

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2305
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2011
HINDUSTAN CABLES LIMITED
Ponnam Shri Prabhakar

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State-owned Hindustan Cables Limited, based in Kolkata, has not made any cable since 2004 and has lost \$ 549 million after cellular technology made its telephone wiring obsolete;
- (b) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the said company?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a) & (b): The Units of Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL) at Rupparainpur (West Bengal) and Hyderabad (Andhra Pradesh) producing PIJF Cables are not in production since January 2003 as there is no requirement of these Cables in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited /Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (BSNL/MTNL). Similarly, the Unit at Naini, Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh) producing Optical Fibre Cable has also become obsolete due to change in the product specification. The accumulated loss of Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL) as on 31.03.2011 is Rs. 4255 crores.

(c); The matter has been taken up with the Ministry of Defence /Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) for take over of all the units of HCL by the OFB and with the Ministry of Steel/Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) for take over of Hyderabad unit of HCL by RINL.