

Letters of intent for Bihar

1879. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of those projects of Bihar for which the applications for Letter of Intent are pending with the Central Government;

(b) since when these applications are pending;

(c) whether there is any policy that applications should be cleared within a maximum period of one month; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for keeping applications in respect of Bihar Projects pending?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) As on 18-11-1986, ten applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, for the grant of Letters of Intent for locating industries in Bihar State were at various stages of consideration. One proposal was received in February, 1986, two in May, four in July and the remaining three in October, 1986. Ordinarily, the time limit for disposing of Industrial Licence applications is three months. It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending Industrial Licence applications as expeditiously as possible and to ensure this, the procedures have been streamlined.

Announcement of names of High Court Judges in Advance

1880. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint and announce the names of

High Court Judges well in advance in those cases in which vacancies occur on account of retirement to avoid keeping the posts of Judges vacant and to cope with the mounting arrears; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) The Government have recently reiterated the instructions in accordance with which the Chief Justices and the Chief Ministers have to send their recommendations for making appointments of Judges in High Courts well in advance of the expected dates of occurrence of the vacancies.

Prohibiting Employees of Public Sector Enterprises from Contesting Elections

1881. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to amend the statute to prohibit employees of the public sector enterprises from contesting elections as well as canvassing in elections; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No Statute is required to be amended as framing of Conduct, Discipline and Appeal Rules for their employees is within the purview of the Public Sector Undertakings. It is, however, being actively considered if restrictions on political activities applicable to Government servants be made equally applicable to employees of public sector Undertakings.