

AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) No such specific case has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

**Assistance to Bangladesh**

5154. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :  
SHRI PRADIP BHATTACHARYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bangladesh has sought assistance from India for the completion of its power project;

(b) if so, the details thereof, project-wise;

(c) the assistance provided by the Indian Government to Bangladesh for the purpose, so far, till date;

(d) the details of agreements held in this regard; and

(e) the number and names of other countries to which Indian Government are providing funds for their power projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (d) Bangladesh Government is financing the Rajshahi Power Distribution Project Phase-II from the credit line of Rs. 30 Crores extended by Government of India in 1991. During the recent Joint Economic Commission Meeting Bangladesh side stated that they had a supplementary requirement for Rs. 7 crores for completion of the Rajshahi Power Distribution Project-II.

(e) The Indian Government is providing funds to three countries, viz. Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan for power projects.

**BIFR**

5155. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA :  
SHRI L. RAMANA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases assigned to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction since its inception;

(b) the number of cases which have been finalised by this Board till March 31, 1997;

(c) the number of cases in which recommendations have been made for re-opening and closure of sick industries; and

(d) the number of cases recommended for the re-opening have been approved by the Government and the number of those cases which have been rejected for this purpose alongwith the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that 1899 references were registered with

it since its establishment in May 1987 and upto 31.03.1997.

(b) 1540 cases were finalised by the BIFR upto 31.03.1997.

(c) 594 rehabilitation schemes (including 27 schemes sanctioned by Appellate Authority for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (AAIFR) were sanctioned for revival of the sick industrial companies during this period. 514 cases were recommended by the BIFR to concerned High Courts for winding up.

(d) As per the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA), sick industrial companies including such companies in the public sector are required to be referred to the BIFR for determination of remedial and other measures which need to be taken in respect of such companies. Where a scheme for revival of a sick industrial company is sanctioned by the BIFR under section 17(2) and 18(4) of SICA, all concerned agencies including Government agencies are required to provide facilities in terms of the sanctioned scheme.

**Vacant Post**

5156. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of posts of Deputy Commissioners of Income Tax in Bihar lying vacant and since when;

(b) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled and the officers posted will join;

(c) whether the officers are reluctant to join the posts in Bihar;

(d) if so, whether Government have identified the reasons for the reluctance; and

(e) the efforts proposed to encourage the officers to join their posts in Bihar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) At present, there are 5 posts of Deputy Commissioners of Income Tax lying vacant in Bihar Region;

(b) to (e) The posts of Deputy Commissioners of Income Tax which are lying vacant in Bihar region are to be filled up in the course of annual general transfers and on the basis of recommendations of Departmental Promotion Committee.

**Use of Staff Car in ESI Corporation**

5157. SHRI V. PRADEEP DEV : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the instructions of Government of India regarding use of staff cars by senior officers from residence to office and vice-versa are applicable in E.S.I. Corporation also;

(b) if so, whether these instructions are being followed strictly;

(c) whether some senior officers of E.S.I. Corporation, who are not entitled to this facility are using the staff car for the above said purpose;

(d) whether these instructions have been circumvented by some officers for using the staff car unauthorisedly;

(e) whether any recovery for unauthorised use has been made; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (f) The ESI Corporation is a statutory autonomous body set up under the ESI Act, 1948. However, the instructions issued by the Government of India regarding use of Staff Car by Senior Officers are generally followed by the ESI Corporation. Accordingly, senior officers of the ESIC are being provided staff car from residence to office and vice-versa on prescribed rates. Staff cars are also being provided for other officers in discharge of their official duties as and when required. No incidence of unauthorised use of staff car has been reported by the ESIC.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have got a list of members who have already given notices.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR (Barh) : Sir, I have also given a privilege notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You raise it during the Zero Hour which is why Zero Hour has also been regulated here. I will give you a chance.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : As per the rules laid down, privilege matters get priority soon after the Question Hour is over. That is way I am seeking your permission.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Have you given the notice of privilege ?

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Yes, Sir, I gave it yesterday. I met the hon. Speaker also and he told me to take it up today. This is very clear that papers are not laid before privilege matters are taken up. Privilege matters are taken up before taking any other item after the Question Hour is over.

[English]

SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI (Howrah) : I have given a notice of breach of privilege against the former Secretary-General. The Speaker said that he was enquiring from the former Secretary-General whose statement was derogatory to the Parliament and the Parliamentarians. I gave the privilege notice long back, in the last session itself. The Speaker said he was enquiring into the matter from the former Secretary-General Shri Subhash C. Kashyap and he would inform the House. Three months are already over. Shri Kashyap is very much in town. Nothing has come out. I want to know about this. He has insulted the entire Parliament and the Members

of Parliament. He has insulted the Chair of the Speaker and all the people working at the Table. This is not a right thing. And he is enjoying everyday. What is this ? Can we not catch hold of anybody ? Are we so poor ? The Parliament should stand on its own feet.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAIK (Mumbai-North) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have also given a notice of breach of privilege against the Attorney General. He has also insulted the entire House. I had given my notice on 29th but so far no chance has been given to me.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let me take up the Business. First of all papers to be laid on the Table.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : Mr. Chairman, Sir, as per the rules, privilege matters should be taken first before the Papers are laid on the Table.....(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Now we have started it.

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : I have got a point of order Sir, our rule says that privilege matters should be taken-up immediately after the Question Hour is over – only then any other items should be taken up.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly read out that portion.

[Translation]

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Lucknow) : He is saying right but it is in practice that privilege motions are usually raised only after the Papers have been laid on the Table.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : I agree with him.

[Translation]

SHRI NITISH KUMAR : If Atal ji has said this then it is O.K.

12.02 hrs.

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### **Annual Reports and Accounts of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ending on 31st March, 1996 and Auditors Report thereon**

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : I beg to lay on the Table :

(1) A copy each of the following Annual Reports and Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Regional Rural Banks for the year ended on the 31st March, 1996, together with Auditor's Report thereon :-

(i) Kamraz Rural Bank, Sopore Kashmir.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1860/97]