

CONCORN and MTNL. Now, Rs. 4,800 crore have been fixed having regard to what is possible in terms of disinvestment of three or maybe four companies. Disinvestment process is going through smoothly. At every stage, the Disinvestment Commission is kept in the picture. There is a core group; then there is a group headed by the Cabinet Secretary; and then it comes to the Cabinet.

I am confident that as things are moving through quite smoothly, we will be able to raise this Rs. 4,800 crore this year.

LT. GENERAL PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI: I am sorry to say that I do not share the hon. Minister's confidence in this matter that Rs. 4,800 crore will be realised. However that is a matter of opinion.

But specifically, what I want to, in my second question, point out is that the arrangements that have been made through the medium of an Empowered Committee headed by the Cabinet Secretary, which has Secretary, Ministry of Industries and so on, are the normal formulations. This is a thing to make it work. The Committee has to cut across various Ministries. There are various other Ministries. It is an Inter-Ministerial job. The Secretaries sitting in the offices have a lot of work to do. They are very busy people. Therefore, the normal hierarchical set up will not speed up the progress of this scheme. This is what my feeling is. You need to create a Special Group, not necessarily Government people but somebody who can execute the good proposals being made by Shri Ramakrishna. He has also expressed serious concern that the Government is not taking decisions fast enough or it has not expressed its view. The impression that we have got from the various literatures that one has read is that the decisions of the Government are not matching with the speed with which they should be going. I, therefore, want to know whether any special effort will be made for an organisational set up that can bring about an acceleration in this process.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I do not think it is possible to hasten the process. I do not think there is any deliberate attempt to slow down the process either. After all, the Government is answerable to Parliament. Therefore, the Government has to oversee the disinvestment process and the Government is doing so through the mechanism of the Disinvestment Commission. We are strictly adhering to the recommendations of the Disinvestment Commission both in the choice of the company, the level of disinvestment and the manner of disinvestment and, I believe, so far it has worked well.

It is true that Shri Ramakrishna from time to time expresses certain views but that is good. It is good to have somebody outside Government who points out to you these things. It is good to have a reference point. I am quite happy with Shri Ramakrishna's view. He meets me quite often. He sits in the same building as I do. I am quite happy with his views. I do not believe, Parliament or the country will accept the situation where disinvestment takes place through a mechanism outside the Government. Finally, the decision has to be taken by the Cabinet. The

final decisions have to be taken by the Government. As of this morning, I am confident that the process is going through smoothly in these three plus one companies and we will be able to disinvest up to Rs. 4,800 crore.

[Translation]

SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. Minister has informed that a sum of Rs. 4800 crore is likely to be collected by selling the Public Sector shares. I would simply like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Govt. has chalked out any strategy for reviving and revamping the sick Public Sector Units or those which are on the verge of closure like Hindustan Fertilizers, I.D.P.L., H.E.C. etc. utilising this amount.

[English]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, the bulk of the disinvestment proceeds will go for the social sector, as we have said in our Common Minimum Programme, namely health and education. There is a decision that 10 per cent of the disinvestment proceeds should be earmarked for a Revolving Fund. Last year we raised a very small amount and, therefore, the question of providing 10 per cent was neither here nor there. This year, if we succeed in raising Rs. 4,800 crore, surely we will consider allocating about 10 per cent of that amount to the Revolving Fund.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, he has already answered Shri Acharya's question.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: No, Sir.

I want to know from the hon. Finance Minister whether it is a fact that the Refugee Rehabilitation Industries Corporation, which is a public sector undertaking, has also been referred to this Disinvestment Commission.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I believe, it was referred to the Commission but the Commission has not yet taken it up.

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA: Why has this public sector undertaking been referred to the Commission? ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: I will check and let you know.

I am not aware why a particular company was referred. All companies where there is a proposal to disinvest will be referred, but the Disinvestment Commission advises. My colleague tells me that it may have been referred, but they have not taken it up. I will check the position and let you know.

[Translation]

Training to Unemployed Youths for SSI

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*245. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH:

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for imparting training to unemployed youths for setting up small scale industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith salient features of the scheme; and

(c) the number of unemployed youths who have been benefited from this scheme till now?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Unemployed youth are provided training under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana. Government of India is also implementing Entrepreneurship Development Programmes through Small Industries Service Institutes, assisting State Entrepreneurship Development Institutes, and conducting skill development programmes through Tool Rooms and Process & Product development centres for intending entrepreneurs and youth.

Training under PMRY consists of elements of motivation, accounting, marketing, familiarisation with legal and state framework etc. It is for a period of 15 to 20 working days for the industry sector & 7 to 10 working days for the service/business sector.

Entrepreneurship Development Programmes by SISIs give an overview of requirements for managing enterprises. Product oriented EDPs also familiarise entrepreneurs with processes and machines. They are normally for a period of 4 to 6 weeks.

State Entrepreneurship Development Institutes also train persons in EDPs. Skill development training is carried out with specific courses designed to meet specific industry needs.

(c) As per reports received from State/UTs for the 8th Plan as many as 6,16,839 youths were trained under PMRY, 41,766 persons were trained under Entrepreneurship Development Programmes by SISIs. For the years 1992-93 to 1995-96; 40,221 persons were trained by assisted State Entrepreneurship Development Institutions.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the one hand the Govt. is spending crores of rupees for imparting training to the unemployed youth and on the other hand an expert Committee constituted under the Chairmanship

of Shri Abid Hussian in January, 1997 has recommended in its report submitted to the Govt. that the Govt. should extend adequate loans and tax concessions for strengthening the small scale industries, but the Govt. has not taken any steps in the direction so far. I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to by what time the Govt. is going to implement the recommendation contained in the report?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, various programmes are on the anvil. For example, Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is there. In the Eighth Plan, we have given employment to about 6,16,000 people. Then there is an EDP programme conducted by SISI. We have given job opportunities for 41,000 people. Then, there is an EDI programme run by state intitutions. We have given job for 40,000 people. Then, there are Tool Rooms and other Skill Development Programmes. We have given 10,000 jobs. This is a continuous programme. It is going on.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, does the Govt. provide any financial assistance or grants to the institutions and organisation engaged in the work of imparting training to the unemployed youth and also provide loans to the these youths after receiving training for setting up their own small scale industries?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, training is given depending upon the jobs. For example, in PMRY, if it is an industry, 15-20 day's training is given. If it is a service-oriented or business-oriented one, seven to ten days' training is given. A stipend is given and they are absorbed in the industry itself.

[Translation]

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government is aware of the fact that in the absence of employment the rural youths are migrating to urban areas and the training provided to the rural unemployed youths, under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana is nominal, slow and haphazard? If that is so, what are the reasons therefore and whether the Govt. is making any arrangements to monitor its proper implementation?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: PMRY is one of the best schemes being implemented all over the country. If specific instances are brought to my notice, I will take action.

SHRI C. NARASIMHAN: The fact remains, that the SISI which is providing the training programme for PMRY loanee is not enough to meet the requirements. May I know from the hon. Minister this thing? Is there any special proposal to set up a specialised institution to train specially the PMRY candidates?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: There are multifarious

institutions. There are several BGOs, besides that, private organisations are there, universities are there and institutes are there. There is no dearth for such kind of institutes.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, just now an hon. Member asked a question about imparting training to the unemployed youth on the basis of the Abid Hussain Committee report. My question is whether the Govt. is contemplating the formulation of a scheme of imparting training on the basis of the Govt. of India's Standing Committee report on Industries laid before the Parliament? Will the Govt. consider the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Standing Committee report?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: I am sorry. I am not getting you about that report. I will definitely look into the report and take action ...*(Interruptions)* Madam, what is the report? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA: Does the Govt. intend to implement the scheme for imparting training to the unemployed youths as recommended in the Parliamentary Standing Committee Report?

[English]

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: The report is being studied by a group of officials in my Ministry. I will report to you as and when the action is taken ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: It is a direct indication that whatever Standing Committees have been established by the Parliament and whatever Reports have been submitted by them, they have been totally ignored by the Ministry. It is a direct example.

MR. SPEAKER: Are you a Chairman of any Standing Committee? I think, 'no'.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: As we all know, P.M.R.Y. is a very good scheme. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR: I am the Chairman of a Standing Committee. But they should follow the report. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: P.M.R.Y. is a very good scheme. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The Report is being studied. He will come back.

(Interruptions)

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Sir, you direct the Government to accept the recommendations of the Standing Committees. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, as we all know, P.M.R.Y. is a very good scheme and with a very good intention. Though the control at the outset, is with the Ministry of Industry, yet the final control is with the Ministry of Finance. But the coordination between the Ministry of Industry and the Ministry of Finance in this regard is very poor.

Sir, I suggest that the Ministers should sit together and evolve some programme ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I think, it is a very good suggestion.

(Interruptions)

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Let the answer also come. ...*(Interruptions)* There is a practical difficulty that nobody is getting the loan. ...*(Interruptions)*. They are sitting together. Let them take action.

MR. SPEAKER: They are already sitting together here.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: They are sitting together, but they are not talking together ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It is a very good suggestion.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: We will sit together and take action ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: I think, they should talk together and evolve something to see that the P.M.R.Y. loan is given to the deserving candidates. This is not only a suggestion but I am putting a question whether something is evolved by way of finding a solution to the lot of problems which have been posed in this regard. A lot of difficulties have been found in the field for getting these loans. Is there any formula?

MR. SPEAKER: I think, it is enough.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: In this regard, I have already taken two meetings with the State Governments and also with the bank authorities. If any specific instances are brought to my notice, I will definitely take action.

MR. SPEAKER: Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee, one short question, please.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE: I would like to know whether there is any monitoring with regard banking finance as well as cess. Banking finance and marketing are the two things which ultimately put everything in chaos.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, constant monitoring is taking place. But I would beg to submit that West Bengal is lagging behind in P.M.R.Y. ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Cracke in Raniganj Coal Areas

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246. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY:

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV:

"Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state: