

SHRI M. SATYNARAYAN RAO : I want to know what treasures have been taken for the development of small-scale industries in the Telengana region.....

MR. SPEAKER : That can be treated as a suggestion but not as a question. This is a general question. If you go State-wise, there will be no end to it. If I allow you, then others also will ask about their States.

श्री हुकूम चन्द कछवाय : अभी मंत्री महोदय ने प्रश्न के उत्तर में बतलाया कि हमने बैंकों को सलाह दी है कि लघु उद्योगों को अधिक से अधिक ऋण दिया जाये। इसके लिये 200 करोड़ रुपया घोषित किया गया है। क्या इससे अधिक ऋण देने के लिये बैंकों से कहा गया है या कोई सीमा बांधी गई है? क्या यह बात सही है कि शासन द्वारा हर प्रान्त में कुछ जिले छोटे गये हैं जो बहुत पिछड़े इलाके हैं और जहां उद्योग चालू करने चाहिये? क्या उनके लिये कोई विशेष धन राशि स्वीकार की गई है?

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : जहां तक देश के विशेष रूप से पिछड़े इलाकों और जिलों का सवाल है, हमने राज्य सरकारों को सलाह दी है और बैंकों की तरह की जो अन्य संस्थायें हैं उन को सलाह दी है, कि उनके ऊपर वह विशेष रूप से कृपा करें और उनको विशेष रूप से पैसा दें। अगर कोई विशेष योजना सरकार के सामने आती है तो सरकार उस पर विशेष रूप से अलग से विचार करती है।

SHRI SANJEEVI RAO : In spite of Government promises and also small service institute promises, the banks are not coming forward in financing the small-scale industries. I know of many specific cases. What effective steps are the Government taking in regard to that ?

SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD : If any specific case is brought to our notice, we will certainly look into it.

**Re-opening of India Electric Works Ltd.,
Calcutta**

*644. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOP-

MENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering ways and means of re-opening the India Electric Works Ltd., Calcutta, a Government managed concern which has been closed for over a year ;

(b) whether the workers of the said concern have not even received their statutory retirement and other dues so far ;

(c) whether any examination has been made of the specific proposals for reopening the concern, contained in a memorandum submitted to the Prime Minister on the 21st December, 1970 ; and

(d) whether the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation has taken up the case of India Electric Works for consideration and necessary action ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) These will be paid to them from out of sale proceeds of the I.E.W. to the extent possible after liquidation has been completed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) This Ministry have no information.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The reply of the hon. Minister indicates that the Government is determined not to re-open this factory. I would like to know from him whether he is aware that a large number of items which are necessary for defence purposes, for Railways and for other Government Departments can very well be manufactured in this factory. Details have been submitted in a memorandum sometime ago. Why has Government not examined the possibility of re-opening this plant and running it on a viable basis so that it can perform a useful purpose in meeting Government orders and, particularly, Defence orders ?

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : A Committee went into the matter and, after taking its report into consideration, the Government decided that it should be wound up.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : The hon. Minister has said in reply to part (b) of the

Question that the dues will be paid to workers as far as possible. I want to know whether this will include provident fund dues or other dues also because there is a large amount by way of arrears of dearness allowance to which they were entitled but which were withheld from them, and whether that will also be paid to them and, if not, why not ?

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : We will pay provident fund dues. Other items are not under consideration.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : They are also dues to which they are entitled. Why should you not pay ?

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Only after the liquidation proceedings are completed, this matter will be examined.

SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT : What is the total Government investment in this concern and what are the causes of closing it down ?

MR. SPEAKER : That is too big a question.

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : Bad management, heavy debts and all that. These are the causes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : It is your bad management, nobody else's.

SHRI MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY : We took up the bad legacy. That is the position.

Report of the North Bengal Flood Control Board

*647. **SHRI DINESH JOARDER :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the North Bengal Flood Control Board appointed by the Government of India has submitted its report ;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations ;

(c) the action taken by Government to prevent devastations caused by the rivers Teesta,

Torsa, Jaldhaka and Raidak in North Bengal ; and

(d) whether Government propose to take representatives of Sikkim and Bhutan in the North Bengal Flood Control Board ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). The North Bengal Flood Control Board, constituted by the Government of India, in consultation with the State Government of West Bengal, is for laying down policies and priorities in the implementation of the comprehensive plan of flood control in the North Bengal region. The investigations and preparation of a report on flood control in the area are to be done by the North Bengal Flood Control Commission, which is yet to be set up by the Government of West Bengal.

(c) The North Bengal Flood Control Commission has been proposed for implementing a comprehensive plan of flood control, with the object of reducing the annual damage caused by the floods in North Bengal rivers. Pending preparation and implementation of the comprehensive plan by the proposed commission, immediate works, as considered necessary, in vulnerable reaches, which will ultimately fit in to the overall plan of flood control, are being executed by the State Government. These measures include construction of new embankments, river training and town protection works and raising and strengthening of existing embankments. The more important schemes under execution are (1) Scheme for protection of right bank of river Teesta from Mondalghat to Bibiganj (2) Scheme for preventing diversion of the river Siltorsa into Chel and (3) Scheme for protection of Bijanbari town.

(d) There is no such proposal at present.

SHRI DINESH JOARDER : Sir, it is a very serious matter and much has been said in this august House on the subject. As per Government's official assessment, the losses caused by the North Bengal flood in that area annually to the crops amounted to Rs 4.5 crores and damage to houses and public utilities was