

positive within the period prescribed by BIFR. The interest of the workers will be kept in view in the revival plan.

Expansion of ITDC

3264. SHRI M. RAJAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITDC has any plans for expansion despite impending sell off; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI OMAK APANG): (a) and (b) With a view to develop tourism, ITDC have decided to construct new hotels at Chandigarh and Anandpursahib, it is considered that pending a decision on the modalities of disinvestment, normal activities required in commercial interest should not be halted.

Tax Holiday Facility to Industrial Units

3265. SHRI DINSHA PATEL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have decided to permit Tax Holiday facility to the industrial units set up in various States including Gujarat under section 80(1)(a) of Income Tax Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) and (b) By the Finance Act, 1998, tax-holiday benefits to notified industrially backward districts in states including Gujarat (other than industrially backward states), which was hitherto available to new undertakings set up before 31.03.1999 have been extended to new undertakings set up before 31.3.2000.

This benefit can be availed in respect of notified backward districts of Gujarat. The Dangs is a notified Category 'A' industrially backward district. Banaskantha and Sabarkantha are the other two notified industrially Category 'B' backward districts. A two tier tax benefit is available to such districts.

Notified Category 'A' districts are entitled to a five year tax holiday in the first five years and a 30% deduction (in case of companies) in the subsequent five

years. Notified Category 'B' districts are entitled to a three year tax holiday in the first three years and a 30% deduction (in case of companies) in the subsequent five years from the time they start manufacture or production.

(c) In view of (a) and (b) above, does not arise.

[Translation]

Closure of Sick PSUs

3266. SHRI H.P. SINGH:
SHRI NADENDLA BHASKARA RAO:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to sell out some more sick public sector undertakings besides eight;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith names of the PSUs;

(c) the benefit to be given to the employees of such PSUs;

(d) whether some trade unions have opposed the move;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government have failed to revive these PSUs; and

(g) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL): (a) There is no proposal under consideration of the Government at present to sell any sick Central PSU.

(b) to (g) do not arise.

[English]

Pay Scale of NTC

3267. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central pattern of fifth pay commission is given to regular staff of N.T.C.;

(b) whether the Central pattern is given to superior in the mills of other subsidiaries of NTC except NTC, Maharashtra (North & South); and