

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). FICCI's suggestions, inter alia, regarding modifications in the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 are under consideration of the Government.

#### **BIFR Recommendations for Winding up of Industrial Units**

7402. DR. DATTA SAMANT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial units recommended for winding up by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) upto 31 December, 1988; and

(b) the total liabilities in these units and the number of workers involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that as on 31.12.1988 it had opined in favour of winding up in 16 cases.

(b) BIFR has reported that information on total liabilities and number of workers involved is not being compiled by them.

#### **National Housing Bank**

7403. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the initial investment done by the National Housing Bank;

(b) whether it is proposed to open branches of the Bank in all the States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The primary function of National Housing Bank is to provide refinance facilities to eligible scheduled commercial banks/housing finance institutions for extending housing finance to individual borrowers and not to make investments.

(b) and (c) The National Housing Bank has been established with its Head Office at New Delhi and has opened one branch office at Bombay. National Housing Bank has reported that no decision has so far been taken to open offices of the Bank in all the States.

[Translation]

#### **Poppy cultivation**

7404. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reduced the area under poppy cultivation in view of smuggling of opium;

(b) if so, whether smuggling of opium and smack, a product of opium, is going on in full swing despite the above step;

(c) if so, the efforts being made by Government to control increasing addiction to the poison of smack due to its smuggling; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI A.K. PANJA): (a) to (d).