

(a) whether the Government propose to float special interest bearing bonds scheme for the employees and workers who are likely to be retrenched due to the new economic policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures proposed to be taken to safeguard the interest of the work-ers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) and (b). No decision has been taken by the Government on any specific proposal to float Special Interest Bearing Bonds.

(c) The statement on new industrial policy of 24th July, of labour enhance their welfare and equip them in all respects to deal with inevitability of technological change. Labour will be made an equal partner in progress and prosperity. Workers' participation in management will be promoted. Workers' cooperatives will be encouraged to participate in packages designed to turn arounds sick companies. Intensive training, skill development and upgradation programmes will be launched.

### **Resumption of Railway Links with Bangladesh**

2173. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the issue of resumption of railway links with Bangladesh was discussed during the recent visit by the prime Minister of that country;

(b) if so the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the issue of construction of

link canal between Ganga and Bramaputra was also discussed during the visit; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). The issue was not discussed specifically. However, the two prime Ministers agreed as was stated in the Joint Communique that an equitable, long term and comprehensive arrangement for sharing the flows of the Ganga, Tests, and other major rivers, evolved through mutual discussions would serve the best interest of the people of the two countries.

### **Exemption From ESI Act**

2174. SHRIM. RAMANNA RAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the policy of the Government for giving the exemption from ESI Act;

(b) the names of public sector undertakings from where the trade unions have represented from ESI exemption State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI PABAN SINGH GHATOWAR): (a) A formal application for grant of exemption under the ESI Act is required to be submitted by the Management to the appropriate Government. The representation of the trade union about exemption is considered only if it is supported by the concerned management.

Exemption is granted to the factories/establishments if their employees are found to be receipt of benefits substantially similar or superior to the benefits provided under the ESI Act.

### Rotation of Members of Cat

2176. SHRI MODAN LAL KHURANA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the members of Central Administrative Tribunal are rotated periodically;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MIISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVENCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c). No, Sir. There is no provision in the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 to transfer members periodically from the bench to another. However as per provision of section 5(4) (b) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985, the Chairman, Central Administrative Tribunal has the power to transfer Members from one Bench to other.

### Non-Availability of penicillin

2175. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:  
DR. D. VENKATESWAR  
RAO:  
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether many units, manufacturing antibiotics, have been forced to discontinue their operation because of non-availability of Penicillin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or Proposed to be taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHIMACALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) No such instance has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

### Diplomatic Relations

2177. DR. RAMESH CHAND  
TOMAR:  
SHRIMATI BHAWANA  
CHIKHLIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries with whom India has no diplomatic relations;

(b) whether Indian passport holders are permitted to visit these countries.

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of the countries with