

(c) whether Government have received representations dated the 8th September, 1975, regarding the closure of M/s. Oriental Metal Industries (P) Limited and others;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government propose to take to reopen them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e) A letter dated 3rd September, 1975, was received from the Hon. Member, mentioning, *inter alia*, that the management of M/s. Oriental Metal Industries\* (P) Ltd. had served a notice of closure, effective from 14th September, 1975. It was alleged that the management of this unit was indulging in malpractices and misappropriation of funds, that it had failed to pay wages to workers for sometime and did not deposit contribution on account of Employees' State Insurance etc. with the proper authorities. The matter is being examined in consultation with the concerned authorities. According to the information furnished by the Government of West Bengal on the 4th December, 1975, the management of the company had applied to the Industrial Reconstruction Corporation of India, for financial assistance and that their request was under consideration by the IRCI.

#### **Code of Ethics for journalists**

764. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 97 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 8th January, 1976 and state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report that a subcommittee of AH India Newspapers Editors Conference drew up a code of ethics for journalists and effected changes in the code of ethics for journalists; and

(b) what is Government's reaction in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The AINEC has suggested certain modifications in the Code of Ethics adopted by the Central Committee of editors. These suggestions together with others received from other professional organisations are under consideration.

#### **Periodicals which have closed publication**

765. SHRI OM PRAKASH TYAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise break-up of the number of dailies, weeklies and other periodicals which have stopped publication since June 24, 1975;

(b) what are the reasons for their closure;

(c) the names separately, of such publications which have been closed by Government, were closed due to the arrests of their staff or were closed due to their press/office having been locked by the police;

(b) what are the reasons for their closure; and

(e) the steps which are being taken to help the closed papers resume their publication?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) to (c) As orders stopping publications are passed by State Governments, necessary information is being collected from the State Governments.

(d) and (e) It is for the State Governments to frame policies for suspending publication of dailies, weeklies and periodicals for violations under other laws. In regard