

1	2	3
13.	Family Planning	—
14.	Universal Primary Health Care, Control of Leprosy, TB, and Blindness	769
15.	Accelerated Programme of Welfare for Women and Children and Nutrition	530
16.	Elementary Education for age Group 6-14	1500
17.	Public Distribution system	—
18.	Village and Small Industries	690
Total :		70886.50

Shortage of Raw Materials for Soap Units

420. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a serious shortfall of raw materials adversely affecting small scale soap and detergent manufacturers who have been producing considerable amount of the annual detergent production of the country; and

(b) if so, the effective steps that Government have so far taken to make possible for the Indian Petrochemical Corporation Ltd., to supply the much needed raw materials ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To augment the indigenous supply of Linear Alkyl Benzene Produced by IPCL, the Government has already decided to import 10,000 tons of LAB through STC for distribution to the detergent manufacturing units.

Requirement of Photo 'X'-Ray Films

421. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total requirement of photo 'X'-Ray films in the country annually;

(b) whether Hindustan Photo Films has been able to meet the requirement adequately;

(c) if not, the steps so far been taken by Government to augment the production of Hindustan Photo Films; and

(d) whether of late there has been a rush for photo-films licences for projects made by private companies including one promoted by a non-resident Indian ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) The total demand for various photo sensitised materials is approximately 20 million sq. metres per annum. This includes cine films (Black & White and colour), X-Ray films, photo paper (Black & White and colour), Graphic Arts Film and Amateur Roll Film (Black & White and colour).

(b) Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd. are by and large meeting the entire demand of the country. However, cine negative (Black & White and colour) and some special types of films, like memo-graphic, dental X-Ray and mass miniature films, etc. are allowed to be imported. Import of cine colour positive film is allowed under REP licensing against export of feature films.

(c) In respect of future demand, Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd. has drawn up plans to increase the capacity in respect of X-Ray film, amateur roll film (Black & White) and also take up integrated manufacture of cine colour Positive, graphic arts, and industrial X-Ray films.

(d) During the year 1983 five applications for I.L. have been received so far for the manufacture of various photo sensitised films from the private sector.

Sick Units

422. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick industrial units identified from different parts of the country during 1981-82 and 1982-83;

(b) whether measures have been taken for the revival of those sick units;

(c) if so, the number of the sick units identified by Government in the last two years which have been revived so far; and

(d) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) According to the latest data made available by the Reserve Bank of India, the number of sick industrial undertakings assisted by banks increased from 26, 758 at the end of December, 1981 to 28,360 at the end of June, 1982.

(b) To meet the situation of growing incidence of industrial sickness, the Government have announced certain policy measures for guidance of Central Ministries, State Government and Financial Institutions. The salient features of the guidelines were furnished to the House in reply to Unstarred Question No. 4974 answered on 24th March, 1982.

(c) and (d) Sick industrial undertakings are revived by banks and financial insti-

tutions on the basis of diagnostic studies prepared by them and as per the policy guidelines announced in October, 1981. Government also provide necessary assistance, where possible, as and when requested by them.

Efforts to Produce Uranium from Thorium, Indigenously

423. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether efforts have been made for the production of uranium indigenously;

(b) if so, by which year India would start using uranium derived indigenously from thorium in the nuclear reactor plants; and

(c) the efforts made in achieving self sufficiency in uranium ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Uranium Corporation of India Ltd., a public sector corporation under the administrative control of the Department of Atomic Energy, produces natural Uranium for requirements of Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors in our power projects.

(b) Thorium rods have been irradiated in the Research Reactor Cirus at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay and Uranium-233 has been extracted from the irradiated Thorium rods. Uranium-233 from Thorium is planned to be used in the long term as a nuclear fuel.

(c) The proven reserves of Uranium are considered sufficient for the purposes of currently envisaged nuclear power programme. Facilities for the mining and processing of Uranium are also being augmented in a phased manner.