

of big Business Houses covered under MRTP and FERA for setting up any of the selected 23 industries in the Centrally declared backward areas ;

(b) if so, the details of such big Business Houses who intend to set up industries in the backward areas of Andhra Pradesh ; and

(c) when necessary permission will be granted indicating the information about the industries to be set up and location thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Government had already exempted certain industries from the operation of Sections 21 and 22 of the Monopolies & Restrictive Trade Practices Act. As a part of liberalisation of industrial licensing policy and procedures, Government have further extended this facility and have de-licensed these industries with the exception of five in the case of MRTP/FERA companies provided the parties set up capacities in centrally declared backward areas.

(b) As the decision was announced only very recently towards the middle of January, 1986, it is premature to indicate the details of MRTP/FERA companies who proposed to set up industries in such areas including Andhra Pradesh.

(c) As the industries concerned have been de-licensed, no permission from Government is called for, provided such proposals conform to the scheme of delicensing announced by Government.

[*Translation*]

Tax evasion and smuggling through parcels

418. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that prohibited goods are smuggled through the means of insured parcels resulting in smuggling as well as tax evasion ;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against such cases of tax evasion and smuggling during 1984-85 and 1985-86 upto 31st January, 1986 and the outcome thereof ;

(c) the details of action taken against the P&T Officers found guilty ; and

(d) the details of preventive measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government to check such irregularities and malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Complaints regarding telephone service between Delhi and Ballia

419. SHRI JAGANNATH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints to the effect that trunk calls booked for Ballia from Delhi do not mature as Varanasi-Ballia telephone service generally remains out of order ;

(b) if so, whether Government are seriously thinking of taking steps to remove such complaints ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c). In view of reply at (a) above, question does not arise.

[*English*]

Discontinuance of Railway Mail Service by appointing private agents

420. DR. SUDHIR ROY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for discontinuing Rail-