

(a) whether Government have taken steps to revive some medium and major sick industries in Orissa;

(b) if so, the total number of medium and major units which have fallen sick;

(c) whether steps have been taken by the Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. also to revive some units in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). As per the latest information available from Reserve Bank of India, there were 10 large sick industries in Orissa, as at the end of December, 1986. RBI has issued detailed guidelines to banks to draw up rehabilitation packages for the potentially viable units. The Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has also been adequately empowered to take necessary action in this behalf.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation of Orissa Ltd. has finalised rehabilitation packages for 9 units in consultation with banks and financial institutions.

#### **Equity Capital of Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. to Public**

2083. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:  
SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESHWARI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd., is planning to go to public;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the operational administrative and financial benefits likely to accrue as a result of this decision;

(c) how much of the equity shares will be offered to the public including its employees; and

(d) its repercussion on this Company's international dealings and the financial implications on the transmission and receipt of foreign traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### **Energy Requirement in Rural Areas**

2084. SHRI BADRESHWAR TANTI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita energy requirement in rural areas;

(b) whether per capita requirement in rural areas in India is higher or lower in comparison to other developing nations in Commonwealth countries; and

(c) if it is lower, the steps taken by Government for increasing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The Report of the Working Group on Energy Policy (1979) had estimated that the annual per capita consumption of energy in households in rural areas is about 0.38 tonnes of coal replacement, and the household energy constitutes about 80% of the total energy consumption in the rural areas.

(b) The per capita energy consumption in rural areas in India is lower in comparison to that in some of the Commonwealth countries.

(c) The programmes undertaken in the 7th Plan to augment the availability of energy in rural areas include additional supply of electricity from the grid, setting up of bio-gas plants, improved chulhas fuelwood plantation, Integrated Rural Energy Planning Programme and installation of devices based on renewable energy sources such as solar and wind energy.