

loan is limited to only such goods/services which are to be imported in view of difficult debt position, and resources for goods and services available locally are raised within the country; and

(c) whether Non-Resident Indians' fund can also be used in place of World Bank loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) and (b). The Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) has submitted a proposal for obtaining World Bank assistance of US \$ 575 millions mainly for electrification of villages, energisation of pump sets and system improvement and energy conservation schemes etc. Under the World Bank procedures, global tenders are required to be invited for procurement of goods & equipment etc. in which indigenous parties, who have a 15% price preference, can also participate.

(c) No offer of assistance from Non-Resident Indians has so far been received by the REC.

Lock out in the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

262. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
DR. B.L. SHAILESH:

SHRI SAIFUDDIN
CHOWDHARY:
DR. SUDHIR ROY:

SHRIMATI MANORMA SINGH:
DR. DATTA SAMANT:
SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV:
SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD:
SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA:
SHRI UTTAMRAO PATIL:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the management of the Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC),

Ranchi, declared a lock out following 59-day strike;

(b) if so, what were the demands of workers and steps taken to meet the demands of the workers;

(c) the total loss suffered by the Heavy Engineering Corporation and the number of workers affected by lock out; and

(d) the steps being taken to negotiate lifting of lock out, with representatives of workers?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Management felt that the demands of workers which included scrapping of the wage agreement, payment of interim relief etc. were not possible to be met and all other avenues of amicable settlement having failed, there was no option except to declare lock out.

(c) As a result of the strike/lockout, HEC has been losing production at the rate of over Rs. 1 crore per day approximately. The number of workers affected by the lock out is about 14200.

(d) As a result of amicable settlement on 24.7.87, the lock out has been lifted with immediate effect.

Subsidy on Biogas

263. SHRI D. B. PATIL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of subsidy given since the inception of bio-gas programmes;

(b) whether there is a steep increase in non-functioning of bio-gas units; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) A total of Rs. 207.31 crores has been sanctioned to State