

desirous of knowing the licensing procedure then I will tell him every thing.

Joint Ventures in Africa

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*402. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA
KAUR (DEEPA):
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA
KUMARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that the African Development Bank has made an offer to the Indian industrialists for setting up of Joint ventures in Africa particularly in the small scale sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(c) the names of the African projects in which Indian industrialists have shown their interest?

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). A seminar on "Export Opportunities in the African Development Bank funded projects" was organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry on 14th February '93. The focus of the conference inter-alia was on the business opportunities offered by ADB funded projects.

Since the seminar was organised only recently, it would take some time for the Indian Industry to respond.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister stated in the reply that a seminar in this

regard was held on 14th February, 1993. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the agenda of the seminar and the detailed recommendations received thereof? In this regard what type of facilities will be made available by the African Development Bank to the Indian industrialists and within how much time will the reaction of the Government be known to us?

[*English*]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, the subject for discussion in the seminar, as I have said in the main answer, is the export opportunities in the African Development Bank funded projects. The President of the African Development Bank, while addressing the Indian industry told that the Indian industry shall explore the opportunities for setting up of joint ventures in African countries, specially in the small and medium sector. He also said that African Development Bank would provide financial assistance to Indo-African joint ventures through the national financial institutions for setting up of joint ventures in Africa. As far as the joint ventures in Africa are concerned, we have about 28 joint ventures in operation and eleven under implementation.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRA KAUR (DEEPA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to know whether there is a proposal to set up a joint venture company in South Africa? If so, the stand of the Government of India in this regard? Secondly, I would like to know the number of joint venture projects set up till date in Africa and out of these how many were abruptly abandoned, and why such abandoned projects are in large number?

[*English*]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, I said just now that there are about 39 joint ventures and out of these 28 are in operation in African countries and eleven are under implementation. There are six subsidiaries

of Indian companies functioning in African countries.

SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister about the prospects of Joint ventures in the agricultural sector in view of the drought conditions in Africa specially in the field of manufacturing agricultural implements in small scale sector and whether any enquiries are there about such projects. Secondly, I would like to know whether a decision has been taken as regards transfer of technology to Africa and if so, what modalities have been chalked out regarding that.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: As far as small industry is concerned, the National Small Industries Corporation of India is conducting workshops and seminars to promote Indian technologies and development and small industries in various African countries. The N.S.I.C. is also setting up common facilities and training centres as part of the creation of infrastructural facilities in various African countries. N.S.I.C. is also participating in international exhibitions organised by the India Trade Promotion Organisation. About the agricultural sector there are enquiries. It is in the beginning stage.

SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is one of the largest reservoirs of technically qualified people in this country and we have the requisite technology available in this country. There are a large number of unemployed people in our country also and on their own they have been going out. Now that this opportunity has been made available to us, where resources are required; otherwise our people would have set up infrastructure in our own country. Since this opportunity is made available now, will the Government have a monitoring mechanism by which they will first make an assessment of the opportunities that can be availed and set up industries in Africa whereby we can develop better relations also with these countries?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The seminar was recently conducted by the Federa-

tion of Indian Industry. The Government was not directly involved. However we will contact the Confederation of Indian Industry and try to explore the possibilities.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply, that 99 industries in Joint sector were already working. The biggest problem of India is the increasing population and employment. Keeping this fact in view whether the Government proposes to have programme so as to encourage the entrepreneurs to set up their industries in the country itself and do not go abroad. They should set up small scale industries in the country instead of setting up in a foreign country.

MR. SPEAKER: This question relates to setting up of industries in joint sector in Africa.

SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA: I would like such entrepreneurs not to go to Africa but set up their industries here in the country.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, this question is not related to the main question.

MR. SPEAKER: It is to this side of the coin.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: That is correct, Sir.

Our Government is encouraging the entrepreneurs who are setting up industries in the country.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Sir, this question is mainly on the basis of African Development Bank aided projects. So, all the industries will be established in Africa for export-oriented opportunities. We have already set up Technology Missions in our country and achieved some goal here. In Africa also, it is already there for mineral-based industry, in a very low design parameters like coal-based industry, coal fertil-

iser industry and other projects which can be funded by the African Development Bank. I would like to know from the Minister whether this subject of Technology Mission was taken up in the deliberations.

MR. SPEAKER: Those Missions have to be accepted by them first. This question is not allowed.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would also like to raise the same question which Shrimati Bhavna Chikhliya has asked just now. There is a wide-spread unemployment in the country whereas the African Development Bank is providing facilities to encourage our entrepreneurs to set up their industries in Africa. I would like to know whether the Government of India proposes to provide similar facilities to encourage the entrepreneurs to set up small scale industries in the country itself?

MR. SPEAKER: No, this question is related to African Bank. Not allowed. You please sit down.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI HARADHAN ROY: Mr. Speaker Sir, my submission is that on one side we are inviting multi-nationals to set up the industrial units in India while on the other side we are allowing our own entrepreneurs to set up their industries in Africa.

MR. SPEAKER: This question is related to the setting up of our industries in Africa and not to invite the foreign companies here in the country.

SHRI HARADHAN ROY: It would make the problem of unemployment in our country more grave. Because, on one side we are inviting multinationals to our country which would ruin our industries and on the other side we are going to set up industries in Africa

MR. SPEAKER: The African Bank is

providing assistance and the question is whether the Indian entrepreneurs want to avail of that opportunity or not. Not allowed.
(*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI RAM KAPSE: Sir, actually we should support the whole idea, because we should be interested in export-orientation and we are interested in small-scale industries. I would like to know from the Minister as to what is the reaction about the proposals, as far as the Union Government is concerned. Secondly, what will be the Government's reaction in future about this plan?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, I have said that just now we have received the minutes of the seminar. We will examine it and try to find out a way.

SHRI RAM KAPSE: The support of the Indian Government is absolutely necessary, but they are not mindful about it. It is export-oriented and as we are interested in small-scale industries, we should support these projects.

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Sir, the Government is positive; we are only awaiting the details as to what was said in the seminar.

Technology Information Centre

*403. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a Technology Information Centre to assist entrepreneurs in identifying and choosing the most appropriate technology for their industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent to which it is likely to be helpful to the small scale industrial sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE