

[Translation]

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was submitting that a specific project had been taken up for cleaning the Ganga. I have stated very often that the cleaning of Ganga is only a beginning and not the end. As our resources increase, we would take further steps accordingly.

SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : I appreciate the feelings expressed by the Hon. Minister and I believe that appropriate action will be taken in that regard. Those who are preparing the Ganga Action Plan may be knowing that in Allahabad, the River Ganga dries up completely and the water of the Yamuna flows into it and it is the water of River Yamuna which remains here primarily. Very little water is allowed to flow into the River Ganga due to which there are difficulties in cleaning it. In order to make the Ganga plan completely successful, is it not necessary that the cleaning of River Yamuna should be undertaken with equal speed and a project should be prepared for this purpose at the earliest? I want to ask as to how much time would be required to prepare such a project and how much amount would be allocated for it?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I have said earlier, no decision has been taken in regard to its financial aspects. I have just mentioned that the attention of the State Government has been drawn to it. Schemes should be formulated for cleaning the River Yamuna. The State Government is paying attention to it, the Central Control and Prevention of Pollution Board is also paying attention to it and so far as the Union Territory is concerned, the Delhi Administration is also attending to this problem. When they formulate the schemes, the question will arise as to wherefrom the financial resources should be mobilised and to what extent can the Centre contribute to it and to what extent the States can contribute? These questions will come up later. First, let the schemes come to us.

SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN : Sir, many of the rivers have dried up.

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : I do not know whether his rivers are flowing or not but other rivers are flowing normally.

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA : I have a small question to ask regarding cleaning of the Ganga. The work of cleaning the Ganga has begun in Allahabad and Varanasi but Mirzapur is situated in between which has been left untouched. The top and the bottom has been cleaned but there is filth in between. I want to know from the Hon. Minister as to when would the work begin at Mirzapur?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : The Yamuna does not pass *via* Mirzapur; the Ganga flows there. The question is concerning the River Yamuna.

SHRI BHARAT SINGH : I want to tell the Hon. Minister that the water of the Najafgarh drain pollutes the water of the Yamuna. Is there any scheme to take that water into the fields so that the fields are irrigated and the dirty water does not flow into the River Yamuna? I want to know as to by when will it be done?

SHRI Z. R. ANSARI : Sir, there are several drains in Delhi which pollute the water of the River Yamuna. The administration has made arrangements to rectify the situation to a great extent. But it is true that the arrangements are not as adequate as he wants. The Delhi Administration is paying attention to it and the Board is also attentive to it. We hope that this work would be done speedily.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, a question has been asked in regard to Mirzapur just now. Although my question is not connected with it, I want to submit with your permission that a scheme is being prepared in regard to Mirzapur and as soon as the State Government prepares the schemes, we would sanction it. We have not forgotten Mirzapur, it is in our mind.

MR. SPEAKER : You must be liking the carpets of Mirzapur.

Operation of Multinational Companies

*291. **SHRI DILFEP SINGH BHURIA :** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign multinational companies operating in the country at present; and

(b) whether activities of multinational companies have increased in India in recent years ?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) and (b). A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) There is no accepted definition of Multinational Companies. However for practical purposes, companies having more than 40 per cent Non-Resident Interest (popularly known as FERA Companies) are treated as Multinational Companies. As on 31st July, 1986 there were 119 FERA companies (this includes partnership concerns and branches also).

(b) The entry of foreign capital and the subsequent activities of FERA Companies are governed by the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, of 1973, and by the foreign investment and industrial licensing policies of the Government. No change has been made in the relevant provisions of the Act recently. However, various FERA companies are given permission from time to time for expansion/diversification within the existing policy framework.

[Translation]

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, my question was entirely different and the Hon. Minister gave a completely different reply to it. I want your protection. The Hon. Minister said that in India there were 119 FERA companies. I want to know as to how much has been invested in these companies and how much foreign exchange has been sent abroad in the shape of profits ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Sir, the reply to the question is as straight as the question

asked by the Hon. Member. There are 119 companies which are treated as FERA companies. The problem is that there is no such definition of a multinational company which is acceptable to all.

The details of the percentage of foreign investments in these 119 companies are available with us. The information which the Hon. Member has demanded was provided in the House in a reply to an Unstarred Questions. The expenditure incurred in 1984-85 was Rs. 51 crores and 11 lakhs in the shape of profits and dividends, Rs. 2 crores and 13 lakhs in the form of royalty, Rs. 2 crores and 82 lakhs in the form of fees for technical know-how, Rs. 275 crores and 83 lakhs for importing capital goods and Rs. 68 crores and 47 lakhs on other items. Foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 387 crores and 77 lakhs was earned. This information is available with me and has been provided in reply to an Unstarred Question. I can provide the remaining information about the foreign capital invested in each of the companies.

MR. SPEAKER : Please send it to him for his information.

SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, thousands of people died in the Bhopal tragedy. These multinationals are coming in our country and causing closure of indigenous industries. Such companies whose number is increasing in the country should be checked to enable our indigenous industries to flourish. What measures have been adopted by the Hon. Minister for controlling such companies ?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Our industrial policy is very clear. The multinationals are not allowed to operate in areas which are reserved for our small industries or for the Public Sector. Whenever any such company approaches us for starting a new business or for a new collaboration, we examine everything before sanctioning it and we also keep in mind the point made by the Hon. Member.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister as to why the FERA companies and the multinational companies have been equated when they are not the same. The

multinational companies operate not in this country alone but in other countries as well and they do not come under FERA. I want to know as to how many multinational companies have been allowed in this country and how much profits which they have earned here have been sent abroad and which companies have been given licence for the work which could be done by our own companies?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to reply to the last part first that the multinationals are not allowed to operate in areas where indigenous enterprises are equally good. Generally, permission is granted for transfer of technology or for earning foreign exchange. Here I would also like to mention that there are several areas in which our companies have entered into collaboration with foreign companies. After examining certain points, if it is found that it is necessary to adopt some new technology or the foreign exchange is required, then only such permission is granted. In 1986 there were 958 such cases, in which the collaboration of the multinationals was sought and if you see the value of its total share, you would find that it is only Rs 106.95 crores; it is not a large amount but we should go in for such collaboration only when new technique or foreign exchange is required.

SHRI KUNWAR RAM : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the Hon. Minister whether wealth tax and income tax have been realised from the multinationals on their earnings here and how much is still due?

SHRI BRAHMA DUTT : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I cannot provide the information just now as to how much wealth tax and income tax has been realised but it is clear that when any multinational operates in this country, we do not discriminate between it and our Indian companies. Whatever rules we have regarding wealth tax and income-tax are imposed on them as well. If the Hon. Member wants, he will be separately informed about it.

[English]

295. **SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :** Will the Minister of WELFARE be Pleased to state :

(a) whether the physically handicapped in rural areas find it difficult to get employment;

(b) whether any steps are proposed to be taken to provide avenues of employment to physically handicapped in rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the number of physically handicapped employed so far in rural and urban areas, State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (d). A statement is given below.

Statement

It is difficult for physically handicapped persons to get wage-paid employment as such opportunities are much less in rural areas compared to those in the urban areas. Physically handicapped persons can however, make use of self-employment opportunities available to persons in rural areas. Ministry of Rural Development had issued instructions for giving priority to those families who have adult handicapped as its members and are capable of taking up some economic activity for providing assistance under IRDP.

Government of India in Ministry of Labour have set up 11 Rural Rehabilitation Extension Centres at the block level to provide assistance to handicapped persons for their rehabilitation in the rural areas. These 11 Centres are attached to 5 Vocational Rehabilitation Centres in Madras, Ludhiana, Bombay, Calcutta and Kanpur. The blocks where Rural Rehabilitation Centres are functioning as follows :

- (1) Tirovallore
- (2) Chithampur
- (3) Hoshiarpur
- (4) Kapoorthala
- (5) Bhanu
- (6) Bhiwandi
- (7) Barasat
- (8) Uluberia