

the success of Saboo VSK technology for making of cement in medium and small sector in India and its suitability for export of turn-key projects to developing countries;

(b) whether the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd, has approved this technology and exhibited its model in different industrial fairs abroad; and

(c) the nature of facilities, incentives and subsidies available on exports of turn-key projects for making of cement.?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). Government has seen report about the development of a VSK technology for manufacture of cement by Shri D.B. Saboo having capacity of 50 TPF, NSIC had displayed for the first time, a model of VSK technology during an exhibition organised by World Assembly of Small and Medium Enterprises (WASME) held in Nepal in April, 1988.

(c) With a view to boosting exports of projects and consultancy services, in general including cement, the Government has inter-alia taken the following measures:

- i) Grant of project assistance to the tune of 10% of net foreign exchange earnings from the service portion of the contracts.
- ii) Market Development Assistance for reimbursement of 50% of cost of preparation and submission of bids.
- iii) Market Development Assistance for opening and operating overseas office by consultancy firms.
- iv) EXIM Bank has recently been persuaded to reduce its interest rates to 7.5% per annum to enhance the competitiveness of Indian bids for projects.
- v) Further, EXIM Bank in addition

to suppliers credit and buyer's credit has also been extending lines of credit to various developing countries with a view to encourage export of projects.

Delay in registration of Trade Marks, Patents and Designs

565. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is much delay in the registration of trade marks, patents and designs;

(b) if so, the reasons for such delay in registration;

(c) whether any study groups was constituted to look into the matter;

(d) if so, the details of the report received from the study group; and

(e) if the report has not been received, when it is expected?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). while there is no abnormal delay in the examination of patent applications or in the registration of designs, there is some delay in the examination of applications for registration of trade marks. The main reason for this is continuous increase in the number of applications for registration of trade marks which has increased from 6,000 to 18,000 in 1986-87.

(c) to (e). A work Study Group was commissioned to look into the organisational position of the Trade marks Registry. The Work Study Group has recommended strengthening of the Trade Marks Registry in several respects and re-organisations of the jurisdictional functions.

Ban on Recruitment in Public Sector Undertakings

566. SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA : Will

the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a continuing ban on recruitment in the public sector undertakings; and

(b) if so, its effect on employment situation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The ban on creation/filling up of posts was relaxed in October, 1985 in order to ensure that the essential work in the public sector undertakings does not suffer. The PSUs were, however, instructed to continue economy in expenditure and exercise utmost restraint in the creation of new posts/posts vacancies may be created filled up only in exceptional circumstances such as commissioning of a new project, expansion of existing activities, statutory requirements, diversification of activities, etc. Further, posts/vacancies below board level and other categories of officers and supervisory staff and workers may be created/filled up only with the prior approval of the Board of Directors.

• **Replacement of the Telecommunications Board by Four-Member Commission**

567. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telecommunications Board is proposed to be replaced by a four member Commission, as reported in the Economic Times dated 3rd October, 1988;

(b) if so, whether other Boards which are not functioning as expected are also to be replaced by such Commissions; and

(c) if so, the details of such Boards and the criteria for their replacement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) to (c). There is

a proposal to set up a Telecom Commission which could take quick decisions on every aspect of organisation development, adoption of technology etc. in the field of telecommunications. The Commission will be able to guide the activities of the Department to be implemented expeditiously so that the benefits reach the society at a much faster pace.

Use of Calcium Sand for Cement manufacturing

568. SHRIBHADRESWAR TANTI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to use the Calcium sand available in off-shore areas of Lakshadweep as a potential ingredient to manufacture cement. and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). The Island Administration of Lakshadweep have been advised to examine their proposals to set up a cement plant in the island, based on local sands from the environmental and ecological angles. So far no further proposal has been received from them in this regard.

Electrical appliances (Quality Control), Order, 1988

569. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a report captioned "Electrical goods lobby powerful" appearing in the Times of India of August 13, 1988;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the implementation of the Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1988 has been delayed;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken for