

(c) the preventive and remedial actions taken by these Standing Committees in relation to sickness in industrial sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). There is no proposal under the Government's consideration to establish Standing Committees for major industrial sectors where sickness is widespread. However, the R. B. I., the banks and financial institutions have evolved a mechanism for monitoring industrial sickness. Government also take special measures for tackling the problems of major industrial sectors where sickness is widespread as in the case of the jute industry. The Government have, in addition, enacted "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985" which provides for setting up of a quasi-judicial body known as Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to deal with problem of industrial sickness in an effective manner. The BIFR has been constituted by the Government in January, 1987.

Exploitation of Power Potential in North-Eastern Region

5021. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is enormous power potential in the North-Eastern Region ; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to exploit it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The North Eastern Region is rich in hydro-electric power potential.

(b) A number of hydro-electric projects are under implementation in the North-Eastern Region, as a result of which, by the end of the Seventh Plan, the Region is expected to be surplus in power. Several factors are involved in taking up hydro-

electric schemes which include, inter alia, environmental and submergence considerations. Attention is being given to study of these aspects from the conception of the projects so as to facilitate expeditious exploitation of hydel resources.

Setting up of Industry in Saharsa, Bihar

5022. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Bihar for setting up of any industry in Saharsa district in Bihar ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Recently no application for Industrial Licence has been received under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for setting up new industrial units in Saharsa district of Bihar from the State Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Setting up of power Stations based on Solar Energy in Saharsa, Bihar

5023. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK : will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have provided any assistance to the State Governments for setting up power stations based on solar energy ; and

(b) what efforts are being contemplated to encourage setting up of power plants based on solar energy in Saharsa district of Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The Union Government have assisted the State Government agencies for setting up of