

STATEMENT

With a view to improve the economic viability of the cement industry, Government have recently given the following incentives to the industry:-

- (i) Levy obligation of sick cement units has been reduced from 30% to 15% of actual production w.e.f. 1.3.88.
- (ii) Levy obligation of pre 1982 units has been reduced from 50% to 30% of actual production w.e.f.1.3.88.
- (iii) Levy obligation of units which commenced production sometimes prior to 1.1.1982 but deemed to have started their production after 1.1.1982, has been reduced from 30% to 20% of actual production w.e.f.1.3.88.
- (iv) In March/April, 1987 a rebate in excise duty to the extent of Rs. 20 per tonne and Rs. 50 per tonne had been given in respect of new units which commenced production between 1.1.1982 to 31st March, 1986 and on or after 1.4.1986 respectively. Levy Obligation of such units had been reduced to 20% of production and 15% of production respectively.
- (v) Excise duty on cement has been reduced from Rs. 225/- per tonne to Rs. 205/- per tonne w.e.f. 1.3.1988.

2. Representations have been received from the Cement manufacturers Associations as well as from some individual cement units seeking further reliefs to the industry.

No decision has so far been taken by the Government in this regard.

Participation of Private Sector in Power Generation

857. SHRI G.M.BANATWALA:
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for allowing private sector to participate in power projects in a big way;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal, stating the conditions under which the participation will be allowed;

(c) whether the private sector would be allowed to borrow from the market or from sources abroad like the World Bank;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of conditions, if any, with respect of pricing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI):(a) to (e). The policy with regard to the generation and distribution of electricity continues to be regulated by the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956. The expansion of the existing privately owned utilities or the establishment of new units in the private sector is not precluded under the Resolution. The modalities for facilitating private sector participation in power generation are being worked out.

Vacancies in Programme and Engineering Cadres of Doordarshan

858. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD. Will the