

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) to (d). A few paper Units are claiming to be facing problems, but there is no criterion to determine whether they are on the verge of closure. According to information available, 3 large paper mills and 22 small paper mills are lying closed at present. The reasons for their closure include raw material and financial problems, management deficiency, obsolescence of plant and machinery, shortage of power, labour problems, etc. In order to increase the production and improve the viability, the following reliefs and concessions have been extended to the paper industry.

1. Import of pulp, waste paper and wood chips has been placed on OGL and allowed free of customs levies.

2. Import of wood log placed on OGL and concessional customs duty levied.

3. Manufacture of writing and printing paper containing not less than 75% by weight of pulp made from bagasse exempted from payment of excise duty.

4. Manufacture of paper and paper board using un-conventional raw materials in charged excise duty at concessional rates.

5. The facility of payment of excise duty on incremental basis for successive slabs extended to the small paper mills from 1.4.1986.

6. Flexibility allowed to the industry to manufacture all varieties of paper and paper grade pulp including paper board/straw board within the overall licenced capacity.

7. Requirement Industrial Licence has been dispensed with in the case of manufacture of writing, printing and wrapping paper from agricultural residues, wastes and bagasse,

8. New units commissioned between 1.4.79 and 31.3.87 are exempted from excise duty upto 50% for five years.

[*Translation*]

Steps to increase Power Generation in Bihar Haryana and Karnataka

9047. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bihar is one of those States where power generation is the lowest and only 2602 million units for power could be generated in Bihar during 1985-86 as against the requirement of 3600 million units ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken or propose to take any effective steps to increase power generation in Bihar, Haryana and Karnataka, and if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the time by which power will be generated in those States as per their requirement ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Power generation in Bihar was 3325 million units during 1985-86 and the requirement was 4315 million units.

(b) To increase availability of power in Bihar and Haryana, renovation and modernisation of the existing thermal stations has been included in the centrally-sponsored scheme. Karnataka being a mainly hydel system, power availability depends upon normal monsoon in the catchment areas of the hydel reservoirs. Maximum assistance, to the extent possible, is also being provided from the neighbouring States/systems to increase the availability.

(c) All efforts are being made to ameliorate the situation by the end of VII Plan subject to availability of funds.

[*English*]

Legislation on National Legal Services

9048. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to introduce legislation on national legal services ; and