

(d) whether there is any proposal to cancel exemption or withdraw the relaxation of those establishments; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) In Karnataka, there are 88 establishments exempted from the EPF Scheme, 1952 and 28 establishments which have been given relaxation under para 79 of the Scheme.

(b) and (c) 98 establishments have invested funds as per the pattern of investment prescribed by the Government of India and the remaining 18 establishments have not invested as per the prescribed pattern. Out of these 18 establishments, 16 establishments have failed to invest in Central and State Govt. Securities.

(d) and (e) The establishments which have failed to make investment in accordance with the prescribed pattern have been advised to follow the prescribed pattern and in the event of their still not complying with the advice, necessary action under the law would be initiated.

[Translation]

Release of Children in Pakistan

5131. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has released 38 Indian children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the attention has been invited to a news-item captioned "Starved tortured, the boys recall dark nights in Pak Jails" which appeared in the 'Indian Express' on the 27th March, 1997;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b) In March, 1997, Pakistan agreed to release 38 Indian children who were under detention in Pakistan since 1994. These children were travelling on Indian fishing vessels which were apprehended by Pakistani authorities. Government made many representations on their behalf and expressed satisfaction when Pakistan agreed to release the children. The children reached Mumbai on 23rd March, 1997 and were thereafter sent to their homes.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government are concerned at the account of the difficult conditions faced by the children while they were kept in Pakistani jails and remand homes.

Pending Cases of MTNL in Labour Courts

5132. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the details of cases belonging to Communication Ministry or MTNL in the Labour Court of Delhi; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government to dispose of these pending cases ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) Details of pending cases before the Central Government Industrial Tribunal cum Labour Court New Delhi and their present status are indicated in the Statement enclosed. The Central Government Industrial Tribunal cum Labour Court New Delhi had informed that the parties are pressed to complete the evidence and arguments quickly so that the disputes can be disposed of as early as possible.

Statement

List of Cases		Present position of Disposal
1		2
1. Jai Kumar	Vs. Department of Telecommunication	Workman Evidence
2. Dalip Ram	Vs. -do-	Proceedings stayed.
3. Rajinder Prasad	Vs. -do-	Proceedings stayed.
4. Smt. Sahsi Kanta	Vs. -do-	Workan Affidavit.
5. Jeet Bahadur	Vs. -do-	Miscellaneous Arguments
6. Baleshwar Kamti	Vs. -do-	Written Arguments
7. Anil Kumar	Vs. -do-	Written Arguments
8. Ramu	Vs. -do-	Arguments
9. Jasram Singh	Vs. -do-	Arguments
10. Palbit Singh	Vs. -do-	Arguments
11. Krishan Lal	Vs. -do-	Arguments
12. Girdhari Lal	Vs. -do-	Arguments
13. Munshi Prasad & Others	Vs. -do-	Documents
14. Netrapal Singh	Vs. -do-	Consideration
15. Kishan Singh	Vs. -do-	Consideration
16. Beere Singh	Vs. -do-	Consideration
17. Gen. Secretary	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
18. Dhani Ram	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
19. Jitender Kumar	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
20. Than Singh	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
21. Bholi Ram & Ors.	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
22. Janki Prasad	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
23. Keshav Dev & Ors.	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved
24. Yaduvir Singh	Vs. -do-	Award Reserved

1	2
25. Tribhuvan Shah	Vs. Department of Tele-communicaton Award Reserved
26. Shiv Dutt	Vs. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. Written Arguments
27. Ram Kishan	Vs. -do- Reply
28. Virender Kumar	Vs. -do- Miscellaneous Arguments
29. Brahmjeet	Vs. -do- Arguments
30. Mahender Singh	Vs. -do- Workman Evi- dence
31. Smt. Sushma Rani	Vs. -do- Reply
32. Kapil Dev	Vs. -do- Miscellaneous Arguments
33. Om Parkash Rana	Vs. -do- Miscellaneous Arguments
34. Ram Naresh	Vs. -do- Miscellaneous Arguments
35. Ram Rattan	Vs. -do- Arguments
36. Smt. Shakuntla	Vs. -do- Written Arguments
37. Kailash Chand	Vs. -do- Admission/Denial of Evidence
38. Ravi Balmiki	Vs. -do- Workman Evi- dence
39. Satpal Bali	Vs. -do- Arguments

[English]

East-Coast Refinery

5133. SHRI AYYANNA PATRUDU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state

(a) whether the proposal to set up East Coast Refinery has been approved; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the site and when the work on this project likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) and (b) Indian Oil Corporation has, in principle approval to set up a 6 MMTPA joint venture refinery in the East Coast IOC has submitted a Detailed Feasibility Report which includes the subject of site selection and the same is under process of investment approval. The implementation of the project is expected to take approximately 46 months for mechanical completion from the date of Government approval.

Bank Credit

5134. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether growth of bank credit to the commercial sector has gone down during the year 1996-97; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The non-food bank credit of scheduled commercial banks during the year 1996-97 upto March 28, 1997 increased by Rs. 24,710 crore (10.1 per cent) as against an increase of Rs. 44,938 crore (22.5 per cent) during the corresponding period of the previous year. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that the depressed capital market seemed to have played a role inasmuch as there has to be some balance between debt and equity. Equity raised by the corporates was significantly lower in 1996-97 than in 1995-96.

RBI have further reported that in viewing growth of bank credit, the flow of funds to the commercial sector is to be considered. The total amount of funds raised by the commercial sector both from banks and non-banks sources was Rs. 82,334 crore in 1996-97, as compared with an amount of Rs. 94,497 crore in the previous year.

Power Finance Corporation

5135. SHRI T. GOPAL KRISHNA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allowed Power Finance Corporation (PFC) to issue \$ 125 million euro issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the terms of this issue and the benefits PFC would derive from its euro issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Nuclear Waste

5136. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether nuclear wastes of developed countries are being dumped in the Indian soil; and

(b) the corrective measures taken by the Government to check this practice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise