

### Closure of Kumardhubi Engineering Works

1699. SHRI SHIBU SOREN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the Kumardhubi Engineering Works is lying closed for the last six months subjecting its five thousand employees to extreme hardship in these days of drought and famine in Dhanbad, Bihar;

(b) whether he is aware that a protracted negotiation took place for the takeover of the management by the Allahabad Bank to start the factory with a new Board of Directors from the public sector banks; if so, fact and details thereof;

(c) whether any decision was reached in the Patna meeting dated 8th December, 1979 on this;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Kumardhubi Engineering works is a viable engineering factory with all costly machines and it is a national loss to keep it idle; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to take quick decision in the matter, if so, when, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) Yes, Sir. The number of employees at the Works is, however, about 2,300 and not 5,000.

(b) Yes, Sir. This was, inter alia, on the basis that the shares of other Heilgers' Group companies amounting to 37.99 per cent in four lots will be sold to Allahabad Bank for Rs. 4.00 and voting rights for shares amounting to 25 per cent will also be transferred to Allahabad Bank and that a new Board of Directors with its members drawn from public sector units/banks would be constituted. In addition certain financial assistance/accommo-

modation was also required to have been extended by the State and Central Governments.

(c) According to the minutes of the meeting held on 8-12-79 under the Chairmanship of Finance Minister, Government of Bihar, a decision for the revival of the unit was taken, however, subject to the condition that the rehabilitation scheme indicates viability. There was, however, no decision on the unit being viable.

(d) The Kumardhubi Engineering Works could become viable over a period if the funds needed by the company were made available to it and a good management placed. Government is also anxious not to keep the company idle.

(e) Yes, Sir, in the shortest possible time.

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### Repatriation of Families of Non-Assamese Working in O.N.G.C. Fields in N.E. Region

1700. SHRI S. R. A. S. APPALANAI DU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that non-Assamese working in the O.N.G.C. fields in North-Eastern region are shifting their families to its Headquarters at Dehradun;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether proper arrangements have been made for their repatriation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Government have no such information.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.