

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI) : (a) and (b). During the period April to June, 1986. Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, DVC, Orissa and North Eastern Region faced power shortage of more than 10 per cent. Power cuts/restrictions of varying degrees were enforced on industries. Power supply to agricultural sector was made by staggering of rural loads, grouping of feeders and limiting hours of power supply in some of the States.

(c) The steps taken to improve the supply of power include expediting commissioning of new capacity, better utilisation of existing capacity, implementing short gestation projects, reducing transmission and distribution losses, implementation of energy conservation and demand management measures and arranging transfer of energy from surplus to deficit States.

Difficulty in getting ordinary trunk calls.

550. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the general public has to face great difficulty in making ordinary trunk calls and have to wait for hours together; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to remove this difficulty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No Sir. On an average 50 to 78 per cent ordinary trunk calls become effective in major cities of the country. About 44 to 61 per cent of the matured ordinary trunk calls become effective within the prescribed norms of two hours. Urgent and higher priority trunk calls get overriding priority over the ordinary trunk calls. Also those ordinary trunk calls which involve one or more than one transits, suffer delay.

(b) Further attempts to bring an overall improvement in the trunk telephone services are being made, by computerising many of the functions of the trunk Exchanges in metro and major cities.

Term of appointment of top executives in public sector

551. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to increase the term of appointment of the top executives in the public sector;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) whether alongwith an increase of the term of those appointments, Government also propose to make executives in the public sector answerable to the Department for their lapses in the production and administrative mismanagement of the unit ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Government have already issued orders regarding appointment of Chief Executives, Functional Directors in public sector undertakings for a period of 5 years on contract basis with a provision that the Government will have the option to terminate the services with three months' notice.

(c) The Chief Executives/Functional Directors in public sector undertakings are always answerable to the Government for their lapses and mis-management of the unit irrespective of the period of their tenure.

Agreement on production cooperation by USSR with BHEL and HMT Ltd.

552. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA MURTY :
SHRI D. N. REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the USSR has reached an agreement with Bharat Heavy