

**Modification of Industrial Disputes Act by the Government of Maharashtra to Prevent Closure of Factories.**

2521. SHRI QAZI SALEEM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the decision taken by the Maharashtra Government for making provision in the Industrial Disputes Act to prevent closure of factories employing 300 or more persons and to award stringent punishment to the erring managements,

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the State Government has asked the Centre to approve the proposed Legislation ;

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Centre and the outcome thereof ;

(e) whether Government have seen the newspaper reports published in 'Patriot' (Delhi English daily) of 2nd August, 1981 ; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Centre thereto and whether the Centre proposed to send directives on these lines to States if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) to (d). The State Government of Maharashtra has proposed certain local amendments to Sections 25— and 25 R of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 in so far as its applicability in the State of Maharashtra is concerned; so as to safeguard the interests of the workers in the event of unfair, unjust and malafide closure of industrial establishments. These suggestions are under examination.

(e) and (f). Government have taken note of the contents of the newspaper report.

**Thermal Power Plant in Bihar**

2522. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether BHEL and Bihar State Electricity Board have signed a contract for erecting the Muzaffarpur Thermal Power Plant;

(b) if so, the terms of the contract;

(c) when the plant is expected to be commissioned; and

(d) what is the present estimated cost of the project

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The terms of contract provide for setting up a Thermal Power Station of two units of 110 MW each on a turnkey basis.

(c) As per contractual commitment the plant is expected to be commissioned as follows:

Unit I—August, 1983

Unit II—February, 1984

(d) Rs. 146 crores.

**Request from J.C.B. Staff Member to Raise promotion quota**

2523. SHRI HIRALA R. PARMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the staff members of JCB had requested in 1978, 1979 and February, 1980 to the authorities to raise the promotion quota of Deptt. candidates from 10% to 50% and also waive the condition test for the promotion of Technical Assistants;