा क्या प्रबंध इसके लिए आप करने जा रहे हैं? क्या आप स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को हिदायत देंगे कि जैसे बड़ी इंडस्ट्रीज के लिए किया गया है, कन्टिन्यूएस प्रोसेस, उसी तरह से स्माल, स्केल इंडस्ट्रीज के लिए भी किया जाए?

आपने एक बात कही। आप कहेंगे कि यह दूसरे मंत्रालय की बात है। देश में आपने कहा कि ए-मैटीरियल की कमी है। ए-मैटीरियल की कमी है तो आप इसको जो इम्पोर्ट करते हैं इस पर इयूटी माफ की जाए, उस पर इयूटी न लगाई जाए। इसके कारण आप जो स्क्रैप इम्पोर्ट करते हैं वह महंगा पड़ता है। हमारे देश में जो उसको खरीदते हैं वह इससे इम्पोर्ट करने में सस्ता पड़ता है तो इस पर आप इयूटी माफ कीजिए या नामीनल कर लीजिए। ऐसे उपाय आप करें ताकि वे फैक्ट्रियां फेल न हों और फ्यूचर में उनके लिए फववर और फर्निश का प्रबंध किया जाए और यदि आप नहीं दे सकते हैं तो इसको बेन किया जाए।

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam Deputy Chairman, I share the anxiety of the hon. Member. Madam, as you know, sickness in industry is all pervasive, in the sense, it is across ownership, public sectors, private sectors, across industries, across States across scales, in the sense, small, medium and big industries. Some of them are sick. This is a general phenomenon. The hon. member referred to the working capital arrangements for the small-scale sector. It is being taken care of. The Government had appointed the Naik Committee. They have recommended that 20 per cent of the annual (turnover) of the small-scale industry should be taken care of by the banks. They have condemned that the SSI is getting only 8.1 per cent. We are making every effort to improve it.

The hon. Member has referred to the power shortage. It is a general phenomenon which we are facing. Certain States are particularly suffering from power shortage. The only remedy is to have more power plants. We have fast track power projects. So, all efforts are being made by the Government to see that the power shortage is minimised.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The hon. Member says that big industries get power continuously. Can it not be done for the small-scale industries which are becoming sick? That is his basic question.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam Deputy Chairman, the position of power supply depends on State to State. For example, this year, the State of Tamil Nadu is free from power-cuts, whereas the State of Karnataka had a power-cut of 95 per cent. So, it depends on State to State.

श्री रामजीलाल: ऐसा है कि जब एक भट्ठी चल रही है, उसी वक्त बिजली बंद कर दी जाती है बगैर नोटिस के। जो बड़ी फैक्टरियाँ हैं उनको तो नोटिस देते हैं लेकिन छोटी फैक्टरियों को नोटिस नहीं देते हैं (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति: यह तो स्टेट गवर्नमेंट का प्रोब्लम है (व्यवधान)

श्री रामजीलाल: कोई टारगेट फिक्स कर दिया जाए तो अच्छा रहेगा (व्यवधान)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He says that there should be more coordination between the State Government and the State Electricity Boards. I know that electricity is a State subject.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam Deputy Chairman, the hon. Ministers who have been presiding over the Ministry of Industry are almost repeating the same answer for the last ten years. Excuse me for saying so. They have been saying the same thing, "It is being looked into."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Perhaps things have not changed in the last ten years. - Questions are the same; and the answers are the same.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: The questions are the same, but the answers should not have been the same. We put questions to know what the is doing.

When questions are put, the Government should give proper replies. They are not meant to give answers describing the pitiable situation. We would like to know what the 2 Governments are doing. Madam, the point is, he referred to finances.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Was it not the question? "What are the Government doing?"

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I am putting the question. The point is, the hon. Minister referred to financial stringency as one of the basic reasons for a unit turning into sick; and, therefore, leading to a closure. Madam, is the Minister aware that there has been an indepth study conducted by the Reserve Bank of India over sickness and closure of industries? They have come to the conclusion that the major causes for the closing down of industries due to sickness are the corporate and management delinquency and irregularities. The findings of the RBI are there on record madam, sickness leads

to closures. Closures lead to retrenchment. According to my information, nearly 3,00,000 units are closed down in the country throwing out of jobs lakhs of common workers belonging to the small-scale industries, medium scale industries and large-scale industries. Therefore, it is a social problem. In view of the findings of the RBI and in view of the fact that financial stringency is one of the basic reasons for sickness and closure, I would like to know from the Minister what steps Government proposes to take for setting up adequate safeguards so that financial mismanagement resulting in diversion of funds and delinquency doesn't take place leading to sickness and closure of units.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam Deputy Chairman, I agree with the hon. Member that the issue of sickness of industries has been coming to this House like Charles' head. The hon. Member is a very senior Member. I have been here only for the last three terms. So, we used to hear the same reply. But the hon. Member is forgetting....

....that his party is also a party in the United Front. This explains the matter. If he becomes the Industry Minister, perhaps, he may try to give a different answer. Now, we are waiting for sickness in terms of negative worths. We should have some early warning system and intervention and restructuring at an earlier stage. Therefore, we have to restructure the BIFR. We have to look at the law not in terms of erosion of networkiness. We have to look at it from the debt record. We have to look at it from the debt record. We have to make an early warning system. That system is going to be available, in the sense that the Finance Minister has announced in his Budget speech that the Sick Industrial Companies Act, the SICA, has a narrow definition of sickness and cannot deal with incipient and potential sickness. So, managements have been able to use the BIFR route to abdicate the legitimate responsibilities. As the hon. Minister has

stated, under the present system, workers, financial institutions and governments are often the losers. Therefore, a total review of the SICA and the working of the BIFR is to be made as the Finance Minister has promised because it comes under the Finance Ministry. A Bill will be brought forward in this House.

PROF. RAM KAPSE: Hon. Madam, I would like to ask this of the hon. Minister, through you. As far as the SSI units are concerned, what special efforts are made by the Ministry to save them from sickness? The real question was about the assessment. I would like to know whether any assessment is made about the market by the Ministry and the information is given to the industries. That was the real question. Would you like to give some information about the assessment done by your Ministry?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: No assessment is being done by the Ministry in the sense that it is now a de-licensed regime, a liberalised regime. So, everybody has to use the commercial sense.... (*Interruption*).

PROF. RAM KAPSE: I want to know whether you do it and if so, whether you pass on the information. Another query is about the SSI units.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I am coming to that. Entrepreneurs have to make use of their commercial sense and they have to produce bankable projects. Otherwise, banks won't advance money. It is a responsibility upon them.

Regarding the SSI units, as I have told you, Madam, the Naik Committee has observed that the SSI units were getting only 8.1 per cent of the annual turnover by way of a bank credit. But it has said that they should get a minimum of 20 percent. So, efforts are being made. We have been insisting on the Reserve Bank and other banks that they should increase their lending to the small-scale industries sector. And the Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines on the modified definition of sick SSI units. They have

reduced the rates of interest for rehabilitation 1.5 per cent to 3.3 per cent below the prevailing fixed rate, minimum lending rate. This is only for rehabilitation of small-scale industries. At the State level, they have their own Committee which is called the SLIIC, the State-Level Inter-Institutional Committee. On the advice of the Government of India, the Reserve Bank of India has set up this Committee in all the States, under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Industries Department, of the State Governments concerned, for working out the rehabilitation package for the revival of viable sick small-scale units.

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Madam, just now, the hon. Minister has referred to the amendment of the Sick Industrial Companies Act, to revive. The point is, for the last five years, there has been an Act. Even if there is an Act, if the makers of the law violate it, if there is no will to revive, how does the Act help? Will the hon. Minister clarify how, in at least six or seven of the cases under his Ministry, where sickness is there and sickness cases were referred to the BIFR, the Ministry has taken more than a year or six months to give an opinion whether they will invest funds for revival of the units. The units will die. In one particular case.....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Will you please put your question?

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: This is the question. The makers of the law violate it. In the case of the BIFR, under the existing Act, one case was sanctioned on 15.4.1996. It was sanctioned by the BIFR. But, till now, that has not been implemented by only the Government. All the other agencies have agreed. Now, after ten months, they have gone to the appellate court to appeal against the revival scheme prepared by the operating agencies of the BIFR. Then, what is the idea of the Act? Acts will not help unless those who want to implement the Acts, have the will to revive. I can cite hundreds of cases that

are pending in his Ministry, in the Fertiliser Ministry and all the other Ministries. The Government has not come out with the idea whether it is going to put in funds for revival schemes. The revival schemes are available in the BIFR.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Is it a suggestion or a question?

SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: My question is, if the makers of the law violate the Act, how will it help?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam, I share the anxiety of the Hon. Member. He had approached me and I had told him that the revival efforts in respect of that particular unit were being made. I do not have a magic wand to revive anything. The Government does not have a magic wand. It has to be gone into by all the Departments. The revival plan has not only to be looked into by my Ministry, but by the Finance Ministry also. Then, it has to go to the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. So, it is a long process. I agree with him that it should be cut short. We have to cut it short. Madam, we will do our best to make it effective.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: मैडम, मन्त्री जी ने अपने उत्तर में स्पष्ट किया है कि शॉर्टेज ऑफ पावर और लैक ऑफ रै-मैटीरियल के कारण बहुत सारी इकाइयाँ बंद हो जाती हैं। जैसे कारण तो आपने कई बतलाए हैं लेकिन जहाँ तक मेरी जानकारी है बहुत सारे ऐसे स्थल स्केल यूनिट्स हैं जो कि शॉर्टेज ऑफ पावर और लैक ऑफ रै-मैटीरियल के कारण बंद हो जाते हैं और बंद इसलिए होते हैं कि वे यूनिट अपनी क्षमता के अनुरूप उत्पादन नहीं कर पाते हैं। जैसी प्रश्नकर्ता की मंशा प्रश्न पूछने की रही है उसी के अनुरूप मैं मन्त्री से यह जानना चाहूँगा कि क्या उन यूनिट्स को रीबिस्ट्रक्चर करने से पहले यह सुनिश्चित करने की कृपा करेंगे कि शॉर्टेज ऑफ पावर और लैक ऑफ रै-मैटीरियल किसी भी स्तर में उस यूनिट को नहीं होनी चाहिए, क्या यह सुनिश्चित करने की कृपा करेंगे?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Madam, I have already explained that power shortage is one of the biggest problems in this country and all the

industries—big, small and medium—are affected by it. That is why due importance has been given by the previous Government and also by the present Government, to production of power. That is all I can say. (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No. Question No. 344. (*Interruptions*)

*344 [*The questioner (Shri Saifulla) was absent. For answer vide col.....infra*]

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question No. 345. (*Interruptions*)

Please sit down. This is not the way.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Madam, I wanted to speak about Question No. 344 (*Interruptions*) In the list of Unstarred Questions

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But the questioner is not here.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Yes. A similar question has been approved as Starred Question. It is on the same subject, 'Formation of a Dispute Settlement Panel at the behest of USA'. What is the part (a) of the Question? It is, whether India agreed to the formation of a Dispute Settlement Panel....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are you asking? You are not the questioner.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Madam, this question has been approved as a Starred Question. There is a similar one in the list of Unstarred Questions and that is mine. So, what I am saying is ...(*Interruptions*) Madam, the question is ...(*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I know you are a star performer. But unfortunately the ballot did not think that way.

SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: That is true, Madam, but it should have been clubbed with this. I could have an opportunity to ask at

least one supplementary. Never mind, a half-an-hour discussion can be allowed on this because this is an important subject and we would like to have a discussion at length. Thank you, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay. Question No. 345.

Prices of Bread in Delhi

*345. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: DR. RANBIR SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of bread of 400 grams and 800 grams have been increased four times during June to September, 1996 in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor with the names of the authorities approving such revision;

(c) whether Government propose to get grounds of such revision investigated; and

(d) if so, the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

खाद्य मंत्री और नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री देवेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण क्षम फटल पर रखा गया है।

विवरण

(क) इस मंत्रालय द्वारा डबलरोटी के मूल्यों को मॉनीटर नहीं किया जा रहा है। तथापि, माहर्न फूड इंडस्ट्रीज लि० तथा अन्य बाजार स्रोतों से प्राप्त सूचना के आधार पर यह देखा गया है कि दिल्ली में जून से सितम्बर, 1996 की अवधि के दौरान 400 ग्राम तथा 800 ग्राम की डबलरोटी के मूल्यों में कोई वृद्धि नहीं हुई है;

(ख) से (घ) इस समय देश में डबलरोटी के विनिर्माण तथा मूल्यों पर कोई नियंत्रण नहीं है। डबलरोटी

*The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Ram Nath Kovind.