

(c) The orders for conferment of Maharatna status of IOC, NTPC, ONGC and SAIL have already been issued on 19.5.2010.

Bio-diversity mapping by PSUs

972. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any bio-diversity mapping exercises are undertaken by the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) which are being set up in the country;

(b) what measures are undertaken by the public companies to ensure minimal adverse fallouts on the surrounding environments; and

(c) whether the PSUs engage reputed organizations while engaging in corporate social responsibility schemes in the field of social and environment issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) and (b) Public Sector Enterprises are required to seek environmental clearance from competent authority while commissioning their projects in the States. No information is maintained centrally in the Department of Public Enterprises in this regard as the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) fall within the administrative control of various Ministries/Departments.

(c) Guidelines issued by Government on 'Corporate Social Responsibility for CPSEs' vide O.M. dated 9.4.2010 provide for implementation of project activities identified by CPSEs in CSR by specialized agencies and not by staff of the CPSE concerned. Specialize agencies could work singly or in tandem with other agencies.

Agitation of HMT employees at Kalamassery

973. SHRI P. RAJEEVE:
PROF. P.J. KURIEN:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT) unit at Kalamassery (Kerala) are on sathyagraha and hunger strike from 1 January, 2010 onwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government to find an amicable solution to the ongoing agitation of employees of HMT, Kalamassery;

(d) whether Government actively consider the merger of HMT, Kalamassery with the Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) or with any other PSU; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The officer bearers of the Registered Unions

and Officers Association of Kalamassery Unit of HMT Machine Tools Limited have been organizing dharna in front of the gate of the company since 01.01.2010 to press their main demands for pay/wage revision and enhancing the age of retirement from 58 to 60 years.

(c) In orders to revive the loss making company, a revival package of Rs. 880.80 crore was sanctioned to HMT Machine Tools Limited in 2006-07. But the company has not yet been able to generate adequate resources required for implementation of suitable pay/wage revision. Since the company could not earn profit successively for last 3 years it is not eligible for enhancement in the age of retirement from 58 to 60 years as per DPE guidelines.

(d) and (e) A Task Force has been constituted by the Government to explore the possibility of merger of HMT Machine Tools Limited with Heavy Engineering Corporation and the Task Force is yet to submit its report.

Construction of Panchayat Ghar

974. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided sufficient funds under Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana (RGSY) to construct Panchayat Ghar in every village;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of villages do not have their Panchayat Ghar in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the number of villages in Himachal Pradesh that do not have Panchayat Ghar;

(d) whether Government is determined to provide Panchayat Ghar to each village; and

(e) if so, by when Government will achieve the target and the amount Government has released to each States for constructing the Panchayat Ghar?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) No, Madam. The allocation of funds under Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Yojana (RGSY) is not sufficient to fund construction of Panchayat Ghars in every Gram Panchayat.

(b) and (c) Yes, Madam. As per information furnished by the Government of Himachal Pradesh, out of 3243 Gram Panchayats in the States, 2101 Gram Panchayats do not have Panchayat Ghars.

(d) and (e) Panchayati Raj being a State subject, State Government need to provide the required manpower and infrastructure, including buildings to the Panchayati Raj Institutions. However, the Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) provides limited financial support to the States under the RGSY for taking up construction and up-gradation of the Panchayat infrastructure/building, for which the details are given in the Statement (See below). In addition to RGSY, the MoPR and Ministry of Rural Development also provide funds to the States under the Backward Regions Grant Fund (BRGF) and Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) which are in the nature of untied grants for the PRIs to undertake works