

(b) The total consumption of various CFCs to be phased out by approved projects is 4098 MT.

(c) Approved projects are eligible for duty free imports of alternate ozone friendly material equivalent to quantity of CFCs being used during the period for which operational costs are approved in the project.

(d) No such information appears to have been received.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) Under a simplified procedure adopted for this purpose and with a view to encourage enterprises to come forward with ODS phase out projects, certificate of CFC consumption in a specified year is obtained from the following two sources before funds are released for approved project:

- (i) A duly authorised person of the enterprise; and
- (ii) A Chartered Accountant.

#### **Transfer of Industries from Delhi**

3278. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any meeting headed by the Union Home Minister alongwith Union Labour Minister, the Chief Minister and Labour Minister of NCT, Delhi and the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi with the representatives of the trade unions for providing relief to unemployed labourers was held in May, 1997 in the aftermath of an incident of self immolation by a labourer on May Day;

(b) whether the Government had given assurance to provide immediately six months salary as relief to the labourers rendered unemployed due to the order of Supreme Court to transfer some industries out of Delhi;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and whether the assurance given was fulfilled; and

(d) if not, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. It was decided in the said meeting that the Lt. Governor of Delhi should take up the matter with the Industries concerned so that the problem relating to payment of wages, etc. to the workmen could be sorted out. In pursuance to this decision, the Lt. Governor of Delhi had separate meetings with the representatives of the trade unions as also of the managements of the mega industries concerned. It was eventually decided to depute officials of the Labour Department, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi to affected textile

units, namely, Birla Textile Mill, Swatantra Bharat Mills and DCM Silk Mills from the 21st May to 27th May, 1997 to ensure that the dues admissible to the workmen was paid to them. However, inspite of wide publicity given to this decision, it was reported that the response from the workmen was not encouraging.

#### **Reservation to Buddhist Minority in Maharashtra Assembly**

3279. SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Budhists in the State of Maharashtra have been deprived of their political reservation in the State Assembly as well as Lok Sabha although they have been included in the list of Scheduled Castes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government desire to extend this benefit to them as par with the other Scheduled Castes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. Neo-Buddhists were treated as Scheduled Castes in 1990. 18 seats in the legislative Assembly of Maharashtra for Scheduled Castes and 3 seats in Parliament Constituencies for Maharashtra are reserved for Scheduled Castes.

No separate reservation for Buddhist in fruidal.

#### **Liberalisation of Visa Policy**

3280. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA :  
SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE :  
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :  
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to simplify/ liberalise visa norms to boost inflow of foreign tourists;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) Government of India follows liberal policy regarding grant of Tourist visa. Powers have been delegated to all Indian Missions abroad to grant Tourist visa liberally. Further, foreign tourists in group of four or more arriving

without visa by air or sea, are granted collective landing permit at the port of arrival subject to the following conditions :

- (i) Tour is sponsored by recognised Indian Travel Agency and with a predrawn itinerary;
- (ii) Written request is made to the Immigration Officer giving full personal and passport details of the group members;
- (iii) The Travel Agency undertakes to conduct the tour as per the itinerary and gives an assurance that no individual would be allowed to drop out of the group.

[Translation]

#### Sugar Mills

3281. DR. G.R. SARODE :  
DR. RAMVILAS VEDANTI :  
SHRI SOHANVEER SINGH :  
DR. ARVIND SHARMA :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of licences issued for setting up of sugar mills in private and public sector during the last three years;

(b) the number of sugar mills out of them are under consideration and the number of mills in private and public sectors which have not yet been started its construction work even after getting the licences, State-wise;

(c) the reasons for not starting the construction work and the number of licences which have been renewed and the time by which these mills are likely to be set up, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government monitors the construction works of sugar mills in respect of which licences have been issued within the stipulated period; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI RAGHUVANS PRASAD SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the last three sugar years i.e. 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96 (October-September), 85 letters of intent have been issued in private sector and 4 in public sector (Subsequently 2

letters of intent were transferred to private sector and one to cooperative sector) for setting up of new sugar mills in the country.

Of these, 12 sugar mills have gone into production and another 12 sugar mills are under various stages of construction. The remaining 65 sugar mills have yet to make substantial progress towards the implementation of their projects.

(c) The implementation of the letters of intent/industrial licences is the responsibility of the entrepreneurs. It generally takes about 3-4 years to set up a new sugar mill. 15 letters of intent have been renewed.

(d) and (e) The progress in regard to implementation of letters of Intent/Industrial licences granted to the entrepreneurs for establishment of new sugar factories is being closely monitored. The entrepreneurs have been advised to furnish their progress reports quarterly. During 1997 Calendar year upto 31.7.97, show-cause notices have been issued to 10 entrepreneurs whose progress in the implementation of the projects have not been found satisfactory, asking them to intimate the reasons as to why their letters of intent/industrial licences should not be treated as lapsed/revoked.

[English]

#### Petro-Chemical Products

3282. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study made by FICCI, the demand for petro-chemical products in India will go up to 9 million tonnes by the year 2001 as against 5.1 million tonnes in 1995;

(b) if so, whether the FICCI has also suggested favourable factors for the growth of petro-chemical;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of the Government in regard to acceptance and implementation of the said suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d) FICCI is a private body/organisation and has neither been commissioned by Government to officially carry out study on the demand for petro-chemical products nor is it responsible to report to the Government of India. Officially Government is not aware of any such study having been made by FICCI.