

[English]

- (vi) Need to introduce passenger train Service between Vijayawada and Jaggaiahpet

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO (Vijayawada) : Jaggaiahpet Municipality has a population of nearly forty thousand. Apart from the Visakhapatnam steel plant limestone processing unit, several cement factories have come up in and around this town. It has famous Buddhist manument. The people in the area are suffering as it was not having a rail link. Now as the Motumarri-Jaggaiahpet Railway line of 26 Kms. length has been completed in March 1987, it can be best utilised not only for transporting lime stone to Visakhapatnam steel plant, cement to various parts of the country but also for operating passenger train services connecting Jaggaiahpet with Vijayawada city. This will help in meeting the ever growing passenger traffic demand in the sector. So, I urge upon the Railway Minister to introduce passenger train service for Vijayawada to Jaggaiahpet.

- (vii) Need to modernise mills under management of National Textile Corporation

DR. DATTA SAMANT (Bombay South Central) : Government has taken a decision to close down about fifty per cent of NTC mills and amalgamate some with healthy mills and allow sale of their land in Bombay. Government has also decided to close down Indra United Mills No. 2 and 6, Bharat Mill and Shrinivas Mill. Thus total seven NTC mills in Bombay and Maharashtra will be closed and about ten thousand workers will be retrenched. Government has already auctioned Bharatmata Cinema and NTC land in Central Bombay. It is causing lot of dissatisfaction among textile workers who are staying in Central Bombay for the last four generations. Government has sanctioned Rs. 750 crores for healthy mills to develop in Seventh Plan but hardly Rs. 125 crores have been provided for NTC mills. Private Mills were given concession of Rs. 700 crores, in Polyester Fibre and Filament in last budget. Machinery of NTC mills is forty years old. Outstanding loans are mounting due to no fault of workmen. Government should make provision of about Rs. 500 crores to modernise these NTC

mills. Old liabilities prior to taking over these Mills should be passed on to respective owners of the Mills. Amalgamation and closure of NTC Mills of Bombay should be stopped and no retrenchment and selling of land of such mills should be permitted.

12.34 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

[English]

Reported Income of Jyotsna Holding Private Limited from Sumitomo Corporation- *Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will take up Item No. 7 of the List of Business. Shri S.B. Chavan will reply to the discussion.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have heard with rapt attention the kind of discussion which went on in this House for almost five hours about the supply of pipelines by Sumitomo Corporation and alleged agents, Jyotsna Holding Private Limited having received payment Sir, before I come to reply to the various points, I must at the outset say that Government is in fact very keen to find out if there is anyone involved who is trying to take shelter under something or the other. I can assure the House, Sir, that we will be taking a very stringent action against all those who tried to violate either the Income-Tax Act or the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act. We are not going to shield or we are not going to protect any one. I don't particularly hold any brief for or on behalf of any one.

Sir, how the whole thing started is the hon. Members are keenly aware of the fact that notice for supply of pipelines was advertised in the newspapers and tenders were invited. It was made absolutely clear in the notice itself that whosoever files the tender, he must clearly indicate whether they are going to have any agents who are going to operate in India or abroad. They should clearly mention what are the services expected of them, what is the fees which is to be paid to them—all these details