

called for interview, while furnishing their bio-data in the prescribed form, are required to state whether they "have stayed in 'Kerala' or 'West Bengal' for more than a year at any time so far," and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what is the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No discrimination is being made against residents of any State in the matter of appointments in this Laboratory.

(b) Although information about the candidates stay in Kerala and West Bengal has been asked for in the Bio-date form, it has not been used for screening out candidates from these States for the purpose of appointments in the Laboratory.

(c) As soon as it came to notice that such information is being asked for, the Laboratories were directed to cease the practice and this has since been done.

Small scale units

1105. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of large and small sick units in the country;

(b) whether there is any concrete thinking on reviving sick industrial units;

(c) whether there is any precise time-bound action plan to prevent industrial sickness; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) According to data (provisional) furnish-

ed by the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, there were 24656 Sick Industrial Units assisted by the Banks in the large, medium and small scale sectors in the country by the end of December, 1980.

(b) to (d) To meet the situation of growing incidence of industrial I sickness. Government have recently announced certain policy measures for guidance of Central Ministries, State Governments and Financial institutions. The salient features of the guidelines are as below;

(i) The Administrative Ministries in the Central Government will have* specific responsibility for prevention and remedial action in relation to sickness in industrial sector within their respective charge. They will have a central role in monitoring sickness and coordinating action for revival and rehabilitation of sick units. In suitable cases, they will also establish Standing Committees for major industrial sectors where sickness is wide spread.

(ii) The financial institutions will strengthen the monitoring system so that it is possible to take timely corrective action to prevent incipient sickness. They will obtain periodical returns from the assisted units and from the Directors nominated by them on the Boards of such units.

(iii) The Financial Institutions and Banks will initiate necessary corrective action for sick or incipient sick units based on a diagnostic study to be undertaken by them. In case of growing sickness, the financial institutions will also consider assumption of management, responsibility where they are confident of restoring a unit to a healthy state.

(iv) Where the Banks and Financial Institutions are unable to prevent sickness or ensure revival of

a sick unit, they will deal with their outstanding dues to the unit in accordance with the normal banking procedure. However, before doing so they will report the matter to the Central Government who will decide whether the unit should be nationalised or whether any other alternative, including workers' participation in the management, can revive the undertaking.

(v) Where it is decided to nationalise the undertaking, its management may be taken over under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, for a period of six months, to enable the Government to take necessary steps for nationalisation.

(vi) The industrial undertakings presently being managed under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, will also be dealt with in accordance with the above principles. It will be decided if the undertakings are to be nationalised or any other alternatives can provide a solution. If none of the alternatives are considered feasible, the Government may consider denotification of the unit in which event the banks and Financial Institutions will deal with their outstanding dues to the undertaking in accordance with the normal banking procedures.

Industrial units in the country

1106. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) what is the number of nationalised and other industrial units whose management have been taken over by Government till date in the country and have been showing losses for the last three years; and

(b) in how many cases Government have taken steps against the management/authority who are primarily responsible for such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Losses were suffered consistently during 1978-79 and 1980-81 by 13 nationalised industrial units and 18 other Industrial units which were being managed during these years by persons authorised by the Government under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation Act, 1951.

(b) Losses were incurred due to various factors including old and obsolete machinery, excess labour, shortage of inputs, industrial relations, market situation etc. Each unit, has been, or is being, examined by appropriate authority with a view to reviving or rehabilitating it.

National Instruments Ltd. Calcutta

1107. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that the management of National Instruments Limited, Calcutta has formed the Canteen Managing Committee in violation of Factories Act and Rules; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this matter in the interest of maintaining industrial peace in this unit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) and (b) The Inspector of Factories, West Bengal has made certain observations in August, 1981 relating to the existing composition of the Canteen Managing Committee in National Instruments Limited, Calcutta and advised reconstitution of the same strictly in accordance with the West Bengal Factory Rules, 1958. The Company have sent a reply stating that, as the Factory Inspector's letter has been produced before the Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta in connection