

Winding up of Lohardaga Office of Aluminium Corporation of India Ltd.

3606. SHRIMATI SUMATI ORAON: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that M/s. Aluminium Corporation of India Ltd., 7 Council House Street, Calcutta-I have closed down their Bauxite Mines office at Lohardaga, Ranchi, Bihar as far back as in 1974;

(b) if so, whether Government have ensured if the various obligations on the part of the M/s. ACI Ltd., Calcutta to their erstwhile employees at Lohardaga have been duly complied with since the winding up of their Lohardaga office; and

(c) whether Government have asked the Corporation the reasons for their having failed during all these years in settling the various Provident Fund A/cs., Gratuity, etc. of their ex-employees of their Lohardaga office and whether Government propose to take any step to enable such ex-employees to receive such payments by a stipulated date?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Report of British Anti-Slavery Society

3607. SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the Report of British Anti Slavery Society which has been presented to the U.N. Human Rights Committee recently;

(b) if so, full details of the Report; and

(c) the details of the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMA VIR): (a) to (c). In the Report of the Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights on "Bonded Labour in India", submitted to the U.N. Working Group of Experts on Slavery, it has been stated that between 5 and 7 million labourers (2-3 per cent of all rural wage earners) are 'probably debt bonded' to about a million landlords and their published case studies indicate that there are few States and Union Territories where the practice does not exist. The figures of 5-7 million bonded labourers are in the nature of estimates only, and do not tantamount to actual identification. Government have not accepted the estimates arrived at by the Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights. According to the reports furnished by the State Governments, the total number of bonded labourers identified and freed in the country as on 30-6-1982 was 1,44,930, out of which 84,269 have been rehabilitated.

Submission of Annual Return by Trade Unions

3608. SHRI BHEEKHABHAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently the Registrar, Trade Unions, Delhi Administration has cancelled registration of unions which did not submit annual returns upto the year 1977 and while doing so, he ignored the name of Food Corporation of India Employees Union although this Union did not submit annual return for year 1977 in respect of its all regions/zones national committee but submitted accounts only in respect of Karnataka Region;

(b) if so, the reason for ignoring the name of this Union for cancellation of Registration and the details of action taken against defaulters who failed to submit proper annual return alongwith proper