

regarding inclusion of names of foreigners in the voters' lists;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which action is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) The Central Government has not received any such complaint from any State Government. Moreover, these complaints are not required to be made to the Central Government as the superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls is vested in the Election Commission.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

HMT Limited

* 189. SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY :
SHRI RABI RAY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the profits made/losses incurred by the Hindustan Machines Tools Limited during the last three years and during the first six months of the current financial year;

(b) the reasons for incurring huge losses;

(c) whether the Company is likely to become sick as a result thereof; and

(d) if so, the remedial steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) HMT's net profits were Rs. 14.15 crores in 1990-91, Rs. 26.08 crores in 1991-92 and Rs. 2.72 crores in 1992-93. The provisional loss during the first six months of 1993-94 is Rs. 75.28 crores.

(b) Reasons for losses are stiff competition, product obsolescence, high cost of manpower and other overheads, demand sluggishness and increase in inventories.

(c) and (d) HMT is not a sick company as per provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985.

KVIC

* 190. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the measures taken by the Union Government to restructure and streamline the working of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC);

(b) the steps taken to have sector-wise survey of the various enterprises under the purview of KVIC to assess their economic viability, employment potential and potential for rural development;

(c) the schemes formulated for rehabilitation and modernisation of KVI units and for improving the per capita income of the artisans working in KVI units;

(d) whether the Government perceive any threat to the KVI Sector from the ongoing process of liberalisation, particularly the entry of the multinationals in consumer industries; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to safeguard the KVI Sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) There had been continuous efforts to improve the functioning of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). In 1963, Blawant Rai Mehta Committee and in 1987, Ramakrishnayya Committee were appointed to review the functioning of KVIC. Based upon the recommendations of the Ramakrishnayya Committee Report, measures were taken to restructure the Organisation of KVIC. Government of India has recently appointed a High Power Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister to recommend measures for rapid growth of KVI Sector. The restructuring of Khadi and Village Industries Commission is also one of the terms of reference of the above Committee.

(b) Normally, no sector-wise survey of enterprises is undertaken by KVIC. However, before finalising the pattern of assistance for any new scheme, its economic viability is studied. Similarly, under village industry, before the sanction of the funds, feasibility studies are conducted by KVIC. The feasibility studies of 70 village industries was undertaken before these were added in the list of industries eligible for assistance under KVIC.

(c) KVIC is continuously engaged in

improving technology and productivity in KVI Sector.

Under its Science and Technology Programme, KVIC continuously attends to the Research and Development activities through in-house research and also by assigning projects to other R&D organisations. The training programmes for artisans, supervisory and managerial personnel are imparted regularly.

As a result, there had been improvement in technology and productivity in Khadi sector such as development of High Speed New Model Charkhas (NMC) and Eight Spindle Charkhas etc. Similarly in Village Industry sector also there had been growth of new technology such as power driven ghani for oil industry Shaila Wheel under cottage pottery, hydraulic crusher in the gur and khandsari industry etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) In view of the above, does not arise.

Committee on Earthquake Predictions

191. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
SHRISARATPATTANAYAK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government had constituted an expert committee in 1987 on earthquake predictions;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition;

(c) whether the committee had