

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) and (b) The Oil and Natural Gas Commission has approved, in principle, the need for setting up such an organisation. The Commission has also approved preparation of a feasibility report bringing out the objectives, scope of works, existing facilities in the country etc.

Clearance of Applications of M/s. ITC Ltd., Tata and Modi Group by MRTP Commission.

3206. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of applications cleared by Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission during last six months from top ten companies in India : and

(b) whether any applications from M/s. ITC Ltd., Tata and Modi Group have been cleared ; if so, the details thereof for last six months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) It is presumed that the reference is to the applications submitted by the top ten industrial houses under Sections 21, 22 and 23 of the MRTP Act, 1969. Such applications are required to be submitted to the Central Government and the MRTP Commission comes into the picture only if any application is referred to them for inquiry by the Central Government. No application was referred, nor any report received from MRTP Commission during the last six months.

(b) Tata and Modi Groups rank among the top ten industrial houses and the position stated above covers them. The same position holds good in respect of M/s. ITC Ltd. also.

Paris Convention on Patents

3207. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) the broad features of Paris Convention on Patents and how it varies with

the existing Indian Patents Law ; and

(b) whether Government have taken final decision regarding India's signing this convention ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) The broad features of the Paris Convention for Protection of Industrial Property, in so far as they relate to Patents, are as under :—

1. No discrimination between nationals and others ;
2. Time of 12 months is given to applicant to file his application for Patent in other countries after he files an application in his own country ;
3. Application should be examined in each country without reference to the position in other countries ;
4. There should be an abuse of patent rights to justify revocation or grant of compulsory licence, etc.

The World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO), which administers the Paris Convention, is of the opinion that Indian Patent Act, 1970 is fully compatible with the Paris Convention.

The WIPO has been urging the Government of India to accede to the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property. No decision has been taken as yet.

Application of Cost Accounting Record Rules for Industries

3208. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that so far only 33 industries have been covered by the Cost Accounting Record Rules whereas 171 industries have been mentioned in the First Schedule to the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act for ordering maintenance of Cost Accounting Records under the Companies Act ;

(b) if so, the reasons for which all the industries have not been covered under the Cost Accounting Record Rules ; and