

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay and the action taken to expedite the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The team has since submitted its report regarding status of M/s Pepsi Foods Private Ltd. till December, 1990 to the Government

(b) The team has, inter alia, reported that :

- (i) The Company has set up plants for potato/gram processing, soft drink concentrate and fruit and vegetable processing in Punjab.
 - (ii) The Company has also taken steps to encourage the farmers in developing nursery protected under polythene cover for growing tomato seedlings and to grow good quality high yielding hybrid tomatoes by adopting deep chiesling techniques.
 - (iii) Equipment for the manufacture of apple juice concentrate and pear juice concentrate as well as concentration with energy saving diffusion process have not been imported/commissioned.
 - (iv) The sale turnover of soft drink concentrate has apparently been depressed.
 - (v) No experts of own manufactured products i.e. fruit and vegetable products, processed potato/grain products and soft drink concentrate manufactured in the three units under the Pepsi Project for which LOI/FC approval was granted has been made.
- (c) Does not arise.

OBSERVANCE OF CLOSED HOLIDAYS IN KENDRIYA BHANDAR

295. SHRI RAJNTH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kendriya Bhandar are observing more number of closed holidays

in respect of its branch stores than what is being observed by the Super Bazar branch stores;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken that the working hours and working days of both the Super Bazar and the Kendriya Bhandar are identical to ensure least inconvenience to the consumers which the consumers are facing now in view of frequent holidays in the branch stores of Kendriya Bhandar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI-MATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) Yes Sir

(b) The Kendriya Bhandar and Super Bazar are separate organisations having their own policies relating to working hours and holidays

(c) It may not be feasible to bring the working hours and working days of both the organisations on par at this stage.

LTC FACILITIES TO GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

296. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given on 25th February, 1991 to Unstarred Question No. 297 and state :

(a) whether the embargo on availing of LTC facility by the Government employees, has since been lifted ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when it will be lifted ;

(c) whether the time to avail the LTC facility for the four years block 1986-89 which was extended upto June, 1991 has been further extended upto September, 1991 ; and

(d) the facilities proposed to be provided to the employees at the visiting places to make their journeys happy, pleasant and meaningful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI-MATI MARGARET ALVA : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The following facilities are available to the Government Servants travelling on LTC. to some of the tourist destinations.

(i) The Department of Tourism supports the state Governments in construction of low budget accommodation like Yatri Niwas, Yatrika, Tourist Bungalows and Forest lodges. These are usually constructed at places of tourist interest.

(ii) The ITDC, a Government of India undertaking offers LTC packages at concessional rates at selected places.

(iii) ITDC, offers budget meals on request.

The concessions offered by ITDC are effective from 1-3-1991 to 15-10-1991.

COMPLAINTS AGAINST TAFCO OFFICIALS

297. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received complaints of financial and other irregularities against the senior officers of the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited (TAFCO) ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The complaints mainly relate to unnecessary demolition of buildings, purchase of poor raw materials, irregularities in the purchase of items from ancillary units, fall of production during the tenure of late CMD, increase of losses during

the period, increased expenditure for preparation of balance sheets, misuse of motor vehicles etc. Some of these complaints were investigated by the CBI who have recommended departmental action for imposition of major penalty on the concerned officers in two cases.

The action in these cases will be taken as per procedure. In the third case, prosecution has been launched by the CBI before the Special Judge, Anti Corruption, Lucknow.

SICK INDUSTRIAL UNITS

298. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPA-YEE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of big, small and tiny industrial units which have been declared as sick or have stopped working, State-wise, till date ; and

(b) the reasons for their sickness and the steps taken by Union Government to revive them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. P. J. KURIEN) : (a) Data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by them. According to the latest data available from the Reserve Bank of India the number of Small, Medium and Large scale sick industrial units under the SSI and Non-SSI categories as at the end of December, 1988 are given in the attached Statement Information regarding tiny units is not centrally maintained.

(b) A number of causes, both external and internal often operating in combination, have been responsible for industrial sickness. Some of the principal causes are faulty planning, management deficiencies, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, inadequate attention to R&D, obsolescence of technology and machinery, poor industrial relations, inadequacy of demand, shortage of raw materials and other inputs and infrastructural constraints, etc.