

**INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):** (a) to (e). Yes, Sir. A Bill namely, The Indian Boilers (Amendment) Bill, 1994 (XXXIX of 1994) has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The highlights are contained in the enclosed statement.

#### Statement

Indian Boilers Act was enacted in 1923. Since then Boiler Industry has undergone a sea change, which requires modifications in the provisions of the Indian Boilers Act. Therefore, the Government of India had appointed a High Powered Committee consisting of Central and State Government officers, manufacturers and users of boilers to propose comprehensive review of law relating to boilers. Recommendations of the Committee along with proposals to amend Indian Boilers Act were circulated to all the State Governments and Union Territories on two different occasions. Some State Governments were opposed to main recommendations of the Committee regarding taking over of implementation of Indian Boilers Act by Central Government. Administration of the Act has, therefore, been left with the State Governments.

Some of the highlights of the Bill are as follows:-

- (i) The procedure for appeals is intended to be simplified.
- (ii) Functioning of Central Boilers Board is being strengthened.
- (iii) Penalties are being increased in line with those provided in the Factories Act.
- (iv) Third party inspection is being provided for inspection of boilers during manufacture & use for improving the quality of inspection and expediting inspections.
- (v) Energy Audit is being made compulsory to conserve energy and improve environment.

As regards the impact of the proposed amendments on the small, medium scale as well as other industries, they shall benefit from these amendments in the following ways:

- (1) Expeditious inspection of their boilers during manufacture and use.
- (2) Quick decision on their appeals.
- (3) Quick registration of Boilers by cutting down the bureaucratic delays and interference.
- (4) Differences between the Registering authorities and inspection authorities will be resolved expeditiously.
- (5) Spurious boilers shall be weeded out thereby accidents will be reduced.
- (6) The cost of generation of steam shall be reduced.

[Translation]

#### Janta Gobar Gas Plants

\*138. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI:

SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether proposals for setting up of simplified and

cheap Gobar Gas Plants Model II have been received by the Government;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the agencies which developed the above model;

- (c) the main features of the model;

- (d) the time by which the above plants are likely to be set up and the estimated cost likely to be involved therein;

- (e) the financial assistance proposed to be provided by the Union Government in this regard; and

- (f) the benefits likely to be obtained by the rural people therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILISERS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). Planning, Research and Action Division of the State Planning Institute, Government of Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow has developed a new design of biogas (gobar gas) plant called Janata Biogas Plant Model- II and their proposal for approval of this new design, for extension under the ongoing Central Sector Scheme "National Project on Biogas Development", has been agreed to, by this Ministry.

- (c) The main feature of Janata Biogas Plant Model-II is that the two basic components of biogas plants, namely, digestion tank and gas storage dome have been combined into one structure. Further, this structure is made up of bricks and cement masonry, without any reinforcement with iron rods. The installation cost of Janata Biogas Plant Model-II is less than that of a similar capacity Janata Model-I Plant.

- (d) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has already set up 15 Janata Biogas Plant-Model-II in the State. The State Planning Institute, Lucknow has estimated the cost of the community adopted two cubic metre capacity Janata Model-II to be about Rs. 4400/-.

- (e) Janata Model-II receives the same rate of central subsidy and other incentives, as applicable to other approved designs of biogas plants, under the Central Sector Scheme of National Project on Biogas Development.

- (f) The adoption of the new design would further help in meeting the growing energy needs of the rural people for cooking and lighting, in a clean and unpolluted form from cattle dung without destroying its manurial value.

[English]

#### Forum of SSI Sector

\*139. SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether presently there is no forum like BIFR to deal with the sickness in the Small Industries Sector;

- (b) if so, the details of the Machinery/forum at present available at the Centre/State level to deal with the sickness in the above Sector;

- (c) whether the seminar held at Ghaziabad (U.P.) under

the auspices of the Confederation of Small Scale Industries in India (COSSI) in February 1995, recommended creation of a BIFR-like forum at the Centre and the State level to deal with the sickness of the Small Scale Industries Sector;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made at the seminar in this regard; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On the advice of the Government of India, Reserve Bank of India has set up State Level Inter-Institutional Committees (SLICs) in all States under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Industries Department of the concerned State Government for working out a rehabilitation package for revival of viable sick small scale units.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Recommendations are reproduced below:

"Sickness in large and medium scale units is dealt with by the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). However, there is no such body to deal with the sickness in small scale industry sector despite raising this question from time to time on various forums and occasions. In view of the magnitude of problems faced by the SSIs throughout the country, this seminar of the Confederation of Small Scale Industries of India (COSSI) strongly favours creation of a body for settlement of cases relating to rehabilitation/winding up of sick units of BIFR at national and state levels with quasi-judicial powers to give mandatory directions to the Central and State Governments, financial institutions and commercial banks within the frame work of RBI guidelines. The cases relating to sickness upto 1 crore might be dealt with by the suggested state level statutory body and from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 3 crore could be tackled by the national body.

An appellent body might also be set up under Development Commissioner, Small Scale Industries, Government of India to look into the cases that might come up after the verdict of state level organisation of settlement.

The present machinery i.e. SLIC in absence of quasi-judicial powers to give mandatory directions to the concerned agencies including banks, etc. Within the framework of RBI guidelines has not provided the required relief to the SSIs in the matter of redressal of their grievances. Moreover, no redressal system exists for SSI units when banks do not adhere to the guidelines and the SSI units have to fight suits filed against them for no fault of theirs"

(e) Even earlier, Nayak Committee which examined the issue of "Adequacy of institutional credit to the small scale sector and related aspects" had recommended creation of State level tribunals on the BIFR pattern under a common legislation to deal with the cases of sick SSI units. The matter has been considered and for the present among other things the State Governments have been advised to revitalise the State Level Inter-Institutional Committees for the rehabilitation of the sick SSI units.

## AIDS Education

\*140. DR. P. VALLAL PERUMAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce AIDS education in schools all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have worked out any initiative with the NCERT and National AIDS Control Organisation in this regard;

(d) whether the UN Organ, UNFPA is funding AIDS education in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (e) Certain basic aspects of AIDS Education, like the human immune system and how it can get impaired, are already in the school curriculum for those who study Life Science, at the secondary level. However, a comprehensive AIDS educational package for students of all streams has not yet been introduced. There is a general consensus of opinion that dissemination of appropriate information and empowerment of the young adolescents to resist peer pressures is likely to play an important role in the over-all preventive strategy. National AIDS Control Organisation has collaborated with National Council of Educational Research & Training and several other U.N. agencies to develop a training package to train secondary school teachers, curriculum developers and master trainers so that they, in turn, can impart the necessary information to students at the secondary level. The initial approaches envisage emphasis on co-curricular activities. The proposal is currently under discussion with Deptt. of Education, Ministry of Human Resources Development.

## Earth Observation Satellites

1233. SHRI PARAS RAM BHARDWAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Space Department's dedicated programme of earth monitoring through 10 satellites in 10 years made India a world leader in providing earth observation satellites;

(b) whether India's Antrix Corporation Ltd. and the US company, EOSAT, have recently announced a 10 year contract for the commercial distribution of earth observation data collected by India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details regarding information from the IRS satellite use for natural resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) India has launched three operational earth observation satellites IRS-IA, IRS-IB and IRS-P2 in 1988, 1991 and 1994