

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government to give shares of public sector enterprises to workers and the public. However, Government has recently approved creation of an Employees' Mutual Benefit Fund Scheme for buying shares of Maruti Udyog Ltd. by the employees through the Fund. The scheme is under implementation stage. There is no proposal presently under consideration for sale of equity shares to public.

(b) No information is available in this regard.

(c) Does not arise.

Selling of Holdings of Public Sector Undertakings

4154. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to sell a part of its holdings in some of the public sector undertakings which are not viable in order to enhance productivity and profit margin;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Losses in Public Sector Undertakings

4155. SHRI C. SRINIVASAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Public Sector Undertakings incurring losses of more than Rs. one crore per annum continuously for the last three years; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to prevent continuous loss incurred by these Public Sector Undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) There are 61 public sector undertakings which are incurring losses over Rs. one crore per annum continuously for the last three years ending with 1988-89.

(b) Improving efficiency of the public sector enterprises is a continuous process. In this regard various measures such as change in product mix, technological upgradation, improved maintenance management practices, energy conservation, modernisation & rehabilitation, organisational restructuring etc., are taken. A new concept of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been introduced which clarifies the mutual obligations of the public sector enterprises and the administrative Ministries for achieving improved performance.

Exit Policy for Public Sector Units

4156. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision in regard to the exit policy for public sector units if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether under the scheme the public sector units who want to close down can do so;

(c) if so, the other measures being considered in this regard; and

(d) to what extent the exist policy will be helpful for public sector units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) There is no such policy.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

NAM Science and Technology Centre

4157. SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAM Science and Technology Centre was established at New Delhi a year ago;

(b) if so, the number of NAM countries which have joined it and actually paid their dues so far;

(c) the achievements of the Centre so far; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that the Centre is made fully operational and shortage of funds do not hamper its growth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (PROF. M.G.K. MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries was established in New Delhi about a year and a half ago, with the convening of the first meeting of the Governing Council of

the Centre in New Delhi in March 1989.

(b) 32 countries have so far joined the Centre. Full membership dues were paid by two countries in the year 1989-90, while during the current year (1990-91) full dues have so far been paid by one country and partial dues by another.

(c) The Centre is in its formative stage. Towards its institutionalisation, the policy making structure was set in operation by convening two meetings of the Governing Council and an extra-ordinary meeting, which took decisions on specific measures for the functioning of the Centre and formulation of its programme of work. Some countries have since sent their comments and proposals of interest to them. Steps have been taken to prepare an information file on S & T infrastructure of the Member Countries on the basis of a questionnaire circulated to them. The Centre has been accepted as a member of the network of scientific institutionalisation of the Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste, Italy. It has also been a suitable source of identifying experts in science and technology in World countries by the Southern African development Coordination Conference.

(d) The Governing Council requested the Member Countries to make appropriate arrangements for transfer of funds for the payment of their membership dues to the accounts of the Centre, and stressed the importance of attention being focussed on specific time-targeted programmes, without the resources being spread too thin. The scope of the Centre's activities will grow with increasing participation of the Member Countries. In this process, the cooperation of the Member Countries will be an essential consideration. In addition, other countries have been invited to join the Centre as its member. India as the host Country is providing its share to set up and ensure the running of the Centre.