

tion at higher rates. The company has now set up a committee to look into the demand.

Unstable surface areas in Raniganj coal fields

1283. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are unstable surface areas in Raniganj coalfields;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to stabilise these unstable areas; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof indicating the estimated cost and the implementation agency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHAHUEF): (a) and (b) Raniganj coalfield is one of the oldest coalfields in the country and mining operations in this area have been going on for nearly a century now. Instances of land subsidence have been reported from time to time in this area over the last several years due to unscientific exploitation of coal in the pre-nationalisation days. In 1950, the Director General of Mines Safety declared 40 places as unsafe for habitation in the district of Burdwan, West Bengal. The State Government has prohibited construction activities in 25 of the 40 areas declared unsafe by DGMS.

(c) and (d) Asansol Durgapur Development Authority set up by the State Government of West Bengal, felt that the unstable underground workings could be stabilised by stowing with sand through surface boreholes. To test the efficacy of the method, Government sanctioned a Pilot Project under Science and Technology programme with a total

cost of Rs. 44.84 lakhs to be carried out at Ramjibanpur. The project has been completed. Results are under evaluation. Application of the technology experimented with at Ramjibanpur to other areas would depend upon the techno-economic evaluation of the results of the experiment.

Target for self-employed scheme for educated youth in Orissa

1284. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target fixed for 1988-89 of the self-employed scheme for educated unemployed youth in Orissa;

(b) what is the amount disbursed during the year 1987-88 to implement the scheme; and

(c) what is the number of unemployed youth who could get employment in the self-employment schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The target under the Scheme for 1988-89 for Orissa has been fixed at 9300 beneficiaries.

(b) During 1987-88, a sum of Rs. 45.41 lakhs has been disbursed.

(c) Under Self-employment Scheme for educated unemployed youth 36,334 beneficiaries have been sanctioned loans from the year 1983-84 to 1987-88 in Orissa State.

Sick industries in Orissa

1285. SHRI KANHU CHARAN LENKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of small-scale and medium-scale industries in the State of Orissa;

(b) what is the number of industries declared sick by Government of Orissa;

(c) what is the percentage of sick industries in Orissa as compared to other States;

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to revive these sick industries in Orissa;

(e) which sick industries are approved to get financial assistance under 'margin money scheme'; and

(f) what is the total amount given in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Data on sick industrial units, assisted by banks in the country are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. According to the information available from RBI, as at the end of December 1986, the Statewise break-up of large and SSI sick units including the State of Orissa is given in the attached Statement (See below).

(d) For revival of sick industrial units Government of India have got a uniform policy for the whole country including the State of Orissa. Some of the important aspects of the same are as follows:

(i) The Government have enacted a comprehensive legislation namely 'The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985'. A quasi-judicial body designated as the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has been set up under the Act to deal with the problems of sick industrial companies in an effective manner, which has become operational with effect from the 15th May, 1987.

(ii) The Reserve Bank of India have issued guidelines to the banks for strengthening the monitoring systems and for arresting industrial sickness at the incipient stage so that corrective measures are taken in time.

(iii) The banks have also been directed by the Reserve Bank of India to formulate rehabilitation packages for the revival of potentially viable units. The banks and financial institutions evolve rehabilitation packages for the revival of sick units.

(iv) Reserve Bank of India have also issued guidelines separately to the banks indicating parameters within which banks could grant reliefs and concessions for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units without reference to RBI both in the large and small scale sectors.

(v) Government of India introduced a 'Margin Money Scheme' with a view to supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in reducing the incidence of sickness in the small scale sector. Under the liberalised scheme the maximum amount of assistance per unit available to sick small scale units for rehabilitation has been increased from Rs. 20000 to Rs. 50000.

(e) For the purpose of Margin Money Scheme for revival of sick small scale units, a small scale unit is to be considered sick if it has: (a) incurred cash loss in the previous accounting year and is likely to continue to incur cash loss in the current accounting year and has an erosion on account of cumulative cash losses to the extent of 50% or more of its net worth; and/or (b) continuously defaulted in meeting four consecutive quarterly instalments of interest or two half-yearly instalments of principal on term loans

and there are persistent irregularities in the operation of its credit limit with the bank. While both the conditions (a) and (b) should be satisfied in the case of large SSI units, it would suffice if either alternative (a) or (b) is satisfied in the case of units in the tiny sector. Only those units which are considered to be potentially viable are to be taken up for

rehabilitation under the Margin Money Scheme.

(f) During the years 1983-84 and 1984-85, a sum of Rs. 8 lakhs and Rs. 5 lakhs respectively was sanctioned as central loan assistance to the Government of Orissa under the Margin Money Scheme for Revival of Sick Small Scale Units.

Statement

State-wise data of sick industrial units as at the end of December, 1986

(Source : Reserve Bank of India)

Name of the State/Union Territory	1986	
	No. of Large Sick Units	No. of SSI Sick Units
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	44	13004
Assam	7	4485
Bihar	17	9649
Gujarat	68	4523
Haryana	17	1747
Himachal Pradesh	..	602
Jammu & Kashmir	..	2229
Karnataka	43	3077
Kerala	20	4046
Maharashtra	161	10605
Madhya Pradesh	26	9895
Orissa	10	6489
Punjab	6	1830
Rajasthan	11	6222
Tamilnadu	53	17024
Uttar Pradesh	68	15815
West Bengal	146	28777

1	2	3
Goa, Daman & Diu	4	1074
Nagaland . . . . .	..	8
Dadra & Nagar Haveli . . . . .	..	9
Arunachal Pradesh . . . . .	..	16
Chandigarh	2	207
Delhi	7	2716
Manipur . . . . .	..	908
Meghalaya . . . . .	..	110
Mizoram . . . . .	..	..
Pondicherry	3	223
Tripura	1	284
Sikkim . . . . .	..	1
TOTAL :		714 145776

NOTE: The State-wise break-up of medium scale industries is not being maintained by RBI. The percentage of the large and small scale sick units in the State of Orissa as compared to the whole country is about 1.4 and 4.5 respectively.

Fraud cases in Post Offices

1286. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases of fraud committed in the Post Offices in the country, circle-wise, during the last three years;

(b) the total amount of money involved in these cases;

(c) the number of employees of the Postal Department involved in these cases;

(d) the number of employees of Postal Department arrested and convicted; and

(e) whether there has been any increase or decrease in cases of fraud during the last three years as compared to earlier years?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE):

(a) to (e) The information is being collected and the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

Activities of mafia gangs in Coal mines

1287. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-report which appeared in the Hindustan (Hindi) of 25th April, 1988 captioned "Koyala Khano mein mafia giroh Sakriya" to the effect that mafia gangs are active in coal mines;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what effective measures have been taken by Government during the last three years to curb the activities of mafia gangs in coal mines?