

industries, no upward revision was made till 1998. In the 1998-99 Budget, this limit was increased to Rs. 50 lakhs.

(c) The Government is deeply committed to safeguard the interests of small scale industries. Speedy and healthy growth of small scale industrial units is always the objective of the Government. Besides fine tuning the existing policy, the new steps taken upto 1998-99 to safeguard the interests of small scale industries, *inter-alia*, include the following:

- (i) 46 Integrated Infrastructure Development Centres have so far been sanctioned in the country.
- (ii) Products of SSI units are displayed in International Exhibitions on Government cost.
- (iii) Financial assistance to SSI units for acquiring ISO 9000 certification.
- (iv) Norms under Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) have been relaxed to facilitate the growth of small employment ventures.
- (v) The scope of Technology Development & Modernisation Fund scheme of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has been expanded to cover non-exporting SSIs/ancillary units and also SSIs/ancillary units graduating out of SSI sector.
- (vi) To ensure credit to various segments of SSI sector, RBI has issued instructions that out of the funds normally available to SSI sector, 40% be given to units with investment in plant and machinery upto Rs. 5 lakhs; 20% for units with investment between Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs and only the remaining 40% for other units.
- (vii) Additional measures for the promotion of Tiny enterprises:
 - Earmarking of facilities for tiny units under IID Scheme.
 - Earmarking of assistance by NSIC for tiny units.
 - Earmarking of credit under Refinance Scheme of SIDBI for Tiny Sector.
- (viii) Interest on Delayed Payments Act amended to tackle the problem of settlement of dues of SSI units from large units.

- (ix) SSI Exemption extended to goods bearing a brand name of another manufacturer when produced by units located in the rural areas through Union Budget 1999-2000.

158

Indian Economy

1552. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA :
DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seminar on mid term review of Indian economy was held in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the names of the dignitaries attended the Seminar and the details of discussions held and the outcome thereof;

(c) whether any concrete Action plan has been formulated to oversee the economic crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA) : (a) and (b) No Official seminar was held on the mid term review of Indian economy by the Ministry of Finance in New Delhi recently.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Budget 1999-2000 Lists the concrete action plan.

[Translation]

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Recovery of Loans

1553. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA :
SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks have to take legal action against those customers who do not refund the loan of the nationalised banks;

(b) if so, the names of the banks alongwith the amount for which legal action was taken during last three years;

(c) whether as a result of this legal action, the loans have been recovered; and

(d) if so, the amount recovered by each of the bank during the said period, year-wise?