

total amount of over Rs. 6000 crores tied up in these sick units. He has not told us whether the Government is contemplating anything by way of legislation. The Hon. Labour Minister in the last Consultative Committee meeting assured the Members that in this very session of Parliament—that, of course, will not happen, I know, but he had assured that some new Bill was under contemplation to see that these people who are responsible for making the industries sick will be subjected to some penal and deterrent action. Is it a fact or is there no such Bill under contemplation?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : No such Bill is under contemplation. The Industrial Reconstruction Bank of India has been established on March 1, 1985 as a principal credit and reconstruction agency for industrial revival in the country having its headquarters in Calcutta. The IRBI has been vested with effective powers to curtail the growing malaise of industrial sickness by assisting the sick units...

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : They are not doing anything

SHRI DINESH SINGH : When this House passed a Bill to take over sick industries, it was clearly provided that the sick industries once taken over will be restructured and that they would be made viable. There was never an idea that they would be run as mills in loss. What is the point in taking over mills which are running at a loss and continuing to run it at a loss? It is only waste of public funds. Has the Government restructured any undertaking that it has taken over and if not, why not?

SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI : The veteran member is in full knowledge of all the existing statutes and enactments regarding sick industries. There are two categories of industries which can be discussed in this whole question. One is the nationalised units. We have already nationalised many which we have taken over. It is not necessary that we nationalise every taken

over unit under the Industries Development and Regulation Act. The IRBI also manages certain units and tries to restore health in them. So the figures regarding the taken over units and the nationalised units always differ.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(English)

Proposals for oil-fired power stations

*270. **SHRI H. B. PATIL :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have appointed any high-level team of officials to study the proposals of some States for setting up of oil-fired 120 MW power stations; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Setting up of Mini Hydro-electric projects

*271. **SHRI T. BASHEER :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that many countries are exploiting potential available through Mini Hydro-electric projects; and

(b) if so, whether there are any proposals under consideration to set up such plants in India to solve the problem of energy shortage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF