

(b) whether it is a fact that there are no public telephone booths in new extensions in Bangalore city like Banashankar II stage, Vijayanagar, J.P. Nagar, etc. and if so, whether there is a proposal to provide some public telephones at suitable places;

(c) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the shops which are having telephones are charging abnormally from the public for making calls; and

(d) whether Government propose to fix a prescribed rate for each call that the shop-keepers have to charge from the public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) There are 885 public telephones in Bangalore Telephone system as on 30.6.85. Some of these telephones have been provided in booths while others are without them.

(b) No, Sir. A number of public telephones are working in these areas of Bangalore city.

(c) No such complaints have come to notice of Government.

(d) A charge of 50 paise per call has been prescribed for calls made from a public telephone.

**Acquisition of Vanaspati Business of Hindustan Lever Limited by Lipton India Limited**

2106. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4120 on 16.12.1980 regarding merger of M/s. Hindustan Lever and Lipton and state :

(a) whether the recent acquisition of vanaspati business of Hindustan Lever Ltd. worth Rs. 120 crores per annum by Lipton India Ltd. is a case of indirect merger which is specifically prohibited under the MRTP Act ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to re-examine the contentions of the concerned companies that it was merely a case of transfer of certain undertakings between two companies already inter-connected by their relation with M/s Unilever of London; and

(c) whether Government propose to take any steps to safeguard the freedom of the employees from being arbitrarily transferred from one company to another ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN):**

(a) The acquisition of, *inter-alia*, the Vanaspati business by M/s. Lipton India Ltd. from Hindustan Lever Ltd. was not a case of merger within the meaning of Section 23 of the MRTP Act, 1969.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There are no specific provisions under the Industrial Disputes Act regarding transfer of employees from one master to another. However, if there is any victimisation or transfer which is unjustified or in case the service conditions etc. are violated by the management, it is open to the union and workmen to raise disputes under the Industrial Disputes Act. So far as Industrial Disputes Act is concerned, there is no such proposal to amend the Act.

**Proposal for setting up Salt Model and Research Station in Andhra Pradesh**

2107. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal before Government to set up a "Salt Model and Research Station" at Naupada in Sreecakulam District or at Machilipatnam in Krishna district in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and when a decision will be taken; and

(c) if not, whether Government would now consider such a proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposed project for development of salt industry and research on salt and marine chemicals is tentatively estimated to cost Rs. 46.22 lakhs and is proposed to be jointly sponsored by the Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute, Bhavnagar the Commissioner of Industries, Andhra Pradesh and the Salt Department, Government of India. Government will take a decision on receipt of a detailed project report from the executing agencies.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Industrial Production

2108. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the industrial production for the last five years, year-wise figures; and

(b) the steps taken to boost industrial production in the country in the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) According to the Central Statistical Organisation, the average monthly index of industrial production (Base : 1970-10C) during the last five years was as under :

Years	Index	Percentage growth over preceding year
1980-81	154.08	+ .0
1981-82	167.35	+ 8.6
1982-83	173.94	+ 3.9
1983-84	183.44	+ 5.5
1984-85	193.66	+ 5.6

(b) The industrial situation is constantly under review. The Government have been taking several measures to stimulate industrial production through appropriate changes in industrial licensing and import policies as well as through monetary and fiscal measures. The approach Paper to the Seventh Plan (1985-90) lays emphasis on adequate infrastructural development to tackle infrastructural constraints. The focus of the industrial development in the Seventh Plan will also be on upgradation of technology, modernisation, better utilisation of assets and promotion of efficiency so as to further accelerate the rate of Industrial growth.

#### Supply of faulty turbo-generators by BHEL

2109. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the National Thermal Power Corporation has accused the Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. of supplying faulty turbo-generators at some of its power projects;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the remedial measures to be taken in this regard so that faulty turbo-generators are not supplied to any power station in the country?