

(e) Ex-gratia and compensation has been paid to the employees killed/injured in the accident. Compensation to the extent of Rs. 10.89 lacs for the loss of public property has been paid to 450 claimants. The remaining claims are being scrutinised and are expected to be settled in about three months.

Rehabilitation of Workers of Sick Industries

451. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are concerned about the fate of vast working forces who are in the sick industries in the country; and

(b) if so, concrete steps taken by Government to rehabilitate them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Measures for revival of sick units are taken in the light of policy guidelines announced in October, 1981. Banks and financial institutions formulate rehabilitation schemes on the basis of diagnostic studies in respect of units which are considered by them as potentially viable. Government also would provide such concessions and reliefs as may be required for rehabilitation of such sick units as a part of the package of assistance considered necessary by the banks and financial institutions. Nature and extent of assistance required for rehabilitation of viable sick unit varies from unit to unit depending on the nature and extent of sickness of each unit. However, steps taken to rehabilitate potentially viable sick unit include the following :

1. Take-over of management under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act;

2. Re-scheduling of loan and interest liabilities in respect of loans and grant of concessional loan assistance ;

3. Grant of income tax benefit on merger of sick companies with healthy companies under Section 72-A of the Income Tax Act ; and

4. Margin money scheme for sick small scale unit.

Closing of taken over Sick Industries

452. SHRI ZAINAL ABEDIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of taken over sick industries which have been closed down without going through a thorough examination about their possible viability/potentiality by expansion and modernisation ; and

(b) the names of the units where a thorough examination was held ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) ; No industrial undertaking taken over for management under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act has been denotified without careful examination of its future viability.

Places Earmarked for Drilling and Exploration of Oil and Gas in Eastern and North-Eastern Region

453. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the places which have been earmarked by the ONGC for drilling and exploration of oil and gas in the eastern