

the retired employees of Nalgonda district in Andhra Pradesh;

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

(c) whether Government have examined the demands listed in the memorandum; and

(d) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS (SHRI OM MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Prime Minister has on 14-1-1976 received a representation from the retired State Government employees of Nalgonda district in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) The petitioners have represented against their compulsory retirement from State Government service ordered by the Collector, Nalgonda District, under the Andhra Pradesh Government Employees Premature Retirement Rules, 1975, and have asked for reinstatement.

(c) and (d) The matter falls within the executive jurisdiction of the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Hence, the question of the Central Government taking a decision in the matter does not arise.

Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951

588. **SHRI S. KUMARAN:** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposal to amend the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 is under consideration of his Ministry; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to bring about more clarity in the definitions of important terms such as "New article" and "substantial expansion" used in the Act, to acquire more powers for effectively and quickly dealing with cases of violation of the provisions of the Act and to extend Government control over not only establishment of industrial undertakings but also their proper running in line with Government policy. It is also proposed to amend the First Schedule to the Act so that it adequately reflects the technological progress made in the country.

Death sentence on two political prisoners

589. **SHRI S. KUMARAN:**

SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND:

SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:

Will the Minister of **HOME AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Members of Parliament had submitted a petition to the President of India requesting him to commute the death sentence imposed by the court on two political prisoners who were involved in Naxalite activities;

(b) whether it is a fact that the mercy petitions presented to the President of India on behalf of these prisoners had been rejected and consequently they were hanged; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not granting their mercy petitions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) The Hon'ble Members of Parliament are presumably referring to the death sentences imposed on prisoners Gun-