

- (ii) This system has been introduced for providing Telecom facility in remote, tribal and hilly areas which are inaccessible and where the conventional method of open-wire lines is either not practicable or technically non-feasible on account of power parallelism.
- (iii) This system enables Long Distance Public Telephones within a radius of 50 Kms.
- (iv) Communication provided on this system is more stable as it is not affected by weather.
- (v) Number of calls generated by LDPTs being very small, a small number of radio channels serve a large group of LDPTs (Long Distance Public Telephones).

**(b) *Small Capacity Electronic Exchange.***

- (i) Airconditioning is not required.
- (ii) Has remote monitoring facilities.
- (iii) Can work in tropical conditions.
- (iv) Has improved reliability.
- (v) Has in-built metering facility.

**(c) *Single Channel VHF.***

Provides reliable Single Channel point to point radio media to remote and inaccessible places.

**(d) *Small Capacity UHF.***

Provides group of trunk junctions on reliable radio media for rural exchanges as compared to open-wire lines.

***Preparation of Minutes of Annual General Meetings of the Companies***

9030. DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the minutes of the Annual General Meetings of the companies are

not required to be circulated to the shareholders under the Indian Companies Act and rules made thereunder ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether he is aware that thousands and even lakhs of shareholders of big companies do not attend the Annual General Meetings due to distance or other factors and the meetings are held mostly on the authority of proxies only;

(d) whether the ordinary shareholder is thus deprived of the happenings at the Annual General Meetings in the absence of any minutes or brief record being circulated to there; and

(e) if so, whether while next amending the above Act, Government will consider the desirability of making it mandatory on the Board of Directors to circulate such minutes to the shareholders and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (e). Under the Companies Act, 1956, the minutes of the annual general meetings of a company are not required to be circulated to its members. However, in terms of section 196 of the Act, members are entitled to inspect the minutes of the proceedings of general meetings and are also entitled to be furnished with a copy of the minutes on payment of prescribed charges. Accordingly, no amendment of law is considered necessary.

***Joint Ventures with U.K. Firms***

9031. DR. B.L. SHAIKESH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 14-member delegation from the U.K. firms visited India towards the end of last month on a trade mission to assess the scope for technology transfer, including institutional management organisation and training opportunities;

(b) whether this delegation also discussed project funding and the establishment of joint ventures in India; and

(c) the outcome of the discussions which Government had with this trade delegation and the nature of various offers, if any, made by the delegation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir, a delegation from the Engineering Industries Association, U.K. visited India in the last week of March and early April, 1987. The delegation had discussions with a number of Indian Companies to assess the scope of technology transfer and joint ventures. There was no inter-action or discussion at Government level. No report has been received on the deliberations the delegation had in India as it was a private delegation.

**Setting up for agencies for monitoring Public Distribution System by States**

9032. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASHIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any Central monitoring agency to ensure effective functioning of the distributional system in the country;

(b) if not, whether such an agency is proposed to be set up by the Union Government;

(c) whether State Governments have been advised to set up such agencies to monitor the public distribution system; and

(d) what other steps have been taken to ensure effective public distribution system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a)

and (b). The Central Government monitors the functioning of the Public Distribution System in the country through receipt of weekly, monthly and quarterly data from the States/UTs. Besides, senior Central Government Officers also pay periodic field visits to States/UTs, for an on the spot study of the Public Distribution System.

(c) and (d). The Government of States/ Union Territories have been asked to undertake a detailed review of the existing arrangements, identify the deficiencies and draw up a plan of action for streamlining and strengthening the Public Distribution System specially in the rural, tribal and inaccessible areas and implement it within a time bound programme.

The Central Government has advised all the States and Union Territories to set up a proper monitoring system at the block, district and State Headquarters to ensure availability of upto date information regarding the supply of essential commodities to fair price shops.

**Requirement of Crude met by ONGC and Imports**

9033. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of crude and crude oil requirement met by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission and percentage met by imports during the last three years;

(b) the value of imports during this period; and

(c) the names of the countries and companies giving assistance to the Commission in the production of crude oil, nature of assistance and since when assisting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The information is as