

infrastructure bottlenecks, launching of the Golden Quadrilateral Project and Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana etc.

Rehabilitation of closed PSC employees

2922. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Government to rehabilitate the various persons rendered jobless by the closure of various Public Sector Companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (c) It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to safeguard the interest of the employees of Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs), who opt out on Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) or become redundant due to restructuring of the enterprises. A modified VRS for the employees of CPSUs has been introduced *vide* Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) notification dated 5.5.2000. In order to further safeguard the interest of the workers of sick and loss making PSUs, particularly those where wage revision has not been effected after 1.1.1987 or 1.1.1992, as the case may be, the compensation package has been enhanced by 100% and 50% respectively. The compensation of retrenched employees is governed under the Industrial Dispute Act, further liberalization of whose provisions are being examined by the Ministry of Labour.

Further, in pursuance of the Industrial Policy of the Government, to provide a safety net to the employees of the organized sector, a National Renewal Fund (NRF) was set up by the Government in February, 1992. Government has been providing fund from NRF, for meeting expenses towards voluntary retirement of employees of CPSUs as also for rehabilitation of the employees of the organized

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sector consisting of CPSUs. Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion adminsterd the scheme till 31.3.2001.

From the year 2001-2002, Department of Public Enterprises have introduced the scheme for Counselling, Retraining and Redeployment of rationalised employees of Central PSUs with an objective to reorient the rationalised employees of CPSUs through short duration training programmes to encourage them to avail of opportunities of self employment after their separation from the PSEs due to VRS or retrenchement due to closure of the enterprise. In order to have wide coverage of the scheme and its proper implementation at the national level, nodal agencies have been selected from different States to cater to the needs of the rationalised employees of the CPSUs. The training programme has already started.

Industrial Production

†2923. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have made an assessment of the growth rate of industrial production in the past months of current financial year;

(b) if so, the month-wise growth rate of industrial production during the period from April, 2001 to October, 2001; and

(c) whether this rate is satisfactory for the development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government regularly makes an assessment of the growth rate of industrial production measured in terms of growth in Index of Industrial Production (IIP), which is released every month by the Central Statistical Organisation. The month-wise

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.