

(a) whether Government have decided to allow monopoly houses and multinational corporations to maintain their present size of operations; and

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

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Activities of 'monopolistic undertakings' as defined in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act are regulated through the provisions of the said Act. Similarly, activities of companies having non-resident interest above 40 per cent are governed by relevant provisions of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act, 1973. The industrial undertakings belonging to either of the categories mentioned above and coming within the purview of the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act are also regulated by its provisions. These undertakings are subject to the discipline of industrial licensing and no exemptions from industrial licensing are admissible to them.

The existing policy permits foreign companies and the undertaking covered by the provisions of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act to enter only in 19 specified industries which are of importance to the national economy or have direct linkages with such industries, or have a long-term export potential. Even in these categories of industries, Government's policy is to encourage competent small and medium enterprises in these categories of industries, foreign companies and MRTP undertakings. The objective of the Government is to ensure that operations of foreign companies and MRTP undertakings including monopolistic undertakings conform to the overall socio-economic policy of the Government and their activities including their

size of operations are regulated within the policy guidelines announced by Government from time to time.

Central Minister's visit to Gujarat

@*420-B. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Members of the Central Council of Ministers who visited Gujarat during the four week period preceding the date of elections to the State Legislative Assembly in 1975;

(b) and (c) A total expenditure incurred on these visits by way of travel expenses, expenses on stay arrangements, etc., of these Ministers and the personal staff accompanying them; and

(c) whether the visits were connected with their official duties; if not, what steps Government have taken to recover the amount spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHARAN SINGH): (a) 22.

(b) and (c) A total expenditure of Rs. 24,226.42 was incurred by way of travel expenses, etc., of these Ministers. Out of this, a sum of Rs. 17,818.57 represented the cost of travel by IAF air-craft for private visits of Ministers to Gujarat and the balance of Rs. 6,407.85 was in connection with their official duties. A recovery of Rs. 17,818.57 on account of private visits of Ministers was made from the All India Congress Committee.

An expenditure of Rs. 27,041.22 was incurred on the personal staff who had accompanied the Ministers on their tours to Gujarat. No recoveries were effected on this account.

@Previously Starred Question 360 transferred from the 2nd August, 1977.