

(a) whether CBI has filed any charge-sheet against the Managing Director of the Maruti Udyog Limited;

(b) if so, the details of the charges levelled by CBI;

(c) whether the Government have since granted permission to register a case against him; and

(d) if not, the time by which the permission is likely to be given to CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed *statement*.

(c) and (d). No permission is required in respect of the present Managing Director since he is no longer a public servant.

STATEMENT

- (1) Charge Sheet filed on 7.1.1994 under Section 13 (2) r/w Section 13 (i) (d) of the PC Act, 1988 against Shri R.C. Bhargava, Shri V. Krishnamurthy, Shri S. Muthukrishnan and the Company M/s. Hydraulics Ltd., Madras. The charge against Shri R.C. Bhargava is that he entered into a criminal conspiracy with Shri V. Krishnamurthy, the then CMD, MUL and Shri S. Muthukrishnan, Vice-Chairman and MD of Hydraulics Ltd. with the

object of causing heavy pecuniary advantage to M/s. Hydraulics in the matter of supply of shock absorbers and other items worth about Rs. 4.27 crores.

- (2) Charge Sheet filed on 24.12.1993 under Section 13 (2) r/w Section 13 (1) (d) of the PC Act, 1988 against Shri R.C. Bhargava and two other employees of Maruti Udyog Ltd. In this case Shri R.C. Bhargava has been charge sheeted for official conspiracy and misuse of official position as public servant in the allotment of 13 vehicles to some favoured customers at pre-budget prices thereby causing undue pecuniary advantage to them and corresponding loss to the customers in the list of general category.

Joint Naval Exercises with Foreign Countries

1292. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India undertakes joint naval exercises with foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details of such exercises during each of the last three years; and

(c) the details of fresh proposals to hold such exercises with other countries in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of joint naval exercises held during each of the last three years are as under:

1991	-	Australia
1992	-	France, UK, USA, Australia
1993	-	Oman, Singapore, UK, New Zealand

(c) Exercises were held with Russian and Singapore ships during 1994. No exercises are so far scheduled to be held in the near future.

[Translation]

Production of Newsprint

1293. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of newsprint produced in the country during 1992-93 and 1993-94 so far and its annual consumption;

(b) the quantum of newsprint imported during the period to meet the shortage; and

(c) the steps taken to increase indigenous production of newsprint?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b). The demand of newsprint in 1993-94 is estimated at 5.80 lakh tonnes. The domestic

production and import of newsprint during the two years has been as under:

(in lakh tonnes)

Period	Production	Import
1992-93	3.12	2.43
1993-94 (Upto Nov., 1993)	2.31	1.83

(c) Government have taken following steps to increase the indigenous production of newsprint:

- (i) A capacity of 7.20 lakh tonnes by way of Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent has been sanctioned;
- (ii) Under the New Industrial Policy, Newsprint units based on minimum 75% pulp derived from bagasse, agro-residues and other non-conventional raw materials have been exempted from compulsory industrial licensing subject to locational policy. As a result of this 26 IEMs for a total capacity of about 13.00 lakh tonnes have been filed by the intending entrepreneurs for the manufacture of newsprint.
- (iii) Customs duty on import of wood pulp for manufacture of newsprint has been abolished. Newsprint is exempted from excise duty.
- (iv) With a view to encourage the indigenous availability of newsprint such paper mills who are producing paper conforming to BIS standards