

it to the State Government. A letter has already been written on the 12th November from our office to the State's Secretary, that this is the complaint that we have received—on the basis of the question asked—and that they should look into the matter.

MR SPEAKER : Mr Manak Sanyal is not there. Mr Sudhir Roy.

SHRI SUDHIR ROY : It is a grim reality that in India, whenever there is an irrigation project, thousands of tribal people are evicted from their ancestral land. The tribals also lose all sorts of occupations, and are turned into beggars. Therefore, I would like to know from the Minister whether he will cause an enquiry to be made into the allegation viz. that Tatas have illegally constructed a huge tank in the area of the West Bokaro Collieries, and inform us of the results of this enquiry.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : I have already replied to the question. On receiving this question from the hon. Members, immediately I have taken up the matter with the State Government, because it is they who have to make the enquiry, It is a matter under their Act

SHRI SUDHIR ROY : Has the Government enquired about the proper utilization ? (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VASANT SATHE : That is the best I can do. If the hon. Members want any further information, I will pass their enquiry on to the State Government.

[*Translation*]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister that when coal mines all over the country have been nationalised, why the TISCO, which is Tata's company, has been permitted to retain coal mines? You have told that there is also a provision under which TISCO has been allowed. I would, therefore, like to know on what basis the provision has been made in the law to allow TISCO to continue to own mines? You have

stated about the acquisition of tribal land for further expansion of mine, which means, you have given right to Tata to acquire the land of tribal people and put them in trouble. I would like to say to the hon. Minister that the process of coal mines nationalisation should be completed by nationalising the coal mines all over the country so that no mine may be left in the hands of any private individual.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the main thing is that TISCO is a steel company. Coking coal mines which were used for steel manufacture were attached to it. We have not nationalised the TISCO. At the time of coal nationalisation it was felt that there would be no harm if the local coal mines attached to the company were retained in their hands and that was why they were not nationalised. There was no question of favouring Tatas, All of you are the masters of this country and whenever you decide about the nationalisation of TISCO, we will do it.

[*English*]

Revival of sick industries in West Bengal

*152. KUMAR MAMATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal for amendment of the present Industrial Policy in order to help revival of the sick industries in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The policy guidelines in respect of industrial sickness are applicable to sick industrial units all over the country.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I seek your protection because West Bengal is on the top of the sick industries list. Due to sick industrial units problems in

West Bengal, MPs of West Bengal are also going to be sick. You will be surprised to know that thousands and thousands of workers are now jobless. The State Government is not only incompetent but also careless and our Central Government cannot be care free because they have some moral responsibility to look after the grievances of the workers also. Have you received any concrete proposal from the State Government to revive sick industries in West Bengal? Have the State Government also asked for any rehabilitation package for the workers; if not, what steps have been taken by the Central Government to give special concessions and pay special attention to review the whole situation.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM : I personally agree with the hon. member that many of the sick units are located in West Bengal. Out of 689 large scale sick units, 150 units are in West Bengal. There are so many reasons as far as West Bengal is concerned. The supply of power in West Bengal is an important aspect relating to industrial sickness. On account of inadequate and erratic supply of power many industrial units are unable to achieve the rated capacity. In the State of West Bengal, the climate of Industrial relations is an equally important factor. Excess labour force is an important reasons for sickness of most of the sick units in West Bengal. As far as the State Government is concerned, the management was taken over by the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act in 1951. Out of 55 units, 28 are located in West Bengal. The State Government has taken over 9 of these 28 units which have been nationalised by the State Government and 5 units out of 28 are nationalised by the Government of India. Out of the remaining 14 units, five have since been denotified while five are being managed by State Government and four by Central Government. The State Govt. have agreed in principle to nationalise the five units which are being managed by their nominees subject to availability of funds.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I am not satisfied with the reply of the

Minister because it is a bureaucratic reply; it is not a practical reply. Will the Minister consider convening one exclusive Bengal MPs' meeting to review the whole situation and also the demand of the workers regarding Bengal Pottery, Steel & Allied Products Ltd, Shri Durga Cotton Mills and other sick industries? Will he also review the whole situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : About sick units, they are not only in Nagaland and West Bengal but also throughout the country. Earlier there were 60 and now they have become 89 units. As far as a number of large sick units are concerned, in Maharashtra, it was 155; in West Bengal, it was 150 and so on. As far as all the States are concerned, first comes Maharashtra and second West Bengal.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

[English]

Setting up of petrochemical complex
in Karnataka

*151. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up a petrochemical complex in Karnataka;

(b) if so, where it is proposed to be set up; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALA RAO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.