

(a) whether the Government have taken note of the recent judgment of the Supreme Court with respect to impunity/protection enjoyed by MPs under article 105(2) for anything said of any vote given in Parliament or any committee thereof;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring legislation or constitution amendment to provide that the impunity or protection shall not extend to cases involving corruption; and

(d) if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) to (d) Implications of the judgement are being examined.

#### Revival of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant

2578.DR.T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has submitted a report of its sickness to the Board of Industrial Finance and Reconstruction;

(b) if so, the details of the report; and

(c) the details of the help/assistance the Government have agreed to provide to the Steel Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCE AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) and (b) The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) has reported that Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) (Visakhapatnam Steel Plant) is not registered with it.

(c) Ministry of Steel & Mines has reported that the proposal of RINL to convert their loans into equity has recently been considered by Government and it has been decided to give the following financial reliefs to the company:

(i) conversion of Rs. 791 crores interest free loan to 7% non-cumulative redeemable preference capital, redeemable after 2000-01; and

(ii) conversion of Rs. 542.47 crore of loan advanced to RINL from 1993-94 to 1995-96 into 7% non-cumulative preference capital redeemable after 10 years.

#### Pending Core Sector Project

2579.SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise core sector projects pending with the Government;

(b) the Ministry-wise details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal to expedite the clearance of those projects; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) to(d) Under the present Industrial Policy most of the industries have been de-licensed for which entrepreneurs are free to file Industrial Entrepreneur Memorandum (IEM), and for which no prior approval is required. Only seven items require a licence under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951 from the Central Government for setting up industrial units. The number of State-wise applications pending with the Central Government for grant of Industrial Licence as on 30.4.98 is given in the Statement enclosed. Applications for industrial licence are disposed of expeditiously in accordance with the rules & policy in force.

#### Statement

Statement showing IL applications awaiting clearance (state-wise) as on 30.4.98

S.No.	Name of the State	Total
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29
2.	A & N Islands	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4.	Assam	0
5.	Bihar	4
6.	Chandigarh	0
7.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	3
8.	Daman & Diu	4
9.	Delhi	0
10.	Goa	4
11.	Gujarat	14
12.	Haryana	20
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	3

1	2	3
15.	Karnataka	12
16.	Kerala	2
17.	Lakshadweep	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	26
19.	Maharashtra	53
20.	Manipur	0
21.	Meghalaya	1
22.	Mizoram	0
23.	Nagaland	0
24.	Orissa	4
25.	Pondicherry	2
26.	Punjab	5
27.	Rajasthan	7
28.	Sikkim	0
29.	Tamil Nadu	21
30.	Tripura	0
31.	Uttar Pradesh	25
32.	West Bengal	10
33.	More than 1 St	2
Total		253

#### Tourism Export Promotion Council

2580. SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU :  
SHRI S.S. OWAISI :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering any proposal to set up Tourism Export Promotion Council to boost foreign exchange earnings therefrom;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith composition of the Council and terms and conditions or promotion of tourism in the country; and

(c) the action taken to identify countries which are interested to invest in tourism sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

#### Instrumentation Ltd.

2581. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Instrumentation Limited, Kota, has become sick and the jobs of over 3000 workers are at risk; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for revival of the above company and protect the jobs of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) Instrumentation Limited Kota was declared as a sick company by BIFR under SICA on 19.1.1994. The revival of the company is before BIFR which is a quasi-judicial body.

#### Pending Fertilizer Projects

2582. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the fate of four major public sector fertilizer projects, and rehabilitation of two such existing sick units has been in jeopardy for years together; and

(b) if so, the stage at which each of the projects is pending and the progress so far made in clearance thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT) : (a) and (b) The four projects are Rashtriya Chemical & Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF)'s UREA expansion project at Thal in Maharashtra, Krishak Bharati Corpn. Ltd. (KRIBHCO)'s UREA expansion project at Hazira in Gujarat and UREA Project at Gorakhpur in UP and Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO)'s Urea Project at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh. The two sick units are Hindustan Fertilizer Company Ltd. (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Ltd. (FCI).

Proposals for investment approval in respect of Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited (RCF)'s Urea Expansion Project at Thal in Maharashtra and Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO)'s Urea Expansion Project at Hazira in Gujarat and Urea Project at Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh have been received during the period December 1997 — February 1998. These proposals have cleared the preliminary stages of investment approval.

The detailed feasibility report for Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative (IFFCO)'s urea project at Nellore in Andhra Pradesh was circulated to the appraising agencies in March, 1996. Investment approval in respect of this project inter alia depends on the reassessment of the demand-supply gap for nitrogen nutrient in the terminal year of the Ninth Five Year Plan.

Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI) were declared as sick companies by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) in 1992. The revival packages for the operational units of these companies approved in