

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The Notification issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs is applicable to the released Emergency Commissioned Officers and Short Service Commissioned Officers of the Armed Forces of the Union for their re-employment in the Central Civil Services. These orders are not automatically applicable to the posts in LIC. After considering all aspects, orders were issued that only last pay drawn of ex-ECOs/SSCOs will be protected and not their seniority.

(d) and (e). Do not arise.

Khadi and Village Industries Commission

2048. SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of districts where Khadi and Village Industries Commission employment generation programmes are being implemented; and

(b) what are the norms for adopting the districts for the above programme?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) At present, the Special Employment Programme (SEP) is being implemented by Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the following Districts:-

	Name of District	State
1.	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Adilabad	Andhra Pradesh
3.	East Godavari	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Banaskanta	Gujarat
5.	Ambala	Haryana
6.	Chamba	Himachal Pradesh
7.	Anant Nag	Jammu & Kashmir
8.	Jammu	Jammu & Kashmir
9.	Kolar	Karnataka
10.	Alleppy	Kerala
11.	Pathanamthitta	Kerala
12.	Thriss	Kerala
13.	Koshikode	Kerala
14.	Sarguja	Madhya Pradesh
15.	Jhabua	Madhya Pradesh
16.	Chandrapur	Maharashtra
17.	Kalahandi	Orissa
18.	Dausa	Rajasthan
19.	Tonk	Rajasthan
20.	Jaipur	Rajasthan
21.	Ramanathpuram	Tamil Nadu
22.	Tirunelveli	Tamil Nadu
23.	Mau-Balia	Uttar Pradesh
24.	Jaunpur	Uttar Pradesh
25.	Birbhum	West Bengal

(b) The districts have been selected based on the criteria such as concentration of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population and the potential for taking up viable projects in the KVI sector: industrial backwardness of the districts etc.

Hindustan News Print Ltd.

2049. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to expand Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. Velloor, Kottayam, Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of the unfavourable market conditions for newsprint, Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Kerala have deferred their expansion plan for the present.

[Translation]

Illegal Trade of Foreign Exchange

2050. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cases of illegal trading of foreign exchange in Delhi have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the number of such cases and the value of foreign exchange seized during the last six months; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government for preventing the illegal trading of the foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). Delhi office of the Enforcement Directorate detected eight cases of illegal trading in foreign exchange during the last six months. As a result, foreign exchange worth Rs.78 lakhs (approx.) was seized.

(c) A strict vigil is kept and action as warranted under the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act '73 is taken as and when any such case is detected.

[English]

Foreign Investment

2051. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects and areas in India where foreign investors are interested for investment; and

(b) the decision taken by the Union Government on the proposals received?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) During the Post Policy period i.e. from 01.08.91 to 31.05.96, 4679 proposals for foreign direct investment were approved involving foreign direct investment of Rs.71058.23 crores in different areas.

The details of such proposals viz. name of Indian company, name and country of foreign collaborator, equity investment involved and item of manufacture/activity are published by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to the Monthly Newsletter and copies of these are regularly supplied to the Parliament Library.

(b) The proposals were considered and approved according to the Industrial Policy, in force.

Closure of Industries

2052. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of industries closed down or declared sick after the announcement of industrial policy;

(b) the details of such industries which have been captured by multinational companies or big industrial houses after the announcement of industrial policy; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to safeguard the interest of workers involved in such industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) The provisions relating to closure of industries are contained in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. According to the information available from the Labour Bureau, the number of units closed during 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996 (January to May) are 187, 493, 228, 183, and 29, respectively. As regards the sick industrial units, the relevant data is compiled by the Reserve Bank of India. According to the latest RBI data available as at the end of March, 1995, the number of sick industrial units in the small scale and non-small scale sectors is as under:-

As at the end of	No. of sick SSI units	No. of sick non-SSI units
March, 1992	245575	1536
March, 1993	238176	1867
March, 1994	256452	1909
March, 1995	268815	1915

(b) Such information is not centrally maintained.

(c) The Industrial Disputes Act provides for payment of compensation to the workers in the event of retrenchment/closure. Whenever proposals for merger of units/companies are received, it is insisted that conditions of employment of workers are not adversely affected in the event of such mergers/amalgamations.

Small Industries Board

2053. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Board has recommended for setting up of a tribunal to deal with the problems of sick small industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of sickness in small industrial units during the last three years; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to tackle the problem?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Small Scale Industries Board in its meeting held on the 16th December, 1994 has recommended that an institutional arrangement in the form of a Tribunal be made which will act as the mechanism of rehabilitation of potentially viable, but sick, SSI units so as to enable detection of sickness at the incipient stage and implementation of rehabilitation packages within the stipulated time frame.

(c) As per the data collected by Reserve Bank of India from the Scheduled Commercial Banks, total number of SSI units as at the end of March, 1993, 1994, and 1995 aggregated 2,38,176, 2,56,452 and 2,68,815 with outstanding amounts of Rs. 3442.97, 3680.37 and 3547.16 crores respectively. Of these 21649, 16580 and 15539 units with outstanding amounts of Rs. 798.79, 685.93 and 597.93 crores respectively were considered as potentially viable.

(d) For tackling the problems of industrial sickness in SSI sector and rehabilitation of sick units, Reserve Bank of India has issued guidelines to commercial banks in February, 1987 (modified in June, 1989 and April, 1993), containing inter alia, definition of sick SSI units, viability norms, incipient sickness, as also reliefs/concessions from banks/financial institutions for implementation of packages in the case of potentially viable sick (SSI) units.

Setting up of Industrial Unit in Kerala

2054. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any offer has been received from abroad to set up Industrial Units in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of proposals and amount offered to be spent;

(c) whether any decision has been taken thereof, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d). 43 number of foreign collaboration proposals involving foreign direct investment have been received and approved during the post policy period i.e.