

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Friday, July 19, 1996/Asadha 28, 1918 (Saka)

(The Lok Sabha met at One Minute Past
Eleven of the Clock)

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER in the Chair]

OBITUARY REFERENCES

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Honourable Members, I have to inform the House of the sad demise of one of our former colleagues Shri R. Jeevarathinam

Shri R. Jeevarathinam was a member of the Eighth of Tenth Lok Sabhas representing Arakkonam parliamentary constituency of Tamil Nadu during 1984-96

Earlier he had been a member of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly during 1962-67

Shri Jeevarathinam actively participated in the freedom struggle. His endeavours in drawing the attention of the world community towards Indians valiant struggle for independence are noteworthy. He also suffered imprisonment for several years during "Quit India Movement".

A widely travelled person, Shri Jeevarathinam was a Member of the Parliamentary Delegation to Central Africa in 1986. He was an active social and political worker. He worked relentlessly for the welfare of the downtrodden sections of the society and spread of education. He was the Founder Chairman, Muthurangam Government Arts College, Vellore.

He made valuable contributions to the proceedings of the House and its several Parliamentary Committees.

Shri Jeevarathinam passed away at Vellore in Tamil Nadu on 28 June, 1996 at the age of 75 years.

We deeply mourn the loss of our distinguished friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed soul.

11.03 hrs.

*The Members then stood in silence
for a short while.*

11.04 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[Translation]

Capital Investment for SSIs

*141 PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA
SHRI NITISH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government are considering to increase present capital investment limit in small scale industries;

(b) if so, the present limit and how much it is proposed to be increased;

(c) whether the Government propose to cut down the present list of items reserved for small scale industries; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b) : At present, the limit for investment in plant & machinery for a SSI unit is Rs. 60 lakhs. In case of ancillary industrial undertaking export oriented SSI unit, this limit is Rs. 75 lakhs. The increase of present capital investment limit is under consideration of Government.

(c) and (d) : At present, the number of items reserved for SSI sector is 836. Review of the list of items reserved for exclusive manufacturing in the SSI sector is a continuous process.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA : Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, small scale industries are very important for our country because ours is an over populated country. The limit for investment in these industries is the same as it was in 1990-91 and it has not been increased so far, whereas in the mean time devaluation of rupee has also taken place and there is greater load on account of global competition. According to the I.L.O. report, in other countries also, preference is being given to the small scale industries and even countries like the U.S.A. and Japan have begun giving preference to these industries.

All the countries of the OICD have given first preference to the small scale industries. The importance of these industries in our overpopulated country is more. Mahatma Gandhi laid stress on the promotion of