VAISAKHA 25, 1912 (SAKA)

Sick Industrial Units in Punjab

8864. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of large and small scale industrial units in Punjab as on 31 December, 1989 and the total number of workers engaged therein;

(b) the number of sick industries in Punjab alongwith reasons therefor and the workers retrenched.

(c) the number of industries closed during 1989 alongwith reasons therefor; and

(d) the total Government and bank money involved in these units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) The data on sick industrial units assisted by Banks in the country are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The data collected by RBI do not indicate the total number of existing large, medium and small scale industrial units in Punjab and total number of workers engaged therein. It only gives information with regard to the sick industrial units.

(b) and (d). As per the latest data available from RBI, there were 21 Non-SSI sick units and 2,434 SSI sick units in Punjab and the amount outstanding against them were Rs. 12.73 crores and Rs. 44.97 crores respectively, as at the end of December, 1987.

The data on industrial closures and workers retrenched etc., is being maintained by Ministry of Labour who have reported that 23 workers were retrenched during 1989 (Figures Provisional) in Punjab.

A number of causes, both external and internal, are responsible for industrial sick-

ness in the country. Among the major causes are faulty project planning, management deficiencies, inefficient financial control, diversion of resources, inadequate attention to R&D, obsolescence of technology and machinery, poor industrial relations, change in market demand, high cost and scarcity of raw materials and infrastructural constraints.

(c) As reported by Ministry of Labour, there were 2 closures (provisional figures) in Punjab during 1989 and the reason for closures are not known.

Shortage of Essential Drugs

8865. SHRIMATI J. JAMUNA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the shortage of essential drugs such as 'Brufen' etc. in the market and even in the hospitals:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to meet the shortage of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GURU-PADASWAMY): (a) to (c). No report of shortage of 'Brufen' has been received in this Ministry.

[Translation]

Production of Medicines

8866. SHRI RAMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the approved production capacity of main producers of Chloramphenicol, Sulphadimidine, PAS and I.N.H. and the actual quantity produced of these medicines during