

Exemption for payment of bonus

1522. SHRI NARASINGHA
PRASAD NANDA:

SHRI S. W. DHABE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) the number of proposals so far received from the employers for granting exemption from payment of minimum bonus under the payment of Bonus Act for the year 1979-80;

(b) whether any of the employers has been granted exemption from paying the minimum bonus; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. VENKATA REDDY): (a) Applications for grant of exemption from payment of bonus under Section 36 of the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 for the accounting year commencing on any day in 1979-1980 have been received from the following four employers:—

(i) M/s. Parshava Properties Ltd., P.O. Dalmia Nagar, Distt. Rohtas.

(ii) M/s. Kalyanpur Lime & Cement Works Ltd., P.O. Ban. jari, Distt. Rohtas.

(iii) M/s. Dehri-Rohtas Light Railway Co., Dalmia Nagar, Bihar,

(iv) M/s. Sone Valley Portland Cement Co., P.O. Japla Distt. Palamau.

(b) The Central Government as the 'appropriate Government' have not granted any exemption so far.

(c) Does not arise.

National Newsprint and Paper Mills

1523. SHRIMATI SUSHILA SHAN-
KAR ADIVAREKAR;

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE; SHRI
SWAMI DINESH
CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Newsprint and Paper Mills, continues to incur heavy losses, even 25 years after it started production enjoying complete monopoly in its field;

(b) if so, what are the total accumulated losses incurred by this Mill so far and the extent of losses suffered during the Past 3 years;

(c) what are the reasons for such a state of affairs in the Mill; and

(d) what steps are being taken to increase production and to make it a profit-earning concern?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) The National Newsprint & Paper Mills is incurring losses since the year 1977-78. The total accumulated losses of the National Newsprint & Paper Mills as on 31st March, 1980, were Rs. 251 lakhs. The losses incurred during the last three years amount to Rs. 301 lakhs.

(c) and (d) The main reasons for the losses suffered by the mill are lower production due to power shortage and operational problems, combined with the rising cost of inputs. Various steps are being taken to increase the productivity and profitability of the mill such as rectifying the equipment, removing imbalances in various sections of the mill, provision for captive power generation, and effecting improved plant management. The sale price of newsprint manufactured in the mill has also been increased recently.

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Industrial Units and Projects

1524. SHRI AMAR PROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise names of the Industrial Units and Projects which had been cleared by or had been given letters of intent by the Janata Gov-