

### Allotment of Rakes

\*154. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA :  
SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether there is acute shortage of Iodised Salt in the country due to shortage of rakes;
- (b) if so, the number of Rakes being supplied and utilised by the Salt Producing areas of Gujarat;
- (c) whether the present number of rakes supply is inadequate keeping in view the demand for salt throughout the country; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken or proposed by the Ministry for the allotment of more rakes as per demand?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (d) No scarcity conditions have been reported presently from any part of the country. Occasional distress requests from some areas when received were promptly attended. There have been some shortfall in supply of rakes to salt producing areas of Gujarat. Steps have been taken to step up the level of wagon supplies.

### Companies Act, 1956

\*155. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether a seminar on 'Tax and Company' Law was organised by the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry in October, 1995;
- (b) if so, the participants and the recommendations made therein;
- (c) whether the Government propose to incorporate these recommendations in the Company Act, 1956;
- (d) if so, the salient features thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the bill is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) 207 persons have participated in the All India Tax and Company Law Conference held on 30-31 October, 1995 at New Delhi organised by Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry. No recommendations as such have been forwarded by the ASSOCHAM to the Government emerging out of this conference. However, in the company law session of the conference, issues like non-voting shares, buy-back of shares, intercorporate loans and investments have been discussed. The Govt. is already aware of these issues and is likely to finalise its views on them before the Companies Bill, 1993, already introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 14.5.93, is taken up for consideration.

### Defence Self Reliance

\*156. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government have adopted a defence self reliance plan 1995-2005 for enhancing self reliance; and
- (b) if so, the targets fixed thereunder, the cost and other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A 10-year plan for self-reliance in Defence Systems has been evolved with a target to increase the self-reliance index (The ratio of expenditure on defence systems procured from indigenous sources to the total expenditure on acquisition in a particular year) from the present level of 30 percent to 70 percent by the year 2005. The plan envisages the following three pronged approach for achieving increased self-reliance :-

- (i) Sustaining existing defence systems through indigenisation of spares.
- (ii) upgrading viable existing defence systems and stretching their life and capability, and
- (iii) inducting more of indigenous defence systems in a progressive manner and minimising the import of major systems.

It is, however, not in the national interest to disclose the information relating to the costs.

### Ozone Layer

\*157 SHRI CHETAN P.S. CHAUHAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are aware of increase in Ozone in the lower latitudes in India including Delhi;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Ozone is highly toxic to living beings; and
- (d) if so, the preventive measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND DEPARTMENT OF SPACE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) Analysis of ozone data obtained through different satellites and ground based instruments does not establish very clear trend of ozone variation over India. Marginal variations noticed by some scientists could be within the natural fluctuation of ozone.

(c) Ozone in high concentrations at surface of the earth is toxic to living beings.

(d) Presently ozone concentration at surface level is within safe limits. However, Govt. has taken action for reducing emission of pollutants from sources like automobiles that could affect surface ozone.

### Cycle Corporation of India

\*158 SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Government are contemplating measures for the modernization of Cycle Corporation of India Limited;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;