

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIRDHJI CHANDER JAIN: The wind is very strong in the desert area of Rajasthan. Wind-mills have been established at some places in the area. The Rajasthan Government has not got the full support of the Central Government and the Electricity Board in this matter. The drinking water problem is also related to electricity. Work done through diesel sets is very costly. Will the Central Government issue directives to the State Government on the Electricity Board to solve the power problem by establishing wind-mills?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: This is the Government's intention. We feel that the State Government can cut down its expenditure by giving priority to wind mills. We are taking up this matter with State Governments and Electricity Boards that they should take initiative in this matter. Till now wind mills could not draw water from more than 100 feet below. The wind mills presently being made can draw water from the depth of 250 feet. We are taking up this proposed with the States so that it may be possible you them to desire maximum benefit from them.

[*English*]

Modernisation and Technological Upgradation

*67. DR. G.S. RAJHANS
SHRIMATI MADHUREE
SINGH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab, Haryana & Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) has urged Government to review the definition of small scale units to insure scope of modernisation and technological upgradation;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the suggestions made by PHDCCI; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and other steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The Punjab, Haryana & Delhi Chamber of Commerce and Industry submitted an agenda to the Office of Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industry in connection with a meeting. One of the points in the agenda related to review of the definition of small scale industries.

(b) and (c). The Government receives from time to time suggestions from various Chambers of Commerce and associations on matters pertaining to small scale industries, including revision of investment limits. These are kept in view while taking a decision.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: Sir, unfortunately, the reply is very evasive. PHDCCI is a very important organisation. I want a specific reply as to what has been their suggestion and what is the reaction of the Government thereto.

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: The Chamber has asked us to raise the investment limit of both the small scale and ancillary units. But in addition to that, they have suggested other items for the agenda also. This is one of the items of the agenda.

DR. G.S. RAJHANS: What is your reaction on their suggestion? I want to know that. In view of the galloping inflationary situation, don't you think it is worthwhile considering their suggestion?

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, we have received suggestions from other side also not to raise the investment limit. When we take decision, we will definitely look into it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MADAN PANDEY: Mr. Speaker

Sir, I want to know when the Government is considering the suggestions given by the Haryana Chamber of Commerce and Industry? Have such suggestions been received from other quarters also? Increasing the investment limit of small-scale units benefits the rich only while the cottage and small-scale industries suffer. If any such suggestion has been received, what is the Government's response to it?

[English]

SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Sir, I think the hon. Member has answered the question raised by the other Member. We have received suggestions from both the sides. We are considering the points raised by both sides.

Opening of New Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh

*69. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals for the opening of new Branch Post Offices have been received by the Directorate from the Postal Circles;

(b) if so, the number of justified proposals as per existing norms received from each of the Postal Circles as on date, including the names of the places which have been recommended for the opening of new Post Offices in Himachal Pradesh, district-wise;

(c) the likely date by which the Post Offices would be opened at these places; and

(d) whether the condition of PLL (Permissible Limit of Loss of Rs. 4800 per annum) has not been enforced in the case of proposals for Special Category States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Out of the proposals received, post offices which are actually sanctioned after scrutiny and consultation with Ministry of Finance are likely to be opened before 31.3.1989.

(d) The permissible limit of loss is at present applicable to Special Category States also.

STATEMENT

Number of Justified Proposals for Branch Post Offices as per Existing Norms Received from each of the Postal Circles upto 9.11.1988.

<i>Name of Circle</i>	<i>No. of proposals received</i>
2	3
1. Andhra Pradesh	56
2. Assam	40
3. Bihar	89
4. Delhi	-
5. Gujarat	18
6. Haryana	12
7. Himachal Pradesh	7
8. Jammu & Kashmir	8
9. Karnataka	81
10. Kerala	80
11. Madhya Pradesh	204
12. Maharashtra	48
13. North Eastern	28
14. Orissa	96