

Uttar Pradesh:

24. TAFP by PTC Industries Ltd, Lucknow on Development and Commercialization of Titanium Casting with Ceramic Shelling Technology.

West Bengal:

25. Centre of Excellence (CoE) at Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur for Advanced Manufacturing.

Salary for employee of Hindustan Photo Film, Tamil Nadu

4347. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the Ministry is totally shirking its responsibilities and is specifically harassing the employees of Hindustan Photo Films, Nilgiri's in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) the reasons why the salary is not paid for 13 months and the Ministry is misusing its authority and denying the employees the cabinet approved VRS compensation and High Court settlement order?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Department of Heavy Industry under the Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises is discharging its responsibilities in respect of Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Limited (HPF) as per the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

There are no production activities in HPF since April, 2013. Various efforts made in the past for revival of HPF have failed. CCEA in its meeting held on 28.02.2014 approved VRS at 2007 notional pay scales to all the employees of HPF. Accordingly, the VRS was opened and 466 employees who opted for VRS were released upto 30.06.2016. However, 165 employees either did not opt for VRS or submitted invalid applications, hence could not be released on VRS. Hon'ble High Court of Madras *vide* order dated 29.08.2016 accepted the earlier recommendations of BIFR for winding up of HPF.

The matter regarding giving VRS to remaining employees remained under adjudication before the Hon'ble HC of Madras and the Supreme Court. Finally, Hon'ble SC *vide* order dated 19.02.2018 has dismissed the SLP of UOI with the clarification that the benefits, to be given at par, which were given to others. The Govt. has now decided to give the VRS to remaining employees in compliance the court directions and the employees are being released on VRS.