

AMENDMENT TO CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT, 1986

230 DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make amendments in Consumer Protection Act, 1986 in view of the discrepancies therein;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of problems being faced by consumers as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) Government has been receiving number of suggestions to make the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 more effective and purposeful. Such suggestions include amendment of certain definitions, giving more powers to three tier redressal agencies envisaged in the Act providing for quorum in the sittings of National Commission, State Commission and District Forums etc.

(c) Due to a recent judgement of National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, the orders which have not been signed by all the members of the State Commission and District Forums were to be treated as 'null and void'. This could have caused difficulties to the consumers. The Government has recently promulgated an Ordinance to rectify this situation

[*English*]

AMMONIA MANUFACTURING PLANT AT COCHIN

232. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether FACT (Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited), Cochin has submitted a proposal to the Union Government for setting up of the Ammonia manufacturing plant; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal will be considered on merits.

[*Translation*]

DOORDARSHAN KENDRA, SAHARSA

233. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the capacity of Doordarshan Kendra, Saharsa,

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be increased; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

(c) It is the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to expand its network, as expeditiously as possible. This can, however, be undertaken only in a phased manner depending upon the availability of adequate financial resources for the purpose.

[*English*]

PRIVATISATION OF PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKINGS

234. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any plans to privatise Maruti Udyog Limited, ONGC, IOC and other similar Public Sector Undertakings; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?