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ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald ದಿನಾಂಕ : DATE 24/7/20

Industries with less than 300 staff can shut without govt nod

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Bengaluru: The state cabinet on Thursday approved an ordinance that allows industries with less than 300 employees to retrench employees or close down without seeking permission of the government.

Now, as per Section 25K of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, industries with 100 employees must seek the government's nod before carrying

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out rightsizing exercise or shutting their operations.

"We increased the threshold from 100 to 300 workers to facilitate the ease-of-doing business. The ordinance will be sent to the governor for assent," said law and parliamentary affairs minister JC Madhuswamy after the cabinet passed the Industrial Disputes and Certain Other Laws (Karnataka Amendment) Ordinance.

Labour organisations oppo-

Policy aims to bring in ₹5L crore capital

The state government is set to introduce an industrial policy that seeks to bring in Rs 5 lakh crore investments in the next five years, generating 20 lakh jobs. The policy, approved by the state cabinet on Thursday, seeks to set aside 70% of jobs for Kannadigas and 100% at Group 'D' level. Besides, it seeks to boost industrial development in Tier II and III cities. P 3

sed the move. "Since 80% of industries function with less than 300 employees, the amendment will give them powers to fire people or shut operations without government permission. This will lead to unemployment. At a time when people are losing jobs, the government has curtailed their rights," said KN Umesh, president of CPM, Bengaluru South.

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Ordinance relaxes rules on worker threshold

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The ordinance sought to relax rules on worker threshold under the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act and Factories Act. This Act currently mandates companies hiring more than 20 labourers on contract to take nod from the government. But it has been increased to 50 and above in the

amendment which labour units say will lead to exploitation of the working class.

The amendment to Factories Act has increased the number of workers from 10 to 20 in units using electricity for inspection by authorities and from 20 to 40 without electricity. "This will compromise safety of workers as establishments with 20 workers needn't be inspected," Umesh said.

New universities bill to be tabled

The cabinet on Thursday withdrew the Karnataka State Universities Bill, 2017 to introduce changes. The bill was passed by the legislature during the Congress government in 2017 to regulate state-run varsities. But it hadn't got the governor's

assent. It sought to curtail powers of the governor in appointment of VCs, teaching and non-teaching staff following complaints of political and caste influence. Law minister JC Madhuswamy said the government will table the new bill with changes. TNN