

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please put the question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : In recent times, the railways have recruited about three thousand casual workers...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I will have to pass on to the next questions, if you do not

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : They have not given preference to these workers...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Better put the question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : I want to know from the hon. Railway Minister whether he would treat these workers or will he absorb these workers in the Railways because they belong to the backward sections of our society, they belong to tribal and Scheduled Caste communities of our society...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : His question, is there, now you reply.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : They are only three to four thousand workers...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have put your question. That is all.

(Interruptions)

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA : Will the Railways absorb these retrenched workers?...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : I will try my best to see.

[Translation]

I have said that I have taken a decision and I am getting the bills prepared one by one. I am on the job. I shall as far as possible, for their absorption on that basis.

[Translation]

Closing Down of Polluting Industrial Units

*363 SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has issued directives to remove 168 hazardous industries from Delhi in order to check the environment pollution; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the said orders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in a public interest litigation has delivered an

order on 8th July, 1996 directing that 168 industries operating in the National Capital Territory of Delhi by closed down. The Hon'ble Court has observed:

"...168 industries cannot be permitted to operate and function in Delhi. industries may relocate/shift themselves to any other industrial estate in the NCR. We direct that 168 industries listed above shall stop functions and operating in the city of Delhi with effect from November 30, 1996. These industries shall close down and stop functioning in Delhi with effect from the said date..."

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(b) Steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to implement the said order include :

- (i) The Government of Delhi has given wide publicity of the Court Order dated 8.7.1996 giving the list of 168 industries which have been directed by the Court to be closed and relocated with effect from 30.11.1996 in newspapers, radio and television.
- (ii) The Government of Delhi has constituted a nodal agency consisting of Chief Secretaries of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to co-ordinate the relocation of industries.
- (iii) The National Capital Territory Region (NCR) Planning Board has asked Governments (Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh) to set up a Single Window Facility for the purpose of providing assistance to the industries in the process of relocation. The Government of Delhi, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh have already formed such facilities.
- (iv) A Review Committee has been set up in the NCR Planning Board under the Chairmanship of its Members Secretary, with representatives of all the 4 States (Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh) in the NCR region.
- (v) The NCR Planning Board has also identified that vacant plots available within the NCR which can be allotted to the relocation industries.

The matter is subjudice

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Yes, Sir, Shri M.C. Mehta, Advocate filed a writ petition in the Supreme Court praying the hon'ble court to issue necessary directions for checking the pollution being spread by some industries in Delhi. The hon'ble Supreme Court delivered an order on 8th July 1996

directing that 168 such industries operating in the National Capital Territory of Delhi be closed down. The Supreme Court permitted these industries to relocate/shift themselves to any other industries estate in the NCR but they should stop functioning and operating in the city of Delhi with effect from 30th November 1996.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister in his reply has said that the industries which are producing dangerous pollution would be closed by 30th November, 1996. So I would like to know from the hon'ble minister through you as to how many industries have shifted out of Delhi so far and how many have closed down and whether he has under consideration any scheme for providing economic assistance and for affording alternative employment to those workers who were working in the industries which have been closed because of the said order since employment is as necessary for earning livelihood as pollution free environment in the entire country?

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Sir, the hon'ble Supreme court has ordered shifting of 168 industrial units and the process of shifting is on. The employees of these units will also shift alongwith them. The shifting process is being completed under the supervision of a committee representing 4 States. We have provided single window system and the industrial units are being given every help. These units can shift to the places where accommodation is available for their rehabilitation.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the question of environment is not only for Delhi it is for the entire country. I come from Gujrat and in Gujarat...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Why are you interposing Gujarat? You ask question about Delhi, your question is limited to Delhi only.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : The industrial units have been closed under orders from the Supreme Court. Whether the single window system, the nodal agency set up for Delhi would also be set up in other states where environment based problems exist and whether he is considering extending financial assistance to the State Government for shifting pollution producing industrial units?

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Sir, this question relates to Delhi and therefore I would like to inform the hon'ble Member that 168 industrial units which produce hazardous pollution have been selected for relocation and shifting within one year under the 1991 Master Plan of Delhi. The Delhi Government has to furnish information in this regard. These units have to shift from Delhi within two years but they did not do so. Under the Delhi Master Plan, these units had to relocate or shift themselves by 1994 but they did not shift themselves and on this basis the hon'ble Supreme Court delivered an order for their shifting.

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA : But this problem is with other States also, it is not the problem of Delhi alone.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have put you supplementaries.

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, we are told that 168 industries would be shifted from Delhi but no clarification has been given about setting up of neutralisation plants or treatment plants at the places these units are proposed to be relocated. Sir, the effluent discharged by the pollutant industries goes deep into the earth and the subsoil water is also polluted, the Yamuna water is also totally polluted after the discharge of industrial effluent into the Yamuna river. Once we used to rever the Yamuna as our Mother and had holy dip in it. The pilgrims used to take the holy water of Yamuna with them. I would like to know through you what steps are being taken to reestablish the sanctity of Yamuna river and to make the Yamuna water as pious as it used to be.

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Sir, a Rs. 282 crore Yamuna Action Plan has been launched under which 270 MLD treatment plant will be set up so that clean water is discharged in the Yamuna in Delhi.

[English]

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to tell what will happen to the lands which are vacated by these 163 industries and what action is being taken by the Government to ensure that the land in Delhi belonging to the Government itself is vacated? Sir, lots of hazardous and polluting units are daily being set up there.

Go to Rouse Avenue, the heart of Delhi, and you will find that on the land belonging to the Government, hazardous industries, fire causing units and polluting units are being set up and no action is being taken. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is waiting for another order from the Supreme Court to do that or would he prevent this. All this regmarole would not have happened if proper action had been taken in time. I would particularly like to know about the lands which are being vacated by these industries.

I would like to know whether the owners will be permitted to use them in accordance with the land use prescribed in the Master Plan, and if those uses are grim, who will acquire these lands. Will they keep them as parks and gardens? What will they do with it? What is their policy about it?

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Sir, as per the survey conducted under the Delhi Master Plan 1,29,000 industrial units have to be shifted from Delhi under this Master Plan. As regards the use of the land which will be vacated by these industries, it will be

decided by the Delhi Administration in accordance with the provisions of the Master Plan. Infact, the land will remain with the owners of the land.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister, in view of the recent developments, what is the role of the State Pollution Control Boards in respective parts of India, including Delhi. Through the Public Interest Litigation Act, people are approaching the Supreme Court to stop the polluting units to save the society from the pollution threat. Public Interest Litigation Act, people are approaching the Supreme Court to stop the polluting units to save the society from the pollution threat. Thereafter, one after another, judgements are coming up to shift the industries, especially in relation to Delhi, to the rest of the part of India. Will the Government decide that in such matters a national policy, like the policy adopted in the case of Delhi, will be evolved taking the State Governments into confidence, because the Government has a commitment in their Common Minimum Programme to protect the interests of the employees and the other workers who are working in factories? The relocation of the industrial units should also be done with a 50:50 *pro rata* compensation ratio basis between the Union Government and the State Government, if that issue arises. It is because this is happening everyday one million people have lost their jobs.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Delhi apart from industrial pollution, the nursing homes and hospitals are dumping a number of things in front of their premises, thereby causing a positive threat to the health. Several strictures have been made in this regard. This pollution is also creating a nuisance in the entire capital. I would like to know what specific steps have been taken by the Government especially from the Department, in regard to that matter also.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is not concerned with that.

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Sir, the question that we are discussing has arisen because of formulation of Delhi Master Plan. The pollution factor is an ancillary factor. All the industrial units have to shift to conforming areas under the provisions of Delhi Master Plan.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Master Plan was formulated for solving the problem and this problem has not cropped up because of Master Plan.

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : As far as water pollution is concerned about 19.05 M.L.D. effluent is discharged in Delhi daily. While we have the treatment capacity for 1270 M.L.D. Thus 635 M.L.D. effluent is discharged into the Yamuna untreated. Two treatment plants with a capacity of 10 M.L.D. each will be set up

in Delhi under the Yamuna Action Plan. Besides this under the Five Year Plan of Delhi City the existing treatment capacity of 1270 M.L.D. will go upto 2270 M.L.D...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let him complete.

[Translation]

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : As far as disposal of garbage is concerned 4000-5000 tonne garbage is disposed of by Delhi daily and we have 7 garbage dumping grounds which are going to be filled. We have acquired additional 24 hectare land for providing dumping grounds.

SHRI NITISH BHARDWAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister in his reply has referred to the 8th July order of the Supreme Court under which 168 industrial units are required to be closed down by 30th November. This means that these industries will be displaced and they will have to get themselves rehabilitated within 4 to 5 months. They have been provided single window facility but I would like to know how many of these 168 units have taken advantage of this facility so far and whether he has been monitoring this process? In case these industrial units have not utilised these facilities, whether the Government have tried to find out the reasons for their not doing so.

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : A Committee has been constituted for this purpose under the Chairmanship of the Secretary of NCR. The Committee is represented by one representative each from other concerned States who are monitoring this process. As for the number of units shifted so far, the information is not available with me and I would furnish this information to him later...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He has given sufficient information.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Sir, this is not the question. The question is... * He is shifting 159 industries from Delhi...whether within three months...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Mr. Agarwal, I am sorry to say.

(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to me. What you said about the court, what does this mean?

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : What I mean to say is that the judgement of the Supreme Court, the order...*(Interruptions)*

* Not Recorded.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : No, No. Such remarks should not be uttered. This will not form part of the record.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : I am referring to the order of the court...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : But you should not talk in this way.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : My question is very straight. Is the Government not aware of the basis on which the order has been passed for shifting so many industries at one go? A list was drawn earlier which included the name of 160 industries and Later a policy of pick and choose was adopted and some industries were asked to close down and others were left untouched. May I know whether half of the rubber factory crates hazardous pollution and half of it does not...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You please put a straight question.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : I would like to know as to who is monitoring the implementation of the order of the Supreme Court? He is closing the rubber industries and all the Pottery industries under the said order. He says that they should shift to some other States but no industrial unit of Delhi has been given land in any other State so far, nobody is prepared to give them assistance. You have passed a blanket order to close all the industries by 30th November, but where would they go, what will the employees of these industries would do? They have been functioning here for the last 30 years. Where will they go? Whether Government will constitute a Monitoring body to plead with the hon'ble Court that their order cannot be implemented. Why does it want them to close down in Delhi? If there is the question of pollution in Delhi, then the D.T.C. should be would up, the operations of 4-seaters should be banned...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : What is your question? Please put your question.

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL : I would like to know whether he wants to provide facilities to these industries, whether they will be given any compensation or any other incentive?

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Master Plan of Delhi was made effective from 1991 and these industries were required to shift from Delhi by 1994 under this Plan...(Interruptions)

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Delhi has not developed under the Master Plan...(Interruptions)

12.00 hrs.

CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD : It is a different question but as far as legal position is concerned the Master Plan came into effect from 1991 and all the pollutant units were required to select alternative sites and to shift within two years but they did not shift till 1994. Consequently Shri Mehta filed a Public Interest Litigation in the Supreme Court and this is the result of this petition.

As far as the question of availability of sites is concerned large area of land is available where they can shift. A Committee has been constituted for this purpose and the single window system provided for them. Now they can shift their units.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Length of Railway Line

*364. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the length of broad gauge and metre gauge railway line in the Eastern Railway;

(b) the time by which the metre gauge line of this railway zone would be converted into broad gauge;

(c) whether the work of gauge conversion is very slow in the said railway zone; and

(d) if so, the measures taken to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The length of Railway Lines in the Eastern Railway are as under :

Broad Gauge	: 4184.35 kms
Metre Gauge	: Nil
Narrow Gauge	: 131.65 kms.

(b) There is no Metre Gauge line in the Eastern Railway. None of the Narrow Gauge lines are at present sanctioned for conversion.

(c) There is no Gauge Conversion work in progress on Eastern Railway.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sunflower Farming

*365. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of districts in each State where farming of sunflower is being done at present in the country;