

[23 April, 2003]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) :

(a) and (b) Certain proposals for lateral induction of Defence personnel to CPMFs and other organizations are under consideration in the Ministry of Defence.

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Certain proposals for lateral induction of Defence personal to CPMFs and other organisations are under consideration in the Minisatry of Defence. Sir, if you permit me, I would like to humbly submit that the whole question relates to Defence Ministry. There are two proposals; both are laying with the Defence Ministry. One is about lateral inductions of officers' rank in Central Paramilitary forces and the other one is below the officers' rank. One has been referred to the law Ministry and the other is under examination. So, I think, the Hon. Member will be satisfied with my answer.

SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY : Sir, is Hon. Minister in a position to give an assurance that the Government intends to implement the provisions of the Fifth Pay Commission as regards the career prospects of Army personnel?

SHRI HARIN PATHAK : This is about the lateral induction of Army officers and below the rank of officers. I require a separate notice for that.

Revival of NTC MILLS

*471. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to adopt three-fold strategy to revive the loss making NTC run mills ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed strategy;

(c) the details of NTC mills running in losses for the last severa years; and

(d) the extent to which the new strategy is going to help in the reviv of sick NTC mills ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI KASHIRAM RANA) : (a) to (d) : A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b) : Government have decided to revive all revivable mills and close the non revivable mills after giving VRS to affected employees. As per the Schemes sanctioned by BIFR/Government 53 viable mills are to be revived and 66 unviable mills are to be closed. The Schemes also provide for One Time Settlement with secured creditors and modernisation of the viable mills from funds to be generated largely through sale of surplus assets.

(c) Subsidiary wise details of net loss incurred during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statements. (See below).

(d) On implementation of the Sanctioned Schemes, the viable mills are expected to start generating profit and the Companies are projected to have positive net worth.

Statement

Company-wise net loss during last three years

(Rs. in crores)

Name of the subsidiary	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002	Total
NTC (DPR)	53.83	58.48	62.9	175.21
NTC (MP)	97.19	100.78	47.97	245.94
NTC (UP)	138.58	135.68	79.35	353.61
NTC (SM)	180.12	188.24	75.49	443.85
NTC (MN)	185.04	207.67	169.8	562.51
NTC (GUJ)	117.66	141.45	61.03	320.14
NTC (APKKM)	85.57	92.55	37.08	215.2
NTC (TNP)	32.88	3.21	27.48	63.57
NTC (WBABO)	105.6	129.72	60.57	295.89
NTC (HC)	58.66	57.61	69.74	186.01

श्री अभय कांत प्रसाद : सर, माननीय मंत्री जी का जो उत्तर है वह बेग है। उन्होंने कहा है कि 53 अर्थक्षम मिलों को पुनर्जीवित किया जाएगा तथा 55 गैर-अर्थक्षम मिलों को बंद किया जाएगा। कब तक इन मिलों को पुनर्जीवित किया जाएगा इसकी कोई समय-सीमा इन्होंने नहीं दी है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसकी कोई समय-सीमा है तो कृपया वह हमें बताएं ?

श्री काशी राम राणा : सर, जो रिवाईवेल प्लान बी.आई.एफ.आर. ने मंजूर किया है उसके तहत 119 मिलों में से 53 मिल ऐसी हैं जो रिवाईवेल में हैं और 66 मिल ऐसी हैं जो अनरिवाईवेल में हैं। इसका जो इम्प्लीमेंटेशन पीरियड है, 2002-2003 से दो साल में हमें उसको इम्प्लीमेंट करना है और अभी इम्प्लीमेंटेशन का काम शुरू है।

श्री अभय कांत प्रसाद : दूसरे, वर्तमान समय में राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम—एन.टी.सी. की सभी मिलों में क्या सरकार प्रबंधन में श्रमिकों की भागीदारी शुरू करने का विचार रखती है ? यदि हां, तो कब तक और उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ?

श्री काशी राम राणा : सरकार की यह मंशा थी कि जो वर्कर्स हैं वे वर्कर्स भी इसमें पार्टिसिपेट करें तथा उनकी भागीदारी, हिस्सेदारी हो। इसके लिए जब यह रिवाईवेल प्लान बना था तब भी हमने ऑफर की थी कि अगर कोई सब्सिडियरी में से हमारे कोई वर्कर्स अपना कोआपरेटिव बनाकर सरकार के पास मिलें चलाने के लिए मंजूरी मांगते हैं तो हम उसे अवश्य देंगे। लेकिन कोई भी वर्कर्स की ऐसी कोआपरेटिव सरकार के पास नहीं आई जिन्होंने ऐसी मांग की हो कि हम मिल चलाने के लिए तैयार हैं। तो ऐसी कोई मांग नहीं आने पर ऐसी हिस्सेदारी का कोई सवाल नहीं रहता।

श्री अभय कांत प्रसाद : लेकिन सरकार को स्वतः मजदूरों को भागीदारी देनी चाहिए।

SHRI N. JOTHI : Sir, the Minister of Textiles is aware that the powerlooms numbering about 25 lakhs all over India, and four to five lakhs of mills, particularly, in Tamil Nadu, are under closure since the past one month, and millions of workers are suffering due to this.....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put your supplementary.

SHRI N. JOTHI : This being a national problem, and lakhs of mills are under closure...

MR. CHAIRMAN : It may be a national problem, but please put your supplementary without giving any background.

SHRI N. JOTHI : If the hon. Minister is able to respond, let him do so. Otherwise, let him express his inability. Sir, for the first time, 10 per cent excise duty has been levied, and the people are suffering a lot. What is the solution he has got for the problem that is being faced now. Is it advisable now, at this juncture, when the whole textiles industry is in crisis, to impose this tax ? I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how he is going to face this situation.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, the point raised by the hon. Member relates to Budget. But, anyhow, I have already taken up this matter with the Ministry of Finance asking them to resolve this issue as early as possible.

SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Sir, the revival order of the subsidiary company of NTC, that is, the APKK & M, was passed one-and-a-half years ago, and it was assured before the BIFR that in both the viable mills and the non-viable mills, the VRS would be implemented simultaneously. Now, even after one-and-a-half years, the VRS has not been implemented in the viable mills which are there, namely, the 10 mills coming under APKK & M. Sir, several commitments made before the BIFR have not been complied with, and the revival and modernisation packages have not been made. When, in another six months two years would pass by, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister as to when he is going to sanction the revival and modernisation packages. I would also like to know whether VRS would be paid to the workers of the viable mills also, as committed and assured before the BIFR.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, the Government and my Ministry are totally committed as far as the revival plan approved by the BIFR is concerned. As of now, we are giving the modified VRS to the workers of non-viable mills. After that, we are committed to give modified VRS to those workers, who want to avail of the VRS, in the viable mills as well.

SHRI JIBON ROY : Sir, unfortunately, in the last five years, whenever questions on NTC comes up, the same reply is given with only some change in figures...

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is also the same.

SHRI JIBON ROY : Sir, I draw your attention to the reply given by the Minister that all revivable mills would be revived. Is there any Government in the world which would say, "Revivable mills will not be revived." Sir, only the figures have changed in 10 years. Ten years back, it was said that all the 119 mills would be revived. Now, the statement shows that 53 mills would be revived. Gradually, the figure would come down to zero. Sir, generally, the BIFR gives its judgement on the basis of the money that can be provided for in the Budget. Now, we have enacted a law...

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your supplementary?

SHRI JIBON ROY : This is my supplementary. We had enacted a law 10 years back empowering the Government to sell the surplus lands available with the NTC mills. We have empowered them...

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Minister, he wants to know what the opinion of the Government is.

SHRI JIBON ROY : I would like to know whether the Government is going to implement this law and revive all these mills.

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA : Sir, so far as the declining number of mills to be revived is concerned, it is totally incorrect. Sir, we are now implementing the revival plan. Before that, as the House knows, two revival plans had failed as they were not approved by the BIFR. As regards the point that he has raised about implementation, I would like to say, in the last revival plan, there were only 25 revivable mills. The Government and my Ministry had initiated the process of making more mills viable. So, earlier there were 25 mills and now there are 53 mills which are considered to be viable. Now, Sir, we are giving the modified VRS. We have sold the surplus machinery and the land, and collected Rs. 80 crores. So far as the VRS and the modernisation is concerned, the Government is going ahead to complete it within two years period, as suggested by the BIFR.

*472. [The Questioner (Shri Rama Muni Reddy Sirigireddy) was absent. For answer *vide* pages 45—46 *infra*.]