

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (b) No instance of discotheques not filing their I.T. Returns have so far been noticed in this region.

(c) No such information as mentioned in the query is in the possession of the Department till date.

(d) to (e) The Income Tax Department is monitoring non filers, however functioning of discotheques has not been specially monitored for this purpose.

Financial autonomy of CPSEs

2652. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is in process of giving more operational and financial autonomy to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs);

(b) if so, whether Government is creating a new category called Maharatna which will define level of independence for CPSEs;

(c) whether his Ministry has floated a note in Cabinet for introducing new title within 100 days policy;

(d) if so, whether Ministry has also sought views of other Ministries; and

(e) if so, to what extent this new policy will be helpful for the CPSEs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (d) The introduction of "Maharatna" category for Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) has been indentified as one of the items that the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises would like to achieve as part of 100 days policy. The Maharatna scheme envisages delegation of enhanced financial powers to the boards of Maharatna CPSEs as compared to those available to Navratna. The draft Cabinet Note in this regard has been circulated to the concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments for their comments.

(e) The introduction of Maharatna Scheme is expected to help the larger Navratna CPSEs to expand their operations in both domestic as well as global markets.

Cost and time overrun of projects

2653. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) how many projects of rupees 50 crores and above of the Public Sector Undertakings under his Ministry are affected by cost or time overrun, PSU-wise;

(b) what are the reasons for cost and time overrun of these projects; and

(c) what are the efforts made by his Ministry/PSU to protect the projects from cost overrun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (c) 3 Projects one each of Cement Corporation of India Ltd., Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. and Nagaland Pulp's and Paper Company Ltd. are affected by cost or time overrun. The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Details of projects affected by time/cost overrun

Name of PSE	No. of Project	Reasons for cost and time overrun of these projects	Efforts made to protect the projects from cost overrun
1 Cement Corporation of India Ltd.	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per the approved sanctioned scheme of BIFR, the Bokajan expansion project is to be funded from the sale of non operating units which has been delayed mainly because of various court cases filed by the labour unions against the closure of non-operating units. 	<p>All the court cases except one for Adilabad unit have been dismissed by the court and sale process of the remaining non-operating units are at an advanced stage.</p>
Hindustan Newsprint Ltd.	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-floating of Global NIB for engagement of Project Management Consultancy services was delayed due to varying reasons including need to follow CVC guidelines, visit of bidders to the site and clarifications sought, unprecedented increase in the price of input materials at the global level, non-availability of sufficient internal resource generation due to the overall global meltdown affecting newsprint industry. 	<p>Status of huge cost escalation and financial viability was reviewed and it transpired that the debt equity mix in project finance is not in the ideal proportion which will endanger the debt service ability of the company. The Company has decided to keep the Project in abeyance and wait for appropriate time to consider the project again.</p>

1	2	3	4
<p>Nagaland Pulp & Paper Company Ltd.</p>	<p>1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most of the imports will be from European Countries, Now the Euro had appreciated against various currencies including Indian Rupee. • Unprecedented increase in price of input materials. • DPR factored on excise duty exemption of 16% available under North East Industrial Policy 1997 which has been subsequently reduced to prevailing 4%. • The scope of rebuild has increased substantially resulting in increase in project cost. 	<p>To retain the viability of the project, the capacity had to be augmented to an optimum level of 82,100 tpa with revised project cost of Rs. 1241.80 crore. The actual availability of raw material and fuel are being ascertained de nova before putting up a proposal for enhanced size of the mill which could attain scale economy.</p>