

it is not food. I would only submit that in Bengali, we say 'jol khao' and not 'peevo'. That is why, coca cola, in my understanding is also food. So, I would like to know what the situation is with regard to coca cola, with all this talk about bringing back coca cola.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : With regard to the applications made by the Indian Company in collaboration with Pepsi-cola, I have already replied to that question and I have stated that the application has been rejected. The hon. member wanted to know about the Indian collaboration with the General Food Corporation of the USA. This collaboration was approved on 22nd July 1983. I have said in my reply that presently there is no proposal before the Government. The proposal which the hon. member is referring to, was approved in 1983 because this General Food Corporation of the USA wanted to manufacture soluble coffee, frozen and dried vegetable-based protein products and powdered food beverages. The collaboration has been approved on 22 July 1983, allowing foreign equity to the extent of 33-1/3 per cent and involving a royalty of 5 per cent and a lumpsum payment of US \$ 8 lakhs. The approval was subject to the condition that 60 per cent of its production should be exported. The advantage is, according to the company's projection, the export obligation would lead to foreign exchange inflow of Rs. 99.60 crores over the first five years. This is a sophisticated project and as it is in the interest of the country, it was done.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Firstly, I would like to know the exact foreign exchange flow and not the stipulated amount. The Minister in reply to my question (c) has stated that the proposals will be considered on merits, keeping in view the technology involved. I would like to know whether this industry of food products should be left to the indigenous sources, mainly for employment and for not allowing foreign people to enter this field. I want to know whether this will be considered and on this basis they should discourage this collaboration in the field of food.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : So far as collaboration is concerned, we have not allowed any foreign collaborator to exceed the equity, more than 40 per cent. That means even after collaboration, the majority of shares or equities are with the Indian Company. In the processing industries also, a lot of developments and a lot of revolution is taking place. For instance, products like Soyabean and other things.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakanta Digal.

SMT. GEETA MUKHERJEE : How much of foreign exchange has actually come through that agreement ?

MR. SPEAKER : The Industry Ministry is monopolising all the questions and you are monopolising all the supplementaries. Is that right ?

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is a greater need to improve the present food processing units existing in the country and if so whether any new incentives are proposed to be given and steps taken to improve the existing technology of the food processing units set up in the country ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : That is what I have already said. Wherever there is a scope and wherever there is a sophisticated technology to improve the food processing industry, if applications are received, they are considered on merits.

Inadequate Publicity about Incentives to Industries

***394. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether inadequate publicity has prevented the optimal use of the wide range of incentives offered by the Union and State Governments to various industries in the country ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for inadequate publicity on the part of Government ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard so that industries may make maximum use of the incentives available to them ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) to (c) A statement is given below.

Statement

(a) The Central Incentives and Subsidy Scheme for development of industrially backward areas has been given the widest publicity and the State Governments are aware of the details of the scheme. Figures of disbursement of subsidy during the last three years will prove that the scheme has elicited very good response. The figures are as follow :

Year	Amount
1982-83	Rs. 40.00 crores
1983-84	Rs. 53.20 crores
1984-85	Rs. 85.00 crores
1985-86 (upto July)	Rs. 33.42 crores

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK. Sir, the Minister has given the figures of subsidies during the last three years. These subsidies are given for the development of industrially backward areas. In the absence of infrastructure in the backward areas, the industries are not coming up there. It is a fact that many districts in the country are still industrially backward. It is the duty of the Government of India to improve the social and economic conditions of these areas and specially those in the backward States. May I know from the hon. Minister, whether such backward areas have been identified and whether some other measures have been taken up to set up industries in those areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : We already have

a list of backward areas and districts which are divided into three categories. Various incentives and concessions have already been announced under the Backward Areas Schemes, for these backward areas. The propose is to attract the industries, for economic development and industrialisation of these backward areas. So, all these concessions and incentives are given. Wherever the applications come, wherever the entrepreneurs approach us, then on the basis of the list of various districts which fall under category A, B and C, these concessions and incentives are extended for the industrialisation of these areas.

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government is going to revise the norms of the Gadgil formula so as to make available more Central assistance for the backward States like Orissa and whether this aspect has been considered in the National Development Council or not ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : The Member wants to know, whether this has been considered in the National Development Council. About this, I am not in a position to give any information ; but it has already been announced in this House that an Inter Ministerial Group has been constituted. This Group is to review the scheme. They have to assess the progress which has been made under this scheme, and we hope that by the end of this Year, this Group will be able to finalize their report, and they will be able to give their recommendations, so as to make this scheme for the backward areas more effective and attractive.

SHRI SALEEM I, SHERVANI : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government is thinking in terms of diverting the subsidy towards building better infrastructure in the backward areas, so that the industrialists themselves are encouraged to come to backward areas.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : We already have a scheme for the infrastructural development of the backward areas ; and under this scheme, assistance from the Central Government will be limited to one-third of the total cost of infrastructural development, subject to a maximum of Rs. 2 crores per district. Infrastructural faci-

ilities which would qualify for Central assistance are : approach roads, water works, effluent discharge system, common utilities and facilities, power sub-stations, drainage, culverts, industrial housing and additional facilities that are normally provided in growth centres by the State Government. One-third is to be provided by the State Government, and one-third comes from the Industrial Development Bank of India at concessional rates of interest.

SHRI ANAND GAJAPATHI RAJU :
The hon. Minister was mentioning some criteria for developing industries in backward areas ; but I would like to mention that the per capita income and other figures also should be taken into consideration ; and when the industrial policy is decided, then also dispersal of industry to backward areas should be done in a very scientific manner, because to-day it is being done, but not very scientifically and properly.

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
The hon. Member has given a suggestion for revising the norms. Since this Inter-Ministerial Group has already been constituted we will communicate the suggestion of the hon. Member to that Group. They will take it into consideration while finalizing their recommendations.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : My experience of five years has been that several times, suggestions have been made and answers have been given, and recommendations have been given by this House—not for having Centrally-declared backward districts, but for Centrally—declared backward talukas, i. e. for bringing it down to taluka level. Will this suggestion be considered by this Group itself ?

SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :
This Group will take this aspect also into consideration.

Modernisation of the Telecommunication Network

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

(a) whether France had offered to assist in the improvement and modernisation of the telecommunication network in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said proposal ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

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

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :
Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the reply given by the hon. Minister, the answer to first part of my question automatically answers the second part of my question. But the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated 11th June, 1985 had carried this news report :

'French collaboration in improving Telephone Services in Metropolitan cities'

Paris 10 June : France has put forth a proposal for bringing about extensive improvement and modernisation of Telecommunication network in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. France has also given a proposal to provide loan for the entire programme. The scheme involves a cost of Rs. 125 crores.

This proposal was made during the talks between the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the France Telecommunications Minister and Shri Gandhi has given a hint that he would consider it.

A senior officer in the French Ministry of Telecommunication told that the French Digital system was in use in 49 countries the world over. This official told that France has installed 23 Telephone Exchanges in India and that it can also help in the modernisation of telecommunications.....

MR. SPEAKER : Listen to me, are you here for asking questions or for reading newspapers ?