

6. The custodial establishment shall be required to appoint a visitors' committee which shall have full access at all hours of day and night to the establishment and its records and inmates.

7. The information shall be supplied within thirty days of application except when the information relates to life and liberty of the individual, it shall be supplied within forty eight hours of application.

8. The information shall be supplied in writing either in English or Hindi or in the language of the State within which the informing authority is located, at a nominal fee.

9. The designated person shall be personally responsible for not furnishing the information and liable to pay a penalty of Rs. 50/- for each day of delay.

10. Any individual who knowingly furnishes wrong, false, misleading or incomplete information shall be liable to be punished with a penalty which shall not be less than Rs. 1,000/- and upto a maximum of Rs. 5,000/-.

11. Refusal of information shall be communicated in writing.

12. An appeal against refusal or failure to supply the information sought for or against inadequate or misleading information shall lie to the Principal Civil Judge of the Tehsil or of the District or of the City as the case may be where the informing authority is located. The appellate authority concerned shall dispose of the appeal within thirty days of its filing by a written order and giving reasons for its decision.

13. The bill further provides for protection of action taken in good faith and stipulates that the provisions of this Act shall have overriding effect over the other laws in force.

#### Unemployed Workers of Closed Industries in Delhi

\*111. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether public notice has been issued by the Chairman, Delhi Pollution Control Committee to 168 industries in Delhi, as per Apex Court's directive to stop operation from November, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the employees working in these industries get adequate service-benefits from their respective employers;

(d) whether any directives have so far been issued to the management of these industries to the effect that the affected workers can get their service benefits as per Supreme Court's guidelines;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether any representations have been received regarding denial of the service-benefits etc., to the affected employees; and

(g) if so, the details and number of such complaints received from the respective Labour Unions and the action taken thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (g). In the wake of directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the inter-locutory Application No. 22 in Writ Petition (C) No. 4677 of 1985, 168 industries listed as hazardous-noxious/heavy/large industries are to be closed down on the mid night of 30th November, 1996. In the order dated 8.7.1996 the National Capital Regional Planning Board has been directed to render all assistance to the industries for the purpose of relocation outside Delhi. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has given certain directions regarding the amount of compensation to be paid to the affected workmen. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has also given directions that the workmen employed in the industries which fail to relocate and the workmen who are not willing to shift along with the re-located industries shall be deemed to have been retrenched with effect from 30th November 1996 provided they have been in continuous service for not less than one year in the industries concerned before the said date. Besides the compensation payable under Section 25-F(b) of the Industrial Disputes Act, such workmen will also be given one years wages as additional compensation.

A public notice was issued by the Chairman, Delhi Pollution Control Committee conveying the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, which was published in leading newspapers published from Delhi. The notice, inter-alia, gives a list of 168 industrial units which have to stop functioning in their present location in Delhi by 30.11.1996.

In case of failure to relocate the workers of these industries, Supreme Court has given one month's time from the date on which they stop functioning in Delhi i.e. 30.11.96 for payment of the service benefits to their respective employees. As the stipulated time for giving service benefits is not yet over, the question of denial of service benefits has not risen so far.

For most of these units, the state Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi is the appropriate Government who will have to ensure that due benefits are given to the affected workmen under the ID Act, 1947. However, the Central Government will be writing to the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi requesting them to ensure that the service benefits for affected workers is given as per the Hon'ble Supreme Court's directions and as per the relevant provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.