

(e) the reasons for not nationalising such companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Data on the sick industrial units is being collected by the Reserve Bank of India and in accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers as also in conformity with the provisions of the statutes governing nationalised banks, it will not be possible to divulge the names of the individual constituents of the banks.

(e) Nationalisation of any industrial unit is considered by the Government in the light of the policy guidelines on sick industries issued in October, 1981. Salient features of the Policy Guidelines have already been furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 204 on 23.1.1985.

Increase in Oil Production to Achieve Self-Sufficiency

507. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of various agencies engaged in oil exploration and production;

(b) whether his Ministry had given directions to those agencies to increase oil production to achieve self-sufficiency in oil ; and

(c) if so, the achievements made by various oil exploration and production agencies in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM

(SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Oil and Natural Gas Commission (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As a result of efforts of the ONGC and OIL the country's self-sufficiency in crude oil has increased from about 30% in 1980-81 to about 69% at present.

Telephone Problems

508. SHRI G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that for every Six telephones, installed (working or not working) in the country, there is one staff member, the highest ratio in the world; and

(b) whether majority of the telephone problems in India are due to over-staffing ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No. Sir. As per figures available, the correct ratio is about 9.6 telephones per employee.

(b) The figures in respect of some other countries are as under : (Figures compiled by International Telecommunication Union, Geneva, 1973-1982 ; figures of 1982 are taken)

| | | |
|--------------|-----|--------|
| 1. China | ... | 9.35 |
| 2. Egypt | ... | 9.12 |
| 3. Pakistan | ... | 9.97 |
| 4. Argentina | ... | 66.84 |
| 5. Australia | ... | 93.54 |
| 6. Brazil | ... | 55.34 |
| 7. Canada | ... | 151.25 |
| 8. Indonesia | ... | 22.74 |
| 9. Iran | ... | 55.71 |
| 10. Iraq | ... | 32.45 |
| 11. Mexico | ... | 104.23 |

The comparative figures are given for the Telecommunication Systems as a whole for these countries and not for similar type of Telephone Exchanges.

Proposal for Captive Plantation for Paper Production

509. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the steps Government propose to take to contain the cost of production of paper and raise its production by the industry ;

(b) whether captive plantation is the only long-term solution to the raw-material problem ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to allow this venture particularly in the states like Orissa where there is a great scope for plantation in consultation with the State Governments concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The measures taken to increase production of paper and paper board in the country and to contain the cost of production include *Inter-alla* the following :—

- (i) A capacity of 23.49 lakh tonnes per annum has already been installed as on 1.1.85 against the target of 20.5 lakh tonnes fixed for the Sixth Plan.
- (ii) An additional capacity of 34.8 lakh tonnes has been approved by way of industrial licences/Letters of Intent and registration with DGTD which is under various stages of implementation.

(iii) Excise rebates have been offered for use of unconventional raw materials by small paper mills, utilisation of bagasse, and for paper manufactured by new units.

(iv) Customs duty on imported pulp and wood chips totally exempted.

(v) Customs duty on wood in certain specified forms has been reduced from 100% to 10%.

(vi) Import duty on waste paper used for paper making has been waived.

(vii) Flexibility has been given to the paper industry for production of any variety of paper and paper grade pulp including paper board/straw board within the licensed capacity in line with the market demand.

(b) Raising of captive plantations will help to meet the long-term cellulosic raw material requirement of the industry.

(c) The various State Governments, including the Government of Orissa, have already been advised to draw up a Master Plan which would provide for Industry Oriented Plantations to be developed over a period of time in selected areas.

Decline in West Bengals's share in Leather Industry

510. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether West Bengal's share in leather industry's exports has been nosediving further creating an 'alarming situation' (Financial Express, New Delhi dated 11.2.1985);