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Title : Regarding termination of services of the employees working in India Investment Centre, Ministry of Finance.

SHRI RUPCHAND PAL Sir, the India Investment Centre was working as a very important centre in the matter of investments from abroad. The NRIs have been particularly getting support and help in the matter of channelising their investments in our country. In spite of this vital role being played by this India Investment Centre under the Ministry of Finance, a decision was taken to wind it up for reasons best known to the Government. It was in October, 2004.

Subsequently, the Government had a relook at it and a Group of Ministers was constituted to look into the whole issue because in a country like India with large number of very important NRIs who are capable of investing in our country such an organisation could deliver the goods in the matter of augmentation of our investments. But the Group of Ministers, after long deliberations, recommended that although this particular organisation may be wound up, but the other Ministry, the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs could absorb these people who have the skill and capability and long experience to attract investments from NRIs particularly in the rural areas. Unfortunately, this Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs did not pay heed to the recommendation of the Group of Ministers. What happened ultimately was that on 31<sup>st</sup> July the services of these capable, skilled and experienced people have been terminated.

Now, my plea to the Government will be that when this Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs requires such skilled and experienced people, the Government, on the basis of the recommendation of the Group of Ministers, should prevail upon this Ministry so that all the skilled, experienced and capable people who were working in the erstwhile India Investment Centre could be absorbed forthwith without any further delay and the services of these skilled people should not be terminated as has been proposed and done. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up item no. 26 – Matters under Rule 377. If the House agrees, can we take them as laid on the Table of the House?

SHRIB. MAHTAB (CUTTACK): No, sir. There are a few of them. Please allow them to read.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That will take too much of time.

...(Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Okay, as you like. First of all, I would like to request Shrimati D. Purandeswari to speak. She is not present.

Shri M. Sreenivasulu Reddy to speak now [\[krr57\]](#).

**14.45 hrs.**