

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The main reasons for incurring the losses on the Hire Purchase Scheme were as follows:—

- (1) Losses suffered on account of the devaluation of the Rupee/ revaluation of the Deutch Mark.
- (2) Delay/non-payment of instalments by the hirers due to their various problems.

(d) The losses incurred by the National Small Industries Corporation are partly due to the unfavourable changes in the exchange rates and partly due to delay/default in payment of instalments by the hirers. The National Small Industries Corporation did not, as a matter of policy take any collaterals or security from small scale units. The machinery supplied to the small scale unit remained the property of the National Small Industries Corporation till the last instalment with interest thereon was paid. In view of this the question of fixing responsibility does not arise. Adequate security is being obtained from entrepreneurs for whom machines worth more than Rs. 2 lakhs are ordered from 1975 onwards.

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU: Sir, may I know from the honourable Minister whether, because of the total losses amounting to Rs. 567 lakhs and an estimated loss of about Rs. 200 lakhs on the investment during the last seventeen years, the Corporation has not been able to pay any dividend? In view of the continuing losses that are occurring in this Corporation, what steps does the Government propose to take to improve the working of the Corporation?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Sir, a number of measures will have to be taken insofar as improving the functioning of the Corporation is concerned. We are currently examining the problems that this Corporation is faced with and we hope that it would be possible for us to put it on an even keel. The losses have been during the

past several years. Even while the Corporation was making losses, it cannot be denied that it has also been serving a purpose. Sir, it has supplied machinery and equipment worth over Rs. 90 crores during the last 20 years to 13,769 entrepreneurs, small entrepreneurs, and, because of its efforts, production in this country has gone up by about 800 crores of rupees during this period or, in other words, the increase in production is of the order of 800 crores of rupees, and it has provided employment to about 5 lakhs of people. So, losses have been there and We will try and see that there is improvement in the overall functioning of the Corporation by removing whatever problems are there.

SHRI GIAN CHAND TOTU: Sir, may I know whether it is a fact that one of the reasons for these losses is the import of obsolete machinery which is lying in the Ludhiana Institute for the last so many years?

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: I would require notice to answer this question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. Nizam-ud-Din. Not here. Next question.

Site for the Ship Building Yards

•393. SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: SHRI BHAIYA RAM

MUNDA: SHRI

BRAHMANANDA

PANDA: SHRI PHANINDRA NATH HANSDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state by when a decision on the location of the ship building yards, the construction of which is at present under consideration will be taken by Government?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): A proposal for commissioning Detailed Project Reports on two sites, is under the consideration of Government. The

The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Bhairab Chandra Mahanti.

actual investment decision for the establishment of a shipbuilding yard and the final selection of site will be taken by Government only after the DPRs have been received and examined. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate at this stage as to when a decision on the location of a new shipyard will be taken by Government.

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: Sir, projects like the construction of ports, shipyards, steel plants and such other things should be considered more from the point of view of national interest rather than any State interest. Now, the facilities afforded by nature, more than anything else, for the location of such sites should be the major governing factor in coming to a decision. As far as I know, the question of establishment of shipyards was under the consideration of the Government as far back as 1972 and a techno-economic working group was also appointed and the working group also submitted a report. After this, they finally recommended that four sites were suitable for this purpose, two on the West coast and two on the East coast. The two in the west coast are, one, Goa and another is Hazira in Gujarat. The two on the east coast are Paradeep and Haldia. Subsequently, the Government of India also entrusted the work to two groups of consultants—one from Yugoslavia and another from Britain to submit a feasibility report in regard to these...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI BHAIKAB CHANDRA MAHANTI: My question is this. From 1972 to 1977 is a long period. Do the Government at all give priority consideration to this ship-building project?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: As far as the time taken so far is concerned, we are not responsible for it. But some lapse of time is inevitable, because this was first examined by a committee, then examined by foreign consultants as to which site can be chosen. That is why it took some

time. Now, two sites have been recommended by the experts. Detailed Project Reports are being prepared. As they are ready they will have to be examined by the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Shipping, the Planning Commission and other concerned Ministries. That is why it takes time. But I will try to see that it takes as little time as possible.

SHRI PHANINDRA NATH HANSDA: Sir, may I know from the hon. Prime Minister what is the recommendation of the expert team which visited these sites? Is it also a fact that Haldia is being neglected because of some political pressures from some quarters?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: There is no question of political pressure on foreign consultants. Foreign consultants are being consulted in this matter and they have recommended two sites. Haldia is not one of them. But Haldia is being considered for a shipbuilding repair yard. That also is being considered. Therefore, we do not think that Haldia is being rejected or being neglected.

DR. RAJAT KUMAR CHAKRABARTI: May I know from the hon. Prime Minister whether the expert team which submitted its report has given any priority, like one and two, or they have recommended that both sites are suitable?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: They have recommended both of them, and both of them can be taken together.

SHRI KALYAN ROY: May I know from the hon. Prime Minister why this idea of Haldia has been dropped? May I also know whether the Government has taken a decision to start a ship repairing yard there?

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: I cannot say anything about how experts make up their minds in this matter. But they have considered this and they think that that is not a place where it can be recommended now.

The ship-repairing yard is being considered seriously; it is not merely to avoid the issue.

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: May I know from the hon. Prime Minister, Sir, which are the two sites recommended by the expert team?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has given the names already.

SHRI JANARDHANA REDDY: He has not given. And besides this I would like to know the position of Vishakhapatnam about a ship-building yard being located there.

SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI: There is one at Vishakhapatnam. What is he asking? About the two names, they are Paradeep and Hazira.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

पिछड़े वर्गों के छात्रों को मैट्रिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्तियाँ प्रदान किये जाने के लिए परीक्षा

*394. श्री श्रीकांत वर्मा :†
श्री बलराम दास :
श्री सवाई सिंह सिसोदिया :
श्री नन्द किशोर भट्ट :
श्रीमती रत्न कुमारी :

क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछड़े वर्गों को मैट्रिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्तियों के लिये हकदार बनाने के लिये जो परीक्षा ली जाती है उसके विरुद्ध इन वर्गों के छात्रों में व्यापक असंतोष है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार उक्त प्रयोजन के लिये ऐसी परीक्षा को बन्द करने का विचार रखती है ?

Examination for grant of post matric scholarships to students belonging to the backward classes'

*394. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:
SHRI BALRAM DAS: SHRI
SAWAISINGH SISODIA:
SHRI N. K. BHATT:
SHRIMATI RATAN KUMARI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is widespread resentment among the students belonging to the backward classes against holding an examination for determining their eligibility for the grant of post-matric scholarships; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to do away with the practice of holding such examinations for the aforesaid purpose?]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) Government of India sponsors post-matric scholarships scheme for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Neo-Buddhists only. There is no provision of holding any examination for the purpose of granting post-matric scholarships,

(b) Does not arise.

@[गृह मंत्री (श्री चरण सिंह) : (क) भारत सरकार केवल अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित जनजातियों तथा नव बौद्धों के लिए मैट्रिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्ति योजना प्रायोजित करती है। मैट्रिकोत्तर छात्रवृत्ति प्रदान करने के प्रयोजन के लिए कोई परीक्षा लेने का प्रावधान नहीं है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।]

श्री श्रीकांत वर्मा : सभापति महोदय, जैसा कि मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि कुछ

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Shrikant Verma. \$[] English translation. @[] Hindi translation.