

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6425
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
CURTAILMENT OF EXPENDITURE
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise expenditure incurred under various heads such as publicity, advertisements, hospitality, catering, opening ceremonies, seminars, conferences, tours (including foreign visits), STD and ISTD telephone bills, electricity bills especially the electricity bills of airconditioners and coolers and other office expenses in various departments and undertakings under this Ministry during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government propose to launch any drive to cut down the expenditure being incurred under above heads;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (D THAKUR)

(a): Year-wise expenditure incurred under publicity, travel expenses and office expenses of the Ministry of SSI and its undertaking, namely, National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. during the last three years is as under :-

(Rs. in lakhs)

2000-01 2001-02 2002-03 (provisional)

1 Publicity(Including Publication)	171.01	190.01	234.43
2 Travel Expenses(Domestic & Foreign)	240.28	264.83	291.25
3 Office Expenses#	1643.97	1618.73	1617.61

The expenditure on account of items like hospitality, telephone bills, electricity bills, stationery, furniture, postage etc. are met from the Office Expenses.

(b) to (d): In order to curb wasteful expenditure, instructions for austerity in Government expenditure are issued by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure to all the Ministries/Departments from time to time. The austerity measures include ban on the creation of posts, reduction in the number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on the filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and entertainment/ hospitality expenses, reduction in per diem allowance for travel abroad etc., and these instructions are being followed in the Ministry of Small Scale Industries.