

amalgamation/merger of sick units with healthy units. Tax benefits are given under Section 72(A) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to the healthy company for revival of the amalgamating sick units.

(6) Government has set up the National Renewal Fund which would, *inter-alia*, provide for payment of compensation to workers affected by industrial restructuring.

(7) 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 Governments for working out a rehabilitation package for revival of viable sick small scale units.

(8) Financial assistance in the form of long term equity type assistance upto Rs. 1,50,000/- to units with a project cost not exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs at a nominal service charge of one per cent per annum is also available to potentially viable sick small scale industrial units from the National Equity Fund set up in August, 1987.

(9) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been established to function as an Apex Bank for tiny and small scale industries.

A separate Refinance Scheme for Rehabilitation (RSR) is being managed by SIDBI for revival of potentially viable sick small scale industrial units.

Braithwaite Company Limited

84. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA MALIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of the enquiry about the accident in the Steel Melting Furnace purchased from GEC for Braithwaite Company of BBUNL;

(b) the action taken against the persons found guilty;

(c) whether the furnace has since been brought back into operation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The findings of the Enquiry Committee set up by Govt. to look into the causes of accident at its Angus Works of Braithwaite were mainly inadequate training, unplanned shut down, suspension of work during progress of melting, defective layout and configuration of the equipments installed.

(b) In pursuance of the findings of the Enquiry Committee, two officials of the Company were placed under suspension and departmental proceedings were initiated.

(c) and (d) The Furnace was brought back into operation with effect from 25th July, 1993 after obtaining clearance from appropriate authorities.

Grievances of Armed Forces

85. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the grievances of the jawans in the Armed Forces in respect of scale of pay and allowances, housing facility and the procedure for maintaining discipline;

(b) whether the Armed Forces have set up an internal grievances redressal machinery;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the personnel management, service and living conditions of the serving as well as the retirement benefits and rehabilitation assistance for a retired personnel; and

(d) if so, the changes made during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) The present package of pay & allowances, service conditions and terminal benefits of the Armed Forces personnel is as per the Fourth Pay Commission recommendations, as accepted by Government of India. The Central Government have recently appointed the Fifth Pay Commission. As per the Terms of Reference of the Fifth Pay Commission, the Commission is to examine the present structure of emoluments and conditions of service of the Armed Forces personnel taking into account the total package of benefits available to them and suggest changes which may be desirable and feasible. The Fifth Pay Commission is also required to examine the pension structure including the death-cum-retirement benefits admissible to the Armed Forces personnel and to make recommendations relating thereto.

For the redressal of individual grievances of the Armed Forces personnel, adequate machinery and procedures have been prescribed in the Army Act, the Navy Act and the Air Force Act, and the Rules & Regulations framed thereunder.

There is a comprehensive package of resettlement and welfare measures for the ex-Servicemen. The Central Government has provided reservation for ex-Servicemen in Group 'C' and 'D' posts in the Central Government Departments as well as Public Sector Undertakings including the nationalised banks. Armed Forces personnel, who have been disabled in war or in peace time and whose disability is attributable to military service are accorded priority-I. In addition, State Governments have also provided for reservation in State Government Departments and their Undertakings for ex-Servicemen. In addition, a number of Central Schemes provide for self-employment opportunities to ex-Servicemen under SEMFEX-I, SEMFEX-II and SEMFEX-III Schemes.

During the last three years, the following important changes have been made in the pay & allowances, service conditions, etc.:

(a) Field Service Concession:

The Army personnel posted in the Field/Modified Field Areas, Siachen and High Altitudes have been granted compensatory allowance at the undermentioned rates, with effect from 1.4.1993. Simultaneously, the Special Compensatory (Remote Locality) Allowance and Special Compensatory Field Allowance, admissible earlier, have been withdrawn.

Rank	Field Area Allowance	Modified Field Area Allowance	High Altitude (Un-congenial Climate) Allowance		Siachen Allowance
			Cat-I (9000 Ft — 15000 Ft)	Cat-II (Above 15000 FT)	
(Amount in Rupees)					
JCOs, including Hony Commissioned Officers	650	225	180	270	} 800
Havildars	450	175	140	210	
Sep/Nk, including NCs(E)	375	150	100	150	

(b) Leave encashment

The limit of leave encashment has been increased from 180 days to 240 days.

(c) One Time Increase in Pension (OTI)

A scheme for One Time Increase (OTI) in Pension to the Armed Forces personnel who retired before 1.1.1986 has been sanctioned, with effect from 1.1.1992, in pursuance of the unanimous recommendations of the High Level Empowered Committee, which had been set up to review the difficulties faced by pre- 1.1.1986 Armed Forces pensioners.

[Translation]

Employment by KVIC in U.P.

86. SHRI SURENDRA PAL PATHAK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Uttar Pradesh selected under the Action Plan to generate two lakh new employment opportunities in the remaining two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan through the Khadi and Village Industries Commission; and

(b) the funds earmarked under the said plan for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) There are two Special employment Programmes. The first programme involves 50 backward districts to be taken up in the remaining period of the 8th Five year Plan. In each district 10,000 employment has to be created through Khadi and Village Industries Sector. In the first phase 16 districts have been taken up including the district of Mau in Uttar Pradesh.

The second programme involves employment generation of 1,000 per block in 125 backward blocks in the country in the remaining period of the eighth five year plan. Under the scheme, in the first phase, 71 blocks have been identified. Out of them the following seven are in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

S.No.	Blocks	Districts
1.	Gardarpur	Nainital
2.	Takula	Almora
3.	Pati	Pithoragarh
4.	Mauranipur	Jhansi
5.	Charkhari	Hamirpur
6.	Birdha	Lalitpur
7.	Ukhimat	Chamoli

(b) The revised estimates for the financial year 1994-95 has been submitted.

Cement Plants in Gujarat

87. SHRI N.J. RATHVA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of big, medium and small sized cement plants in Gujarat;

(b) the production of cement in each of these plants during the last three years and during the current financial year till date; and

(c) the total employment opportunities generated by these plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) There are 12 large cement plants in Gujarat out of which one is a clinkerisation unit and two are not in production. In addition, there are 33 mini cement plants in Gujarat with an installed capacity of 14,48,900 tonnes. A list of large plants indicating production from 1991-92 onwards is given in the enclosed statement. Information regarding plant-wise production in respect of mini cement plants is not maintained.

(c) Plant-wise data regarding employment is not maintained centrally.