

undertakings in being determined by Government ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (PROF. K.K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). As per the instructions issued by Government, unless there are exceptional reasons to the contrary, the debt equity ratio of Public Enterprises should be 1:1. If the public undertakings made out a strong case for different equity debt ratio, due consideration will be given on merits. Since the equity debt ratio has a direct bearing on the profitability, the assumptions made in this regard in financing the project should be clearly indicated in the feasibility study reports and detailed project reports together with the reasons for such assumptions so that at the time of examining the feasibility report, this question may be also gone into and necessary decision taken.

Amount sanctioned to District Industries Centres in Bihar for self employment Scheme

3756. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some amount was granted to the District Industries Centres in Bihar for distribution for self-employment of unemployed youngmen ; and

(b) if so, the amount given to Bihar State for self-employment during the years 1984-85 and 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). The Central Government does not release funds to the DICs under Self-Employment Scheme for Educated Unemployed Youth. It allocates targets to the States to be achieved under this Scheme. In 1984-85 Bihar was given a target of 14,500 and in 1985-86 a target of 29,600.

Foreign collaboration proposals for Footwear Industry

3757. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :
SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA:
SHRI ANAND SINGH :
SHRI BHISHMA DEO
DUBE :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the footwear industry is a low priority item ;

(b) the details of proposals before Government for foreign collaboration in the footwear industry ;

(c) whether the terms of reference include royalty payment to foreign collaborators in hard currency ;

(d) the areas of export under the collaboration agreement ;

(e) to what extent would such collaborations affects the export trade of Indian footwear companies who are bringing in foreign exchange for the country ; and

(f) the steps Government propose to take to protect the interests of Indian companies against the multi-national foreign collaborators ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir. Leather footwear industry has been identified as a thrust area for exports and hence proposals for foreign collaboration are considered on merits.

(b) At present the Government have before them only one application for foreign collaboration in respect of sports and other special purpose shoes.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) All countries except South Africa, USA, Canada, Mexico, Spain, Argentina,

Austria, Norway, Japan, France, West Germany, Taiwan, Phillipines, Australia, and Sweden.

(e) and (f). All approvals for foreign collaborations in the leather footwear industry are granted keeping in view the need to maximise the export earnings and the overall national interest, which ensures adequate protection to the Indian companies.

Irregularities in accounts of Coal India Limited

3758. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Sub-Committee of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Energy appointed to inquire into the irregularities in the accounts of Coal India Limited for the year of 1984-85 has submitted its report ; and

(b) if so, the findings of the sub-committee and action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Exemptions to Companies under Companies Act

3759. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of manufacturing companies are availing exemptions under section 211(4) of the Companies Act and withholding information regarding capacities, production, raw material consumption, exports, imports, etc. ;

(b) the circumstances, under which such exemptions are normally granted to companies ;

(c) whether it is a fact that a large number of companies are enjoying these exemptions for a number of years ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). Exemptions from complying with certain provisions of Schedule VI of the Companies Act have been granted under Section 211(4) of the Companies Act, 1956, to a few companies which include manufacturing companies. Such exemptions are considered and granted on merits taking into account the difficulties and problems expressed by the companies in complying with the relevant provisions of Schedule VI. The exemptions are given for only one financial year at a time.

Functioning of Nagpur Telephone Exchange

3760. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that since the commissioning of the Itwari Telephone Exchange and transferring of thousands of telephone lines from the main Nagpur Telephone Exchange, the Nagpur subscribers are facing great problems ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) For the expansion of the telephone system, new exchanges have to be installed and for proper distribution of load, subscribers of some areas of old exchange are transferred to new exchanges. In case of transfer of subscribers from Main Nagpur telephone exchange to Itwari exchange, only numbers were changed otherwise there is no problem faced by the subscribers.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply as at (a) above.