

to coordinate amongst these technologies. This is how I am trying to approach. I am having a meeting with all the experts and advisers who are there to advise us in the field, and we will do what is best in the interest of our country and the people.

SHRI CHANDRA PRATAP NARAIN SINGH : We should think of reducing the rates also, Sir. Our rates are highest in the world.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Sir, I agree with the Minister that everything should be done to encourage indigenous technology, but at the same time, unless we are in touch with the latest technologies outside, we will not be up-to-date because development in electronics is so vast and so varied that we have to be in touch with the development everywhere in the world. Therefore, I would like to ask one question. It is not a fact that Government programme in the Seventh Plan for modernisation is stalled because of the delay in getting the latest equipment from their own indigenous technology? If so, what steps are you taking to fulfil the target of modernisation of this programme in the Seventh Plan?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, as I said, we will try to see how we can coordinate between indigenous potential as well as get the latest and the best. If indigenous potential wants some concession or some time, I would like to lean in favour of indigenous potential, even if that means a little delay. But I agree with the hon. Member that in this field where science and technology are taking more or less a quantum jump and going at a very fast speed, we cannot afford to lag behind the world if we are to be on par. This, we will bear in mind.

PROF. P. J. KURIEN : What is your target by the end of the Seventh Plan period?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, in the Seventh Plan, we will try to see how to keep it on schedule, that is, modernisation. That is what you want to know. Is it so?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : In his reply, the hon. Minister has referred to the people. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the fact that there are blocks in our country with just one telephone connection. A block covers a population of about more than one lakh of people and an area of more than one hundred square miles, sometimes. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, whether the technology is indigenous or imported, What his priority is? Is he going to provide minimum communication facility to the people in whose name you are speaking or more sophisticated, fashionable, and sometimes unnecessary system for the spoilt urban people?

MR. SPEAKER : How many are spoiled here?

SHRI VASANT SATHE : We always have the priority of the people and particularly, the people in the rural areas. Our objective is to have one public telephone, at least in every Panchayat Village.

SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY : By the end of the 21st Century.

MR. SPEAKER : There is a lot of difference between knowledge and belief.

SHRI VASANT SATHE : Sir, modern technology, if properly used, is capable of enabling us to reach this target at a very short space of time. We will try to do that.

Production of Paper

*200 **SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of paper mills set up till December, 1987 both under the private and the public sectors, State-wise; and

(b) the production of paper during the last two years in both sectors of the paper mills, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). A Statement is given below :

Statement

(a) The number of paper mills as on 1.1.1988 borne on the rolls of D.G.T.D., Statewise, are as follows :—

State/Union Territory	Total No. of Paper Mills	Central Public Sector units
1. Andhra Pradesh	16	..
2. Assam	3	1
3. Bihar	7	..
4. Chandigarh	1	..
5. Gujarat	37	..
6. Haryana	17	..
7. Himachal Pradesh	12	..
8. Karnataka	15	1
9. Kerala	2	..
10. Madhya Pradesh	12	..
11. Maharashtra	47	..
12. Nagaland	1	1
13. Orissa	12	..
14. Pondicherry	1	..
15. Punjab	17	..
16. Rajasthan	9	—
17. Tamil Nadu	18	..
18. Uttar Pradesh	52	..
19. West Bengal	20	—
TOTAL :—	299	3

(b) The production of paper and paperboard in the country during the last two years is given below :—

Year	Central Public Sector	Others	Total
	(In lakh tonnes)		
1986	0.48	15.32	15.80
1987 (provisional)	0.85	15.95	16.80

SHRI MOHANBHAI PATEL : Sir, the hon. Minister has stated in his reply that our domestic production of paper and paper-board is 16.80 lakh tonnes for the year 1987. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the total production of this quantity will meet the domestic demand or not. I would also like to know whether it is a fact that there is a shortfall in production of some kinds of papers in the country. If so, what is the quantum of shortfall in the country and how the Government is going to meet the domestic requirement of paper ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : As far as paper is concerned, there is no shortfall. Now, we have decontrolled this item and it is available freely in the market.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN : I would like to know from the hon. Minister that generally industries are opened in the district to develop the local economy. There are some districts where there are a lot of industries of Defence. But no development of the local economy has generated, like Jabalpur. It has got 5 Ordnance factories and it is supposed to be an over-developed industrial district. But there is no progress or no generation of local economy. Will the hon. Minister consider declaring such districts as 'no industry district' in spite of Ordnance factories located there ?

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO : The question is regarding paper mills and the supplementary of the hon. Member does not concern this subject.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, you may be aware that the number of industries in Rajasthan, is far less as compared to other States. Jhunjhunu and Sikar districts of Rajasthan do not have even a single industry. Although a big industrial unit is to be set up in Sikar soon, but there is no such scheme for Jhunjhunu. Keeping this in view, is there any proposal under consideration of the hon. Minister for setting up any industry in these two districts in the near future ?

MR. SPEAKER : You may give a reply to this question later on.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Manufacture of Tractors and Harvester Combines

*183. **SHRI JAGANNATH PATTA-NAIK :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to manufacture agricultural tractors and harvester combines as a joint venture of India and the USSR; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the latest position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (b). Government does not propose to manufacture agricultural tractors and harvester combines as a joint venture of India and the USSR.

Postal and Telecommunication facilities in hilly districts of Karnataka

*185. **SHRI G. DEVARAYA NAIK :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to provide more postal and telecommunication facilities in hilly districts of Karnataka, particularly Uttar Kannada;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

(c) Does not arise.