

is a net shortage of pieces of various currency notes and coins which are in circulation and, therefore, the intention of the Government is merely to make up the shortage, it is not to add to the inflationary measures.

MR CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Recommendations of Economic Advisory Council on Inflationary Pressure

*102. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state-

(a) what were the recommendations of Economic Advisory Council submitted to the previous Government in December, 1989 on inflationary pressure,

(b) whether Government have accepted the same; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) In their report submitted to the previous Government in December 1989 the Economic Advisory Council had made the following suggestions relating to control of inflation

(i) The basic imperatives stemming from the current economic situation would require the country to concentrate on removal of fiscal imbalance as also certain supply side adjustments affecting availability of essential wage goods,

(ii) containing growth in non-developmental expenditures;

(iii) control of wasteful expenditures by inculcating a sense of austerly; and

(iv) control of the subsidy burden both in the Centre and State budgets

(b) The Government have accepted these recommendations.

(c) Does not arise.

बंद पड़ी कपड़ा मिलें

108. डी० अबरार अहमद : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में और विशेषकर राजस्थान में इस समय बंद पड़ी कपड़ा मिलों की संख्या कितनी है और उसके परिणामस्वरूप बेरोजगार हुए कर्मचारों की संख्या कितनी है तथा इन मिलों को पुनः चालू करने के लिए सरकार क्या प्रयास कर रही है ?

वस्त्र तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री (श्री हुसबेब नारायण यादव) : 31.10 1990 की स्थिति के अनुसार लगभग 1,62,000 कामगारों के नियोजन वाली 106 सूती/मानव निर्मित फाइबर वस्त्र मिलें बंद पड़ी थी इनमें से 4841 कामगारों के नियोजन वाली 4 वस्त्र मिलें राजस्थान में स्थित हैं। इसके अलावा, देश में 31 मानव निर्मित फाइबर कृत्रिम मिलें और 52 ऊनी वस्त्र एकक बंद पड़ी थी जिनमें से 5 ऊनी वस्त्र एकक राजस्थान में हैं।

सरकार ने रूग्ण/बंद पड़ी वस्त्र मिलों के पुनर्स्थापन के लिए पैकेज तैयार करने तथा लागू करने के लिए एक नोडीय अभिकरण की स्थापना की है। सरकार ने रूग्ण औद्योगिक कम्पनियों को पुनः चालू करने हेतु निवारक, सुधारक तथा उपचारात्मक उपाय सुनिश्चित करने तथा उन्हें लागू करने के लिए एक औद्योगिक एवं वित्तीय पुनः संरचना बोर्ड की भी स्थापना की है। किसी मिल का पुनः खोला जाना नोडीय अभिकरण/बो आई एफ आर के समक्ष स्थापित इसकी अर्थक्षमता पर निर्भर करता है।

Unutilised World Bank Loans

*109 SHRI M. S. GURUPADA-SWAMY:

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of World Bank loans sanctioned which remain to be fully utilised;

(b) what are the details of important projects which have been on the pipelines for more than five years and for which such loans were sanctioned but were not utilised fully and the amount of loan against each in rupees at the current rate;

(c) what are the reasons for slow utilisation of the credit;

(d) whether Government have any specific plan of action to overcome such delays and speed up the use of such loan amounts;

(e) what is the amount of commitment charges that the country pays per annum in terms of foreign exchange and rupees for such partially or wholly unutilised loans,

(f) what is the percentage rise in the overall estimated expenditure on these projects because of delay in their commissioning; and

(g) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report that appeared in 'The Economic Times', Bombay of December 8, 1990 to the effect that the World Bank has threatened to cancel all its aided projects which are running far behind schedule, if so, the reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) The total amount of World Bank loan sanctioned and unutilised as on 30-11-1990 amounts to US \$ 18.07 billion and US \$11.0 billion respectively.

(b) Details of on-going World Bank aided projects which have been on the pipelines for more than 5 years and where amounts have not been fully utilised are ANNEXED. [See Appendix CLVI, Annexure 'No. 21].

(c) The implementation of World Bank projects is dependent on a number of factors some of which are related to the scope, nature and life of the project. Other factors includes land acquisition, availability of

counterpart funds, environmental and other mandatory clearances, technical and procurement issues.

(d) The Government has recently taken a number of steps to overcome the delays and expedite the use of committed World Bank assistance. An action plan for speedier disbursement has been approved. The key elements of the action plan include earmarking of adequate funds, close monitoring by Ministries with special emphasis on timely procurement action by project authorities and simplification of procedures in respect of release of foreign exchange, DGTD clearance and tender evaluations. In addition, the projects are being extensively monitored through reviews taken by Finance Minister, Committee of Secretaries, the Administrative Ministries and State Governments concerned.

(e) The World Bank Loans/Credits carry variable commitment charges on undisbursed amounts which is presently fixed at 0.25 per cent for IBRD Loans and zero percent for IDA credits. The amount of commitment Charges paid to the World Bank against unutilised loans during 1989-90 is 43.47 million in US dollars and 74.60 crores in rupees.

(f) The cost estimates undergo revisions over the life of a project on account of various factors such as price escalations, change in scope/restructuring, exchange rate fluctuations, increase in duties and taxes etc. It is not possible to segregate the increase in project cost due to slow utilisation of external assistance.

(g) The Government has seen the said report which appeared in the "Economic Times" of December 8, 1990. However, there is no such move on the part of World Bank.