

BY PASSES CCEA; PIB; clears MMTC Proposal" appearing in the "The Financial Express", New Delhi dated July 12, 1996:

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to circumvent clearances from the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) and the Public Investment Board (PIB) before according go ahead to such proposals for investing a whopping Rs. 100 crore as equity participation in joint venture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Powers have been delegated to the premier public sector trading companies under the Ministry of Commerce to participate in joint ventures with the approval of the Ministry. These ventures should be in the field of manufacture of items in the export portfolio of the public sector enterprise concerned. Participation is to be on a minority basis and within 26% of the total equity. Accordingly, MMTC has been permitted to invest Rs. 20 crores in the Neelanchal Ispat Nigam Limited under the

powers delegated:

Sick Jute Mills

3677. SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of jute mills in the country particularly in West Bengal have fallen sick and incurring losses;

(b) if so, the losses incurred by each of the sick mills in the state during the last three years; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for revival of these sick mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) The Government have set up the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) to enquire into the working of appropriate scheme for their revival.

STATEMENT

Losses incurred by sick jute mills in West Bengal during the last three years are as follows :

(Rs. in lakhs)

		Profit/(—) Loss		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
Sick Jute Mills				
1.	Agarpara	7.33	(-)87.94	(-)109.14
2.	Anolo-India	—	(-)1773.80	1038.04
3.	Angus	(-)522.72	N.A.	N.A.
4.	Budge-Budge	9.96	(-)0.10	N.A.
5.	Calcutta	(-)23.31	(-)38.54	(-)30.09
6.	Calidonian	(-)82.46	(-)106.74	(-)214.70
7.	Dalhousi	335.82	374.97	290.42
8.	Fort William	(-)12.13	(-)27.21	71.47
9.	Gangas	(-)733.90	(-)16.05	(-)23.00
10.	Gourpore	6.30	4.59	(-)17.00
11.	Howrah	28.35	48.70	152.00
12.	India	(-)63.90	47.25	(-)49.92
13.	Kamarhatty	(-)145.82	(-)37.78	9.80
14.	Kankinarrah	45.00	65.59	42.10
15.	Kanoria	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
16.	Kalvin	18.38	(-)52.00	(-)97.54
17.	Megnna	(-)148.44	N.A.	N.A.
18.	Naffarchandra	77.20	64.70	100.65
19.	Nathaii	171.62	(-)63.95	39.51
20.	National	(-)263.40	N.A.	N.A.
21.	Alexandra	(-)621.34	(-)797.42	N.A.
22.	Khardah	(-)772.04	(-)884.17	N.A.
23.	Kinnison	(-)1052.20	(-)1341.00	N.A.

		Profit/(—) Loss		
		1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
24.	Union	(-)456.64	(-)641.00	N.A.
25.	New Central	(-)316.71	(-)1124.90	(-)1525.49
26.	Nuddia	0.30	0.23	N.A.
27.	Prabartak	15.43	(-)27.41	3.12
28.	Shree Gaurishankar	27.73	3.23	(-)174.10
29.	Nastern	(-)57.72	(-)25.07	(-)5.51
30.	Impiri	(-)5.48	34.73	N.A.
31.	Premchand	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
32.	Titagarh	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
33.	Northbrook	0.02	(-)109.86	N.A.
34.	Baranagori	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
35.	Victoria	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
36.	Samniggar	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
37.	Shree Hanuman	(-)44.04	(-)14.53	1.61

*N.A. = Not available.

Shortage of Coal

3678. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated availability of coal from public sector companies during the current financial year;

(b) the extent to which this is likely to fall short of the demand during the same period; and

(c) the measures being taken to meet the enhanced coal demand in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The estimated availability of coal from public sector coal companies during the year 1996-97 is 284.20 million tonnes.

(b) The Planning Commission has estimated that the gap between demand and domestic availability of coal during 1996-97 is likely to be 34.35 million tonnes.

(c) Measures being taken to augment indigenous production of coal include the following :

(i) Opening up of new mines and increasing efficiency and productivity of existing mines by modernisation, application of new technologies and ensuring timely availability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

(ii) Partial de-regulation of coal prices is likely to improve internal resource generation of coal companies which will enable new projects to be taken up. It will also improve the financial viability of new mining projects.

(iii) The capital base of Coal India Limited has been restructured to enable it to raise additional financial resources from the capital markets, which are required to add new coal production capacity.

(iv) Steps are being taken in co-ordination with the Railways to remove the transportation bottlenecks in such coalified areas which have the potential for enhanced production.

(v) Steps are being taken to remove the bottlenecks in land acquisition.

(vi) Private sector companies engaged in the production of iron and steel, cement and generation of power have been permitted to take up coal mining for captive consumption. This is expected to increase domestic coal production.

Financial Assistance to States by L.I.C.

3679. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN :
SHRI E. AHAMED :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of financial assistance provided by the Life Insurance Corporation to each of the States, with particular reference to Tamil Nadu and Kerala for its various schemes during each of the last three years and in the current year so far, scheme-wise;

(b) whether any new scheme has been launched in Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the recent past;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the criteria followed for providing financial assistance to States by LIC; and

(e) the details of the requests for getting financial assistance by States pending with the L.I.C. at present, State-wise and the time by which a decision is likely to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) The requisite information in respect of years between 1993-94 to 1995-96 is given in statements I to IV.

(b) to (d) LIC advances loans to various States including Tamil Nadu and Kerala for socially oriented schemes as per the allocation made by the Planning Commission, keeping in view the provisions of Section 27(A) of the Insurance Act, 1938 as applicable to LIC & as per the parameters set out by the investment Committee constituted by the Corporation.

(e) LIC has received from the Planning Commission the state-wise allocation of LIC loans to various agencies for the current financial year. After obtaining approval of the Investment Committee, the loans will be sanctioned/ disbursed subject to compliance of norms/requirements by the concerned agencies.