

ex-factory price of Rs. 1,800 and less had to pay an excise duty of only 5 per cent, while those above that level carried a duty of 20 per cent. As a result, a single channel set by itself was available during 1976-77 at a price which was Rs. 700 less than that at which such a set would have been purchased by a customer prior to March 1976. Furthermore, in mid-1976, the Department of Electronics appointed two techno-economic Panels of experts, one on TV sets and the other on TV picture tubes, to review the cost and price structure of those products. Both Panels have since submitted their reports and these are under the consideration of the Electronics Commission for formulation of Government policy in this regard. To assist manufacturers to upgrade the quality of their sets, the Department of Electronics is promoting the setting up of Test & Development Centres in several States/Union Territories and also a Test & Evaluation Centre at the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi. The Government does not exercise any direct control on the quality of these sets.

(d) There has been a reduction of about Rs. 200 in the consumer price of an EC TV set during 1976-77. ECIL has developed a hybrid, single channel, 51 cm TV set which it is intending to market at an *ex-factory* price of Rs. 1,800.

Key Prosecution Witness In Baroda Dynamite Case

542. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of action taken on Shri Sharad Patel against whom a CBI case was in progress; and

(b) whether Shri Sharad Patel was a key prosecution witness in what is called the Baroda Dynamite Case?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (CHAUDHURI CHARAN SINGH):

(a) A charge-sheet was filed by the C.B.I. in a case against Shri Sharad

Patel and 3 others before the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Alipur, Calcutta, on 30th December, 1975. The case is pending trial in the court.

(b) Shri Sharad Patel was one of the prosecution witnesses in the Baroda Dynamite Case.

Progress of Hydel Projects

543. SHRI DURGA CHAND: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hydel projects together with their names on which work is at present in progress;

(b) the progress made so far in each of these projects;

(c) by when each project will be completed and commissioned; and

(d) outlines of the benefits to be derived from each project on completion?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d). The total number of hydro-electric projects on which work is in progress is 39. The names of these projects alongwith the progress made so far on each of them, the likely date of their commissioning and benefits to be derived from them on their completion are given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-348/77].

Censorship of Films

544. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Film Censors did not meet during the year 1976;

(b) whether films were called to Delhi and decisions about censorship were taken at Ministerial level; and

(c) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) No meeting of the Board of Film Censors took place during 1976.

(b) and (c). All films presented for censorship were examined and dealt with by the prescribed authority after they were seen by the Examining Committees and, in some cases, by Revising Committees of the Board of Film Censors constituted in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the Rules made thereunder. However, on the basis of complaints received either in writing or otherwise, some films were called for and dealt with by the Central Government in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act and the Rules made thereunder.

Capacities of Industrial Units

545. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) a list of new industrial units that came into production during 1976-77 together with the items and their capacities;

(b) what were the dates of their licensing and whether causes have been ascertained where the delay of implementation has been more than two years; and

(c) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) to (c). A statement showing the details of new industrial units which came into production during 1976-77 together with the items of manufacture, licensed capacity and the date of licence issued, is enclosed. Those units which have taken more than two years for implementation have been indicated in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-349/77.]

An industrial licence is generally issued with an initial validity period of 2 years, which can normally be

extended for a period of another 2 years. Any extension after four years, is granted only if there is strong justification.

Generally large projects have a greater period of gestation. Reasons for abnormal delay in the implementation of industrial units given in the statement are delay in fabrication of indigenous machinery, delay in import of capital goods, delay due to foreign collaborator, delay in raising of finances according to standard guidelines, etc.

Industrialization of Backward Areas

546. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has drawn up a policy for industrializing backward areas;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the proposals to attract entrepreneurs to take industries to backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA): (a) and (b). Concentration of industries in certain areas has been due to the ready availability of power, water supply and transport facilities which have been developed there. It is one of the aims of national planning to ensure that these infrastructural facilities are steadily made available to areas which are at present lagging behind industrially or where there is greater need for providing opportunities for employment, provided the location is otherwise suitable. In implementation of industrial licensing policy, Government also ensures that licensing decisions conform to the growth profile of the Plan and that techno-economic and social considerations such as economies of scale, appropriate technology, balanced regional development and development of backward areas are fully reflected.