

yesterday. Now I would like to know whether my complaint regarding corruption being practiced in the registration of direct institutions has been found true as per the inquiry report or not? If so, I would like to know the action being contemplated by the Government in this regard.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The hon. Member has levelled certain allegations against KVIC. As I said on an earlier occasion, the additional security has gone into it. He has submitted his report. He has said that the production capacity of the three Dhradun units was in doubt. It is also not beyond doubtful whether that the Dehradun units manufactured the blankets in their own premises making use of either raw-wool procured by them or raw-yarn procured from their permissible units. Prima facie, there seems to be collusion between the advisor Shri Sharma and the office-bearers and officials of the KVIC in farming out orders for barrack blankets on the three Dhradun units in preference to other units. He has also suggested that there is need for further detailed investigation.

Was have instructed the KVIC to submit their comments within seven days. We have also instructed that KVIC be asked to take stringent action and immediately report to the Government purchase will be given which has resulted in such malpractice.

The Government has no intention to shelter any guilty person (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: He has replied to your question

(*Interruptions*)

SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM: I have said that we have given instructions not register any institution.

Sickness in Small scale Industrial Sector

685. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will

the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given on March 24, 1993 to Starred Question No. 417 and state:

(a) whether the Government propose to undertake a census of small scale industrial units with 1992-93 as the reference year;

(b) whether the incident of sickness in the small scale industrial sector has increased during the last three years;

(c) the number of sick units assisted from the National Enquiry Fund since its inception and the total outlay involved therein;

(d) the number of such units assisted out of the centrally sponsored Margin Money Scheme with the total outlay thereon upto 1992-93; and

(e) the time by which RBI is expected to issue guidelines to banks for the rehabilitation of such units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. A comparison of data on sick units with number of registered SSI units for the years 1990 and 1991 (latest available) does not reveal an increase in the incidence of sickness.

(c) According to Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), no separate data regarding assistance to sick units under national enquiry fund is readily available. The assistance sanctioned and disbursed by SIDBI under N.E.F. to S.S.I. units (including sick SSI units) during April, 1990 to March 1993 (i.e. the period of existence of SIDBI) is as follows:

1.	No. of units assisted	-	1760
2.	Equity Amount sanctioned -		Rs. 6.86 crores.
3.	Amount disbursed	-	Rs. 5.10 crores.

The balance outstanding on account of N.E.F. (as on March 31, 1993) is Rs. 13.16 crores.

(d) So far i.e. upto March 1993 a sum of Rs. 259.26 lakhs have been sanctioned to 17 States/ U.Ts. Information available from eight States which also account for 81.7% of the total fund sanctioned till now, reveals that with a sum of Rs. 211.86 lakhs sanctioned to them, 857 sick units were assisted.

(e) RBI has already issued guidelines on 6.2.1987 and subsequently modified and updated on 8.6.1989, 8.1.1991 and 1.7.1992. Further guidelines by RBI will depend on the acceptance of the report of Nayak Committee by the RBI.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: If the Government has not conducted a recent survey and do not propose to conduct one, we have no option but to rely on the survey conducted in 1989-91 for the period 1987-88, which was released in February 1992.

According to this, there are 19.4 lakh units in the small scale sector with a total investment of Rs. 20,000 crore roughly and the production capacity of Rs. 57,500 crore. Now in March, 1990, 2.19 lakh units were reported to be sick, which is 11 per cent of total number of units registered at that time.

Now the Minister says that he has no idea about the incidence of sickness of this sector. Since no survey has been conducted, I do not understand how the registration figure can give an indication of the incidence of sickness?

Therefore, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether it is his case that the sickness has not increased since 1990, during the last

three years, either in the form of absolute number of sick units or in terms of percentage of the total number of sick units registered.

SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM: According to the RBI figures, the percentage of sickness has come down by one per cent. In 1990, the sick units in small scale sector numbered 2,18,828. That is about 15.9 per cent. In 1990-91 the number of sick units was 2,21,472 which was about 14.8 per cent of the total number of units.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: What about the latest figures? The hon. Minister has the figure of 1990 according to the survey and I asked, whether during the last three years, it is his case that, in the total number of sick units in the percentage of the total number of units, the incidence of sickness has gone down. He has not replied to that.

Mr. Speaker, I come to the second question.

These 2.19 lakh units which were reported sick in March 1990 had an outstanding bank loan of Rs. 2,427 crore which means each unit was indebted roughly to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh or Rs. 1.25 lakh. Now, the Minister has in his reply given what remedial measures have been taken. It has been stated in the reply that during 1990 to 1993 under Small Industries Development Bank of India 1,769 units were assisted to the extent of Rs. 5.1 crore, and under the marginal money scheme 857 units were assisted to the tune of Rs. 2.11 crore which makes a grand total of 2626 sick units assisted to an extent of Rs. 7.22 crore during the last three years.

Now the Minister has already admitted the level of sickness. It seems to me that the remedial measures taken by the Government are like a

flea-bite. There are thousands of units which are non-operational. About 2.19 or 3 lakh units are sick, out of which only 2600 units have been assisted and against an outstanding credit of roughly each unit being indebted to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh or Rs. 1.25 lakh amount given per unit is Rs. 25,000 which means, in fact, that the Government was throwing good money after bad money. I do not understand this strategy for trying to nurse back the sick units to health.

Therefore, I would like to understand from the hon. Minister what further measures do they propose, in order that all the sick units in the small industrial sector are adequately covered and nursed back to health at least during the next five years.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The Naik Committee has submitted its report on this issue and it has recommended some measures. The RBI has to decide on that. As far as the credit policy announced by the Reserve bank of India very recently on 7th April is concerned, they have suggested something to the banks; that is, they asked the RBI to increase credit flows to SSI sector; they even preferred an action plan for this purpose. The existing instructions for sanction of loans to the SSI sector would be replaced by a simplified procedure and the details would be announced by the RBI soon.

SHRISOMNATH CHATTERJEE: They have never translated it into action. You are repeating parrot-like.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: That is for the Government to do. An ombudsman type of institution will be created to look into the grievances of the small scale sector and to give a boost to marketing of SSI sector the banks have been asked to provide working capital to SSI in marketing their products. The definition of sick units are being examined and will be modified/ how far they can be improved. A formal communication will be coming from the RBI.

SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: We are

well aware of the innumerable small scale units which have turned sick owing to varied reasons. May I know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir a couple of the main measures taken by the Government to assist technocrats whose small scale units have been sized by various financial institutions owing to industrial sickness?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, I cannot follow his question.

MR. SPEAKER: The technocrats of small scale units are suffering. Can you help them and how?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, the SIDBI, the Small Scale Industrial Development Bank of India, is having various schemes for technocrats. They can avail facilities through them.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we always hear so much about the schemes and guidelines and all that. But the trouble is that at the operational level, these are never implemented. I would like to know from the hon.

Minister, how many units have applied for assistance because we only find 1769 units have been assisted. On what basis these units have been chosen? They have the problems of marketing and the problem of getting financial assistance. When SIDBI law was passed, we were told that an institution of wonderful nature is being set up and all the problems of the small industries are going to be met now and going to be removed. But still the financial problems is there. The marketing problems are there. Now, with the reduction in import duties and the customs duties, even the raw materials, some small components, which were being manufactured in the small scale sector, are going to be imported now and they are facing the biggest difficulty now. I can tell you that with the reduction of the customs duties, air conditioners are being brought as personal package; refrigerators are being brought as personal package. The small units manufacturing

airconditioners are going out of circulation because these are coming cheaper with the reduction of the customs duties. These are very important issues. That is why, I said, it was all * I am sorry. I am withdrawing that word.....

MR. SPEAKER: Off the record.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But the point is merely trotting out those would not do. Mr. Prime Minister, this is a very important sector. You know that. Please pay some attention to whatever he is saying. This is not being done. The biggest employment sector is the export units. Shrimati Krishna Sahi agrees with me. So far as exports performance concerned, it is the best. But this is the most neglected sector.

I request the hon. Minister to tell us what concrete steps are you taking; how many units have applied for assistance; how much have you given and on what basis.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, I do not have the figures as to how many units have asked for assistance. Out of the total sick units of 2,21,472 units, 16,140 units with outstanding bank credit of Rs. 693.12 crore were reported to be potentially viable: by the commercial banks at the end of March 1991. The banks have put.....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: How many units have applied for assistance ?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: I do not have that figure. I will collect it and call it on to you.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: The most important thing, you will collect.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Comparatively between 1990 and 1991, there has been a slight improvement. What Shri Somnath is talking

about is very very recent measures, which would never have had any impact on 1990 and 1991 and those figures. And if that impact is needed, we shall certainly study me give him.

[Translation]

Don't mix those two. Both are separate things.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: You have said April to March. Hon. Prime Minister Sir you have said that it is April, 1992 to March 1993....

(Interruptions)

[English]

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: Sir, you will appreciate that the number of unemployed youth are increasing day by day and it is a chronic problem of our country now. The small scale industries was proposed to set up to encourage the unemployed youth and the women. But now it is lagging behind because of the negative attitude of the financial institutions and the lack of cooperation from the Government level also. Sir, you will be surprised to know that out of the total there lakh industries, which are no sick in the country, in my State more than 35,000 industries are sick. There is no scope for the unemployed youth; no employment opportunity. (Interruptions). Why do not you allow me to speak. This question is about unemployed youth. I am asking for the unemployed youth. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI CHHIDI PASWAN: When you move out its work, who will cook can food at from (Interruptions)

[English]

An hon. Member: It is not good. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Who said this? Please stand up, apologise and withdraw. you have to apologise and withdraw.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRICHHIDIPASWAN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my intention was not malatide, it was Jrrsa a Joke.

MR. SPEAKER: This is not a Joke.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : You have to withdraw your words (*Interruptions*)

SHRICHHEDIPASWAN: I am sorry, if she has been hust by what I said. (*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You shall have also to apologise. You do not understand the meaning and implication of what you are saying.

[Translation]

SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN If that is not enough, I apologise as well.

KUMARI MAMTA BANERJEE: I would like to know whether the Government will set up an expert Committee to go into the details and give some necessary relief to the unemployed youth so that they can stand on their feet. Secondly, I would also like to know whether the Government will set up more and more new industries to encourage the unemployed youth.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The employment has increased considerably through the small scale sector. As far as educated unemployed youth is concerned, We have a scheme which is being implemented through the DICs. If the hon. Member has any suggestion, we will go into it and we will try to implement it.

[Translation]

RABI RAY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to ask

a very specific question. Is the hon. Minister aware, as said by Somnathji also, that there is less employment opportunities in small scale sector in comparison to big industries? There is a deliberate delay in payment by the big industries to the small scale industries for the supply of goods made by the latter. Payment is made in six months or in one year. The Government is asked to solve this problem faced by the Small Scale Industries. I would like to know whether any consultation in this regard has been held with the Ministry of Law and justice and whether the Government contemplates to set up any special tribunal. I would like to know the reaction of the Government over the proposition that the payment too to the Small Scale industries for the goods supplied to the big industries would be made within 30 days.

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, it is a fact that the large scale industries are delaying their payments. I think, the hon. Member might be aware that in the current Session we have passed the Bill. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI RABI RAY: What about the implementation?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: We have just now passed the Bill and we have to implement it.

DR. KARTIKESWAR PATRA: Sir, the assistance sanctioned and disbursed by SIDBI under N.E.F. to S.S.I. units during April, 1990 to March 1993 is as follows.

Equity amount sanctioned	-	Rs. 6.86 crores
Amount disbursed	-	Rs. 5.10 crores.

The rest amount that is Rs. 1.76 crores could not be spent. In the House, we are very much concerned of developments of sick units. I would like to know what are the reasons why this amount could not be spent so far.

Another thing is that in seventeen States, the amount of assistance sanctioned is Rs. 259.26 crores. Out of that, the amount sanctioned for eight States is Rs. 211.86 crores and for the remaining nine States, only Rs. 37.40 crores have been sanctioned. So, some sort of regional imbalance has been committed. I would like to know what steps are being taken by the Government to avert imbalance in sanctioning the assistance to backward states.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, it is a fact that the refinance scheme is not up to the expectation. We are planning to have a review meeting with the banking institutions.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would first request you to please chastise the hon. Minister because he has misled this august House with the reply he has given. This is the Economic Survey-1992-93. If the Hon. Prime Minister glances through it, he would find that as per his own estimate the number of sick industrial units in small scale sector has increased from the lakh eighty three thousand to two lakh twenty one thousand within the period from 1988 to 1991. He has manipulated the figures and made an addition of about fifty seven thousand units in it which were not in existence. Therefore, his reply is misleading and you should warn him not to give such false statements in the House.

MR. SPEAKER: Before that, let me understand the point.

(*Interrupt.*)

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Since the hon. Prime Minister in his reply to the question raised by one of my friends Shri somnath Chatterjee has made a comparison between the present policy and the previous situation to make his point clear, I would seek certain clarifications on the following lines I am going to read.

[*English*]

"The Growth of the sector in 1991-92 that is, of the small-scale sector was in spite of a number the availability of requisite raw materials and credit squeeze and a rise in the interest rates leading to severe erosion of the liquidity position of the SSI units."

[*Translation*]

Does the hon. Prime Minister agree to what has been stated in the economic survey of 1991-92-93 and placed before the House recently in the month of February?

[*English*]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, I do not know. I have to go back and study.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, what type of reply is it.

[*English*]

MR. SPEAKER: He says that he will study and reply.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Haven't they studied it? This economic survey was not prepared for me. All this has been written in it. Was he not aware of all this when he placed the document before the House and did not the concerned officers apprise him of all that is written in it?

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: This should not be so

(*Interruptions*)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Economic Survey contains a log of information. Allow him to look into it.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Economic survey is the document of the Government of India. Did not the concerned officers furnish any information to him regarding the document?

[English]

He cannot be allowed to mislead the House. He is misleading the House. (Interruptions) Government is misleading the House. (Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister is giving reply without knowledge and without going through the document. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: This should not be so.

(Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Sir, if the Minister is not ready, please hold him on.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: There is no need to hold him on.

[English]

I have carefully heard him and he was saying something about 1990-91 increase. Let it be examined properly and then he will reply, not like this.

[Translation]

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Mr.

Speaker Sir, I would like to request you again to please hold on this matter. The matter should be investigated. He is saying that what he said was wrong. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to submit that the biggest problem in India is increasing population and unemployment. Educated youth fail to get jobs and in that condition they take recourse to small scale industries. The hon. Prime Minister has stated just now that the number of sick units is very large and the Government is trying to improve their condition. I would like to say that lack of providing timely subsidy has been one of the factors of the units turning sick. Has the Government formulated a scheme to provide subsidy to small scale industries in time so that they do not become sick.

[English]

SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, the capital subsidy has been withdrawn by the Government of India in 1988 itself. Now, the subsidies are being given by the State Government. It is upto the State Governments to see that it is being distributed fairly.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Sanskrit as a Computer Language

[English]

683. DR. A. K. PATKIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the broad details of the studies conducted and approach papers prepared regarding use of Sanskrit in computers in view of claims of computer scientists in America since 1985 that Sanskrit is a rule governed language for computer processing; and

(b) the progress made in this regard and the