

Deterioration in Telecommunication Services in Delhi

9357. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications has taken note of the deterioration in the quality of telecommunication services, local and STD and trunk in Delhi and also in the service of such general numbers like 197, 199, 180, 181 and the rising incidences of dropping of ring, non-formation of speech, wrong dialling, telephones going dead and also over-billing in the Union Territory of Delhi after the formation of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this deterioration and the steps proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of the system?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) There has been no deterioration in quality of telecommunication services in Union Territory of Delhi after formation of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited. There may be few cases of dropping of ring, non-formation of speech, wrong dialling and telephones going dead. Some are promptly attended to.

Regarding over billing, there is no deterioration.

(b) As referred to above, question does not arise.

Suggestions for Industrial Growth

9358. SHRI H.C. RAMULU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has suggested a number of fiscal incentives to step up industrial growth;

(b) if so, full details of the suggestions made; and

(c) to what extent Government propose to adopt these suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c). Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) submitted a paper on fiscal incentives for industrial growth to Minister of Finance recently. A number of measures have been suggested in the paper which include (i) waiving of tax on inter-corporate dividends paid to shareholders; (ii) waiving of tax on capital gains if re-invested in equities of new companies within a reasonable period; (iii) permission to invest provident/pension funds moneys in public & private sector bonds; (iv) option to companies for buying their own shares from market; (v) permission to private sector to establish mutual funds; (vi) nursing of new equities; (vii) abolition of gift tax; (viii) reduction in tax rates; (ix) lower taxation of incremental profits; (x) lower excise duty on incremental production; (xi) 100% write off of the capital expenditure incurred on R&D; (xii) dropping of the proposed amendment in the Companies (Amend.) Bill, 1987 to Sections 370 and 372; (xiii) lowering of interest on bank loans; (xiv) foreign exchange insurance cover.

The budget for 1988-89 have given a number of fiscal incentives for boosting industrial growth.

Committee to Review Drug Policy

9359. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to have a high powered committee to review its Drug Policy; and

(b) if so, by what time the committee is proposed to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.