

lay down the service conditions of the executives and other officers of private firms and companies in India ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE, IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Companies Act, 1956 regulates the appointment of, and remuneration payable to the directors and managers as defined in sub-sections (24) and (26) of Section 2 thereof, in public limited companies or private limited companies which are subsidiaries of public limited companies or private companies deemed to be public companies under section 43A of the Act only. There is no proposal to amend the Companies Act to enlarge the scope of these provisions so as to cover the persons other than managerial personnel,

However, the definition of 'workman' as contained in Section 2(s) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 is restricted to workmen drawing wages less than Rs. 500/- per month and it does not apply to persons employed mainly in managerial or administrative capacity or to supervisory staff. The question whether this definition of 'workman' should be redefined for enlarging its scope to cover all or any of the other categories of employees is a matter for the Ministry of Labour and Employment to consider.

COMPANIES CONTROLLED BY MONOPOLY HOUSES

29. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH:

SHRI VENIGALLA SATYANARAYANA:

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of companies in which the Monopoly Houses have a controlling interest: and

(b) the total value of the assets of these companies as shown in their balance sheets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) the requisite information is given in the statement annexed.

STATEMENT

The term 'monopoly house' has not been defined in the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act or in any other legislation. Presumably, what the Hon'ble Member has in mind are the undertakings which are covered by Chapter III of the M.R.T.P. Act relating to the concentration of economic power. It may be indicated that the new industrial licensing policy announced on February 2, 1973 also states that the definition of larger industrial houses to be adopted for licensing restrictions should be in conformity, in all respects, with that adopted in the M.R.T.P. Act in 1969. Section 20 of the M.R.T.P. Act lays down the undertakings which are covered by the provisions of Chapter III of this Act. According to this Section, this Chapter applied to :—

(a) an undertaking if the total value of :—

(i) its own assets or,

(ii) its own assets together with the assets of inter-connected undertakings is not less than Rs. 20 crores; and

(b) a dominant undertaking the value of whose assets or the sum total of the value of the assets of all its inter connected undertakings is not less than Rs. 1 crore.

It is significant that this Section also does not use the terms 'monopoly house' but only the expression "Inter-connected

undertakings". Every undertaking, which is covered by Section 20 of the Act, is legally obliged to register with the Central Government under Section 26 of this Act. In accordance with these provisions, 902 undertakings have registered themselves with the Central Government so far. Of these, the registration of 59 undertakings has since been cancelled under sub-section (3) of Section 26 of the M.R.T.P. Act. The total number of undertakings, which today stand registered under Section 26 of the M.R.T.P. Act, is therefore 843. The sum total of the value of the assets of these undertakings as shown in their balance sheets is approximately Rs. 4,800 crores. It may also be mentioned that according to the list of large industrial houses prepared by the Industrial Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee, there were 48 houses which had assets of Rs. 20 crores and above and which therefore *prima facie* attracted the provisions of Section 20 of the M.R.T.P. Act of the 843 undertakings which are registered under Section 26 of the M.R.T.P. Act, 657 are known to belong to those 48 industrial houses. The assets of these 657 undertakings are Rs. 3,637 crores approximately.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

30. SHRI U. X. LAKSHMANA GOWDA : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) The number of Joint Stock Companies, both Public and Private, and their total amount of paid-up capital at the end of the year 1972; and

(b) the total amount of paid-up capital invested in Government undertakings by large industrial Houses at the end of this period.

THE MINISTER OF STATE, IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) As on 31st December, 1972 there were 34,281 companies limited by shares registered under the Companies

Act, 1956 having an aggregate paid up capital of Rs. 5,056.4 crores at work in the country. Of these 6,806 were public limited companies and 27,475 were private limited companies. Their paid-up capital respectively was Rs. 2,011.0 crores and Rs. 3,045.4 crores.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

CHANGE IN THE LEGAL PROCEDURE

31. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN :
SHRI O. P. TYAGI :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by the Vice-President of India while delivering the Govind Ballabh Pant Memorial Lecture for 1973, calling for a change in the legal procedures and organisation of the courts to ensure inexpensive, speedy and efficient administration of justice; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction for bringing about the desired changes in legal procedures and by what time it is proposed to bring about the desired change ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) Government have seen the reports which appeared in the Press regarding the statement referred to.

(b) Several measures have already been undertaken to see that delays in procedures and in the disposal of cases, as well as costs involved, are cut down. The Law Commission has recently submitted a detailed report on the Code of Civil procedure. This is being examined and a Bill will be brought forward before Parliament to implement suggestions to cut down delays in the conduct of cases to the extent possible. In accordance with the recommendations of the Law Commission, a new