32

Dearness Relief on their pay which is not available to those who do not get re-employment. Hence, it is not possible to accede to this demand.

2.3 Continuation of Reservation for ex-servicemen

After the Mandal Commission Report and the Supreme Court judgement fixing maximum ceiling for reservation in Government jobs at 50%, there has been some confusion about continuance of reservations provided for ex-servicemen. The issue has been examined by the Department of Personnel and Training who have clarified that the percentage of reservation for ex-servicemen would remain the same as at present. Hence the reservation for ex-servicemen will not be reduced on account of implementation of the recommendation of Mandal Commission regarding reservation of vacancies for backward classes.

2.4 Grant of OTI to re-employed Defence pensioners

Armed Forces Pensioners who retired before 1.1.86 have been granted one time increase in their pension on the consideration that they had a truncated career and had retired from service much earlier than their counterparts in the civil services. Since this condition is not fulfilled in the cases of those Armed Forces pensioners who get employment in Government services or in Public Sector Undertakings after retirement from the Armed Forces and continue in service till the normal date of retirement in civil, they have not been granted OTI. However, those ex-servicemen who re-employed service is less than 10 years have been sanctioned OTI on a graded scale.

Statutory Warning on Toffee Packets

*334. SHRI TARA SINGH: SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Indian Dental Association has urged the Government to issue instructions to all toffee manufacturers to carry a statutory warning on toffee packets:
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto:
- (c) whether the developed countries are following similar statutory warnings on chewing gums and toffees; and
 - (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C. SILVERA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) At present there is no proposal to impose statutory warning on toffee packets.
- (c) and (d). Government of India have no information about any developed country prescribing statutory warnings on chewing gums and toffees.

Closure of Heavy Engineering Corporation

*335. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi has been ailing for sometime;
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government propose to revive this Corporation:
 - (d) if so, the funds required for this purpose; and
 - (e) when the amount would be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi (HEC), being a sick industrial company, stands referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act (SICA).

- (b) The reasons for HEC's sickness include high overheads, excessive manpower, high interest burden, low productivity, working capital constraints, old plant and machinery, outdated technology, etc.
- (c) and (d). A Turn Around can submitted by HEC was examined by an expert whose report has been received recently. The plan envisages sacrifices from the Central Government, Government of Bihar and the Banks. As far as the Central Government is concerned the proposals include cash infusion of Rs. 261.21 crores and financial restructuring involving sacrifices of the order of Rs. 580.90 crores.
- (e) The question of release of funds would arise only after the Turn Around Plan is approved by the BIFR, which is a quasi-judicial authority.

Gobar Gas Plants

*336. SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL: SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the amount spent on the publicity and popularisation of biogas (gobar gas) in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the number of gobar gas plants installed during the above period and the amount spent on it, Statewise; and
- (c) the plants proposed to be installed during the current financial year, State-wise alongwith the amount involved therein?