

to expedite the disposal of cases. We are very much concerned that cases should be expeditiously disposed of. For this purpose we are trying to fill up the existing vacancies on getting suitable men for the job.

**SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA :** Sir, the Parliament has passed the law for setting up of the Tribunal with exclusive jurisdiction. Even the High Court's jurisdiction is barred and that helps the Government, especially in excluding the High Courts' injunction on revenue. Now, when does the Government propose to implement the law and set up the Tribunals? Parliament is interested to know as to when the Government will implement the laws passed by Parliament. After all, Parliament is entitled to know from the executive as to why there should be any delay in bringing into force an Act passed by Parliament for setting of the Tribunals.

**SHRI B.K. GADHVI :** The setting up of a Tribunal is under the active consideration of the Government.

**SHRI HAROOBHAI MEHTA :** What is the exact date by which this Tribunal will be set up.

**MR. SPEAKER :** No third question please.

**SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :** With regard to gold control, smuggling and other things, the Government is thinking of every step to see that no gold smuggling takes place. Of course, I appreciate the Government's action. When a person is booked under the Gold (Control) Act, it takes years for the Government even to file the charges and the person is kept under custody for a long time. Personally, I know of cases where people are kept in custody for more than last seven months. The FIR has already been filed, but in spite of the repeated requests of the people concerned, the charges have not yet been filed. Also, even at the FIR stage itself, the very person is booked under COFEPOSA. Even though they make an appeal, cases are pending for years together even in the Special Benches. Cases are pending for more than two years even in the Special Benches as well as the Regional Benches. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any steps are being taken to dispose of the cases as

early as possible by fixing a certain time limit for the disposal of the cases.

**SHRI B.K. GADHVI :** I think the hon. Member has assumed a little incongruous assumption with regard to this question. Smuggling of gold and COFEPOSA proceedings are treated on a different footing and in different forums.

So far as COFEPOSA is concerned, the maximum limit of detention is to years. Normally, we detain for one year and then in the regular cases the Customs Act will be enforced.

CEGAT is a different matter. It is with regard to evaluation and other aspects. It has nothing to do with smuggling. Smuggling is dealt with by other agencies.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Next Question; Shrimati Bhandari—absent; Shri Rao—absent: Shri Madhav Reddy.

#### Financial Assistance to SSI Units through National Equity Fund

\*417. **SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of small scale units benefited by the financial assistance provided by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) from the National Equity Fund; and

(b) the various schemes formulated by IDBI for extending financial assistance to the small scale units from the National Equity Fund ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) :** (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

#### Statement

National Equity Fund (NEF) has been set up in the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) in August 1987 for providing assistance in the form of soft loans towards equity to eligible entrepreneurs for setting up of new projects and also for rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units in the tiny and small scale sectors. The assistance under the Scheme would be channelised through nationalised banks,

IDBI has not yet received any application from banks for refinance. Under National Equity Fund Scheme, assistance upto a maximum of Rs. 75,000 per project at a service charge of 1% per annum would be available to tiny and small-scale industrial units located/coming up in a village/town having population not exceeding 5 lacs and with project cost not exceeding Rs. 5 lacs. The soft loan for equity will be repayable over a maximum period of 7 years including an initial moratorium upto 3 years. Minimum promoters' contribution is 10% of the project cost.

**SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** The Statement only mentions about the details of the scheme which had already been announced in August, in this House. Nothing more. I would like to know what is the response to this scheme—whether enough publicity has been given to this scheme and whether any application has been received by banks? Because this is a scheme under which the soft loan is available to the small units to the extent of Rs. 75,000 per unit and on a very nominal rate of interest. Naturally we thought that this scheme is going to be very popular in view of the fact that a number of small scale industries which are viable and which had become sick and under this scheme all the viable sick units are also eligible for the financial assistance.

I would like to know whether this scheme has become popular; whether wide publicity has been given to this scheme; and whether there is any response to this scheme or not?

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY :** This scheme was announced in the Parliament on 7.8.87. We are in the process of implementing this scheme. And steps have also been taken. I fully share the concern of the hon. Member when he said that it is going to be a popular scheme. We have not yet received any application, I mean the IDBI, for refinance from any primary lending institution, namely the banks. So, whenever the applications are received I have already given them instructions for expeditious disposal of the applications.

Regarding the publicity, the instructions have already been given to give more publicity for this scheme. Already publicity is

there. I told them to have much more publicity so far as this scheme is concerned I am hopeful that this scheme will also be popular like other schemes.

**SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** Under this scheme, the IDBI has involved only commercial banks. I understand that there could be a widespread publicity of the scheme because the commercial banks have got a number of branches in the villages.

But I would like to know the reason why the Government has excluded the State Financial Corporations which are primarily lending to the small units?

**SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY :** The banks have got a number of branches throughout the country. Even in the case of rehabilitation also, the rehabilitation package is given by the banking institutions. It is a point to be kept in mind for the future which the hon. Member has suggested. We will that in mind.

**SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL :** The Minister has stated in his reply :

“The assistance under the Scheme would be channelised through nationalised banks. IDBI has not yet received any application from banks for refinance.”

[*Translation*]

Sir, I would like to inform the hon'ble Minister that so far as I know, some sick units and newly started small projects applied to the commercial banks after launching of this scheme, but their applications have been pending for 3 to 4 months. Do the Government propose to change the procedure so that small entrepreneurs could contact directly to I.D.B.I. and the delay in nationalised banks could be avoided? Would such procedure be formulated?

**THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI) :** Mr. Speaker, Sir, the point raised by the hon'ble Member is related to procedure. It is the duty of the institutions concerned to simplify the procedure. The difficulty appears to be that the banks, perhaps, have not so far evolved any clear cut procedure to give full information to the small entrepreneurs

as to how they can get benefit from this fund. As my honourable colleagn has just now stated that special efforts will be made in this regard that the banks take effective action and mové the procedure more dynamic and realistic so that entrepreneurs and beneficiaries could get benefit from this scheme. It the hon'ble Member has any special information about a particular beneficiary or bank, I request him to pass it on to us so that we could take necessary action.

SHRI SHANTI DHARIWAL : I shall pass it on to you. But there should be a time limit for I.D.B.I. to dispose of the applications received by them.

SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI : It the applications are to be sent directly to I.D.B.I. their number will bocome large. If the applications from all over the country will be sent to Bombay, it will become unmanageable. So banks are to be told to simplify the procedure . . . (*Interruption*)

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : In his answer, the Minister has said that the projects which will be benefited by this scheme, would not cost more than Rs. 5 lakhs. May I know who has fixed this cost for these projects, and also whether these costs will be considered, as at the time when these industries were set up, or at the present rate ?

In this connection, may I know from the hon. Minister whether, considering the present escalation, Government will consider enhancing this amount of Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs ? If so, when is Government going to take such a decision ?

SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY : The projects are prepared by entrepreneurs, and whenever the projects are prepared, it is for them to give the cost of the projects also. Whenever the project's cost is not more than Rs. 5 lakhs, such a project will be eligible under this scheme, for consideration.

About increasing or enhancing the cost it is a suggestion. We take it in mind.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question—Mr. Bahadur Singh is not there. Now Shrimati Kishari Sinha—question No. 419.

### Financing of Socially Oriented Scheme in Bihar

\*419. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Life Insurance Corporation of India has financed any socially oriented schemes in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the manner in which this compares with investments in such schemes in other States; and

(d) if it is inadequate, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

#### Statement

LIC has been advancing loans every year as per allocations made by the Planning Commission to the State Government of Bihar for social housing schemes and to the Bihar State Electricity Board for generation of electricity. In addition, loans are advanced by LIC to Bihar State Housing Co-operative Federation Limited for financing Primary Cooperative Housing Societies in the State as per Annual Budget of the LIC.

Till 31.3.87, LIC has advanced loans in all amounting to Rs. 175.28 crores for various socially oriented schemes in Bihar. This includes Rs. 32 crores advanced for housing schemes, Rs. 98.78 crores for State Electricity Board and Rs. 44.50 crores for State Co-operative Housing Federation in Bihar. This is not out of line with loans advanced by LIC to other State Governments for socially oriented schemes. Further LIC advances loans as per allocations made by the Planning Commission which finalises yearly allocations only after discussions with State Governments concerned.

SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : The Government have not replied to part (c) of my question about comparative allocations under the scheme, to other States. However I would like to know the amounts sanctioned for housing schemes for weaker sections,