

**Status Report on Electronic Industry**

262. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK : Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have prepared a status report on electronic industry in India;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the action proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) The Department of Electronics regularly monitors the performance of electronic industry in India. The production profile of electronic industry is regularly published in the Electronics Information and Planning journal of the Department for wider circulation. The Department of Electronics has also brought out the 1999 edition of the 'Guide to Electronic Industry in India', as the basic reference source for all information on the Indian Electronics Industry. It covers a wide range of information such as:

1. Manufacturers Directory
2. Product Directory
3. Export Product Directory
4. Time series Data on Production & Exports
5. Electronics Units in States etc.

(c) The Department is examining the feasibility of producing a more detailed and comprehensive report about the status of the electronics industry in the country.

**Population Below Poverty Line**

263. SHRI BHARTRAHARI MAHTAB : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Planning Commission have received any representation/proposal from the Government of Orissa to revise the percentage of population living below poverty line in rural areas of States;
- (b) if so, the decision taken by the Planning Commission in this regard; and
- (c) the present percentage of the population living below the poverty line in rural areas of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) The Government of Orissa has represented for adopting the national level poverty line for estimation of poverty in the States.

(b) The Planning Commission after carefully considering the recommendation of the Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor has taken the view that state-specific poverty line calculated from state-specific price indices be used to estimate poverty, rather than a national poverty line uniformly for all the States.

(c) As per the latest estimates, 48.56 per cent of the rural population in Orissa were below the poverty line in 1993-94.

[Translation]

**National Projects Construction Corporation**

264. SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Projects Construction Corporation Limited is on the verge of closure;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the employees of the corporation have not been paid their salaries for the last one and half year;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the revival of NPCC Limited and expeditious payment of its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SOMPAL) : No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir, NPCC has not been able to pay salaries/wages to about 1100 employees, mostly posted in non-performing Units, for varying lengths of time.

(d) NPCC Ltd. is a sick Public Sector Undertaking and has been incurring heavy losses since 1989 onwards due to high employment cost, surplus manpower, interest burden on loans, low recovery of outstanding dues from project authorities and insufficient generation of funds.

(e) A set of alternatives on future course of action has been prepared. This Ministry has also been providing loan assistance to NPCC Ltd. for meeting the statutory liabilities for payment of salaries/wages.

[English]

**Ninth Plan Draft**

265. SHRI A.C. JOS :

SHRI ARJUN SETHI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have accorded its approval to the Ninth Plan Draft;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the broad features of Draft Plan; and
- (d) the details of projections made in financial terms in each sector during the Plan period?