

schemes, namely, modernisation of the Shipyard and augmentation of capacity utilisation of Cochin Shipyard.

**WORLD BANK'S OBSERVATIONS
ABOUT INDIAN ECONOMY**

1415. SHRI RABI RAY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the World Bank publication titled 'Global Economic Prospects and the Developing Countries, 1991' referred to in the news-items captioned "Will India be an important loser" appearing in the Indian Express dated July 20, 1991;

(b) if so, the main observations about India contained therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAM-ESHWAR THAKUR) (a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) The publication discusses international economic trends and projects alternative global scenarios which could prevail in the current decade. In the light of these projected scenarios, the report predicts widely varied possible outcomes for the Indian economic scene. The report observes that decisions taken this year are likely to influence development trends for the decade and that structural reforms and improved macroeconomic policy are difficult under the current political situation. It also points out that higher real interest rates would increase interest burden on commercial debt and that problems are liable to arise in case of breakdown of the Uruguay Round.

(c) The publication is based on a series of assumptions about the global economy and projects a wide variable impact on the Indian economy under different scenarios. The views are speculative and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the World Bank's Board of Directors. As such, (c) does not arise.

**PROBLEMS OF SMALL ENTREPRE-
NEURS**

1416. SHRI RAMESH CHAND
TOMAR :

SHRI VIRENDRA SINGH :

SHRI CHETAN P. S. CHAU-
HAN :

SHRI BALRAJ PASSI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has formed a working group to identify the problems faced by small entrepreneurs regarding loans and working capital;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the SIDBI propose to undertake a comprehensive industrial upgradation plan; and

(d) if so, the details of industries being included in the plan, state-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DAIBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) : The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has reported that it has initiated a process of setting up informal working groups at the State Level comprising representatives of Lead/Major Banks, State-Level Institutions, IDBI and RBI with SIDBI acting as the convener to ensure coordination between banks and State-Level Institutions on an ongoing basis. The group would discuss various issues of common concern such as the joint appraisal of projects, the sanction of term loans and working capital facilities by different agencies, the sharing of security and the rehabilitation of sick units. Such informal working groups have already been set up in Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) With a view to modernising and technologically upgrading the small scale sector, SIDBI has identified 11 clusters of industries under its Technology Upgradation Programme for undertaking an intensive study of the State of existing technology and drawing up unit-specific programmes for technology and skill upgradation