

(c) the number of persons likely to get employment in those industries?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH):** (a) and (b) During the years 1987 to 1990 (upto 30-6-1990), 394 Industrial Licence applications (including 67 from the various State Public Sector Enterprises) were received for setting up Industries in Punjab. Of these, 134 applications (including 33 applications of State Public Sector Enterprises) have been approved and letters of intent granted. Of the remaining 260 (including 34 applications of State Public Sector Enterprises), 162 applications (including 24 applications of State Public Sector Enterprises) have been rejected or otherwise disposed of and 98 applications (including 10 applications of State Public Sector Enterprises) are at various Stages of processing.

(c) Since it generally takes about 3 to 4 years for an industrial project to fructify, the industries for which letters of intent have been issued during the last three years would be at various stages of implementation and precise information regarding the number of jobs provided by the projects completed is not maintained centrally in the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals, Ministry of Industry.

*Foreign Technology*

4459. **SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any changes in the present system for the creation of an industrial climate in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether in the meeting of the National Development Council, the Prime Minister has desired the country to be "Open to Technology"; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH):** (a) Within the broad framework of the existing industrial policy of the Govt. of India

as enunciated in the industrial policy resolution of 1956 and as elaborated from time to time, the Government has recently taken some decisions which have been laid in the form of paper on the Table of both Houses of Parliament on 31st May, 1990. The paper is titled "Policy measures for the promotion of small scale and agro based industries and changes in procedures for industrial approvals".

The main thrust of the measures for small scale sector is on increasing productive employment generation in rural and backward areas of the country, whereas the main thrust of the changes in the industrial approvals is towards reducing unnecessary bureaucratic control and consequent delays and corruption.

(b) and (c) In his address to the National Development Council, the Prime Minister touched upon a number of points, including the need to think hard about the country's attitude to technology. The Prime Minister stated that the assumption that technology was a handmaiden only of industry and that its only role in a developing country was to throw people out of work, was an incorrect one. The Prime Minister further stated that technology was capable of transforming the lives of the biggest and smallest among us, of the very rich and the very poor and it can create millions of jobs, just as it can destroy them. In this context, the Prime Minister stressed the need to be open to technology, which was another way of saying that we need to be open to new ideas. The Prime Minister also emphasised that we need technology that is appropriate not only to meet the needs of rural household, but also to permit our products to compete in world markets.

*Tehri Dam Project*

4460. **SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the Government's stand with regard to continuing work on the

Tehri Dam in view of the Dhoundial Committee Report; and

(b) the reported effects of seismicity of the area around the Tehri Dam site?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) and (b) The High Level Committee of Experts constituted under the Chairmanship of Shri D. R. Dhoundial, Director General, Geological Survey of India, had after assuming the worst earthquake scenario concluded that all dangers arising out of seismicity have been taken note of and taken care of in the planning of the Tehri Project and that the presence of reservoir does not necessitate additional consideration for reservoir induced seismicity. In view of the findings of the Dhoundial Committee, there is no change in the Government's stand with regard to continuing work on the Tehri Dam.

#### Rise in Price of Salt

4461. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government have chalked out a plan to curb the rise in price of salt;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Prime Minister has issued instructions to his Ministry to ensure that the price of salt come down both in loose and packed salt; and

(d) if so, the follow-up action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Statement is attached.

#### STATEMENT

The Prime Minister has issued instructions to ensure that the price of salt in loose and packed should come down and for that purpose salt production should be increased after bringing more areas under

salt manufacture. In order to implement these instructions, the following Action Plan is being implemented by the Govt. for curbing the rise in price of salt:—

(1) Salt Prices in loose and packed variety are daily monitored.

(2) Additional quota of salt is allotted to the States to create sufficient buffer stocks and ease the scarcity position.

(3) Railway is clearing demands on priority basis.

(4) Special meetings were convened with the salt manufacturers at the Production Centres and also with the traders at the consuming centres. The manufacturers and traders have been impressed upon to reduce the ex-factory price and retail price.

(5) The manufacturers have been advised to work their holding fully to increase the production.

(6) State Governments have been requested to instruct their nominees to lift adequate quantities of salt for their respective States.

*Drugs & Medicines*  
Non availability of Chloramphenicol

4462. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the main drug used in the treatment of typhoid;

(b) whether Chloramphenicol formulations drug used in the treatment of typhoid are in short supply; and

(c) the steps Government intends to take to ensure ample availability of this drug?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Chloramphenicol.

(b) and (c) It was reported in short supply in the States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Orissa only in