

industries and remedial measures also have been quickened. It is a welcome measure to see that public undertakings and Government factories are also brought under the purview of this Bill.

Crores of rupees have been locked up due to industrial sickness; and their revival is highly necessary. The proposed amalgamation of the sick industries with the other industries is also a welcome feature and several industries would be revived by the amalgamation. The power given to the Board is to monitor the implementation, which is a necessity without which the Board cannot function properly and effectively. My own opinion is that more powers have to be given to the Board. The responsibility vested with the Board is very high and only with quick decisions and also by implementing the task entrusted to the Board it can be fulfilled. The problem is huge. As I have stated, as many as 2 lakh sick industries are in our country and crores of rupees of public money is involved in it. There are many public sector undertakings which are very sick; their credit accounts for several crores of rupees. Some units are viable and some are not; and the viability of some sick industries has to be ascertained by detection carefully. So, adequate powers have to be given to the Board.

Industrial units become sick due to mismanagement, diversion of funds, lack of planning and want of market and misutilisation of funds. Delay is caused by the banks in sanctioning loan. The Board can only ask the bank to sanction loan, but the Board cannot compel the bank to release the amount of the loan. So, full cooperation of the bank is highly necessary for the affective functioning of the industries; even the working capital is not sanctioned in time and industrialists, entrepreneurs find it very difficult to start their industries.

A very serious public interest is also involved in the industrial reconstruction. The problem of employment is also involved in it. The public money is also involved in it. An atmosphere of goodwill of all the concerned parties, namely labourers, the management and the Government should be created. Industrial relationship should be created for the effective functioning of industries to prevent them from becoming sick. The Board should function effectively.

It is understood that there are vacancies in the Board, so there should be adequate staff strength. Allotment of money should be made to the Board.

I hope and trust that this Bill would enable for the revival of the sick industries and will create a healthy atmosphere in the industrial sector.

17.50 hrs.

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Scheme for small works programme in the constituencies of MPs

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO): Mr. Speaker Sir, very often it happens that the Members of Parliament are approached by their constituents for small works of a capital nature to be done in their constituencies. However, they are not in a position to ensure that the work suggested by them is undertaken. Hence, there was a demand made by members of Parliament of different political parties, in fact of all political parties including independents...
(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (Dum Dum): We did not ask for it. We never approached you. *(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: I am sorry, Sir, I did not know that there are exceptions to this.

MR. SPEAKER: I can vouchsafe that Members belonging to all parties had approached me also.

SHRI P.V. NARASIMHA RAO: As I said, there was a demand made by Members of Parliament of different political parties, in fact of all political parties including independents, that they should be allowed to recommend to the District Collector, works to be done in their constituencies. The Government of India considered the above suggestions and has decided to introduce a new scheme to be called "MPs' Local Area Development Scheme." Under this, each Member of Parliament will have the freedom to suggest to the District Collector, works to be done, not exceeding Rs. 1 crore per year within his or per constituency. Members of Parliament of Rajya Sabha will nominate one district in the State from which he or she has been elected and where the works will be undertaken.

The funds will be released to the District Collector directly by the Ministry of Rural Development, who will operate the scheme. The works will be executed through government agencies by the Collectors after consultations with MPs. Naturally the handling of funds, giving of contracts, etc. dispersing money, all that will be done by the Collector as per the procedure that he is already following. The types of works that will be allowed will be such as to lead to the creation of durable assets. Under no circumstances shall any revenue expenditure be under-

taken under this scheme. Each individual work shall not exceed Rs. 10 lakhs.

The scheme is for developmental works of small nature and based on locally felt needs. The work that may be done at the instance of a Member of Parliament may fall in one of the following categories with a ceiling for each project of Rs. 10 lakhs. The following is the illustrative list of works. It is only illustrative, other things could be added to in suitable cases:—

- (a) Constructing school buildings.
- (b) Providing drinking water to the people in the villages, town or cities by digging tubewells or doing something else which may help in this respect.
- (c) Constructing the villages roads or approach roads.
- (d) Constructing bridges on the approach roads.
- (e) Constructing common shelter for the old or handicapped.
- (f) Constructing the buildings for the Gram Panchayat or for cultural and sports activities or hospital.
- (g) Afforestation in the Government and community land and social forestry for providing employment in lean period.
- (h) Desilting and digging of village ponds.
- (i) Constructing the irrigation canals to avoid the loss of water and also to provide employment to the people.
- (j) Constructing common *gobar* gas plants or carrying on some activities related to it.

(k) Construction of small irrigation *bandharas* or lift irrigation schemes or water table re-charging schemes.

(l) Public Reading Room or Study Rooms.

(m) Creches.

(n) Construction of primary health centre and/or *post mortem* rooms.

(o) Crematoriums.

(p) Construction of Public Toilets and Bath Rooms.

(q) Drainage and gutters.

(r) Footpaths and path ways.

(s) Provision of electricity, water, pathways, public toilets, etc., in slum areas of cities, towns and villages.

(t) Construction of house galleys between old buildings in the cities, towns and villages.

(u) Ashram Shalas in tribal areas.

(v) Bus sheds/stops for public transport bus passengers.

(w) Mobile toilets for local bodies, useful at fairs, public meetings, sports meets, etc.

(x) Any other items specified by the Union Government from time to time.

As I said, this is only an illustrative list. There are many many other facilities one could think of.

The detailed guidelines for the

scheme will be issued by the Ministry of Rural Development in due course.

While the scheme will start in the current year, given that some time will be required for preparatory work, it may not be possible to implement it before the beginning of February, 1994. Hence a token provision of Rs. 5 lakhs per M.P. is being proposed in the current year but from 1994-95 the full provision will be made.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: (Bolpur): I want to put the record straight, Sir, I do not know who approached you on behalf of my party. On principle we are not accepting this proposal. (*Interruptions*)

In West Bengal at least, we have the District Planning Committees in which the MPs are represented, the MLAs are represented, and the Panchayats are represented. There the planning and priorities are decided. This will only mean disturbing that priority which is decided by the District Planning body. Therefore, on principle, we are not accepting it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome the announcement of the Prime Minister because we have been demanding it. We were waiting anxiously for this announcement as to when this scheme will be implemented and we will be in a position to fulfil our requirement of small developmental works. For this I would like to thank you and I welcome the announcement of the Prime Minister again.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to thank you and the Prime Minister for the announcement of this scheme. We all have been demanding it, you have also