

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise

**Extention of ESI Facilities to the Workers of Closed Mills in Gujarat**

3996. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : - Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether State Government of Gujarat have forwarded the representations received from the workers of the closed mills in Gujarat State to Central Government that the benefits of the Employees State Insurance Scheme are available to them only for the currency of one benefit period that is upto six months only after the closure of the mill ;

(b) whether they have requested that the period may be extended upto the time they are rehabilitated in case the workers have not attained the age of retirement and to the retired worker upto the time of his death ;

(c) whether they have made certain other representations also ; if so, the details thereof ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government and instruction issued to State Government in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARAMAVIR) :** (a) The State Government have reported the receipt of certain representations to this effect.

(b) Yes, Sir. A proposal to this effect has been received from the State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir. The State Government have also sought Government on the question of setting up of a tripartite bodies to take care of the recovery every year from the employers of the funds equal to the amount of gratuity and closure compensation, as also for setting up an organisation for disbursement of funds soon after closure.

(d) The position is as given below :

i) **EXTENTION OF ESI BENEFITS :**

The eligibility to benefits under the Employees State Insurance Scheme has a direct relationship with payment of contributions and the benefits are admissible for specified period as envisaged in the Employees' State Insurance Act. The provisions of benefits to workers of closed mills or the retired workers in respect of whom no cotributions may be payable will, therefore, be clearly beyond the scheme to the Act ; and

ii) **PAYMENT OF GRATUITY AND CLOSURE COMPENSATION :**

The question of setting up of a fund to ensure timely payment of gratuity and closure compensation to the workers of closed mills is engaging the attention of the Government.

**Officers of E.I.L. sent Abroad**

3997. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of engineers in Engineers Ltd. India who have been deputed abroad for long duration, short duration so far and time period and number of visits of each engineer ;

(b) how many of them were from Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes category ;

(c) if figure at (b) is not as per Government directives what course of action EIL Management have taken to improve upon above figure ;

(d) how many engineers from procurement Services Division have so far been sent abroad for specialised training ;

(e) how many Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes engineers have been sent for such training abroad ;

(f) if figure at (e) is not satisfactory, whether EIL Management has framed a policy for sending Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes engineers for specialised