

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c). The State Government of West Bengal have informed this Ministry that they have not in general terms urged new units of multinationals and large houses in the State, but as a matter of policy the State Government encourages all new investment proposals provided such applications are in conformity with the Government of India's Industrial Policy. The Statement on Industrial Policy presented to Parliament in December, 1977 has clarified Government's policy regarding the activities of large houses and foreign companies.

Full details of all licences and letters of intent issued including those issued for West Bengal are published in the "Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences" copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Gazetted Officers of A.I.R. and T.V. given premature Retirement

2456. SHRI T. S. NEGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the names of gazetted officers given premature retirements in the All India Radio and the Doordarshan during the last three years;

(b) the details of charges levelled against them;

(c) the names of the officers reinstated with dates and grounds therefor;

(d) whether some of the officers were found guilty of misappropriation of funds; and

(e) if so, whether they also have been reinstated, and if so, the duties now assigned to them and the posts they are holding?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2982/78].

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Exorbitant Prices of Goods Manufactured by Messrs Indian Oxygen Limited

2457. SHRI KISHORE LAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have come across an open letter issued by Shri R. S. Pandey, MLA, West Calcutta regarding exorbitant prices varying from 300 per cent to 400 per cent of various goods manufactured by M/s. Indian Oxygen Ltd.—a multinational;

(b) whether Government have also noted the fact that some items not manufactured by M/s. Indian Oxygen Ltd. are being sold under their own name;

(c) whether there is any law to check such mal-practices by multinationals; and

(d) when most of the goods are being manufactured by small scale industry and they conform to I.S.I. standard, why Government are not taking steps to ban the sale of such goods manufactured by such multinationals?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d). Government have received an 'Open letter' issued by Shri R. S. Pandey, M.L.A., West Calcutta. The allegations made there in are being investigated by the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, in consultation with the M.R.T.P. Commission.