

Control over Cable T.V. ...

1567. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to exercise any control over cable television;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) to (c) The establishment of Cable Television Networks, with or without dish-antennae systems, is regulated, as present, under the "Indian Telegraph Act" 1885 and the Rules made thereunder. While no permission is required to lay cables within a private premises, a dish-antennae system for receiving TV signals direct from Satellite can be set up only after obtaining licence from the Government.

Sickness in joint sector enterprises

1568. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of joint sector enterprises become sick because of syphoning of funds by the satellite Companies owned and run by those who are the benamies or agents or close relatives of those in the Management bodies of the main joint sector enterprises; and

(b) if so, what effective steps are being taken by Government to arrest this hazard which hampers industrial progress in this country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, provisions exist under the sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 to deal with such eventualities.

Security along South East Coast of India

1569. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to sustain security along the South East Coast of India in view of Trincomalle being increasingly subjected to potentially unsafe influence of a super power country; and

(b) what steps are taken by Government to protect the Indian fishermen increasingly subjected to frequent harassment in Indian territorial waters by the violent terrorist group from a neighbouring country and also by the Naval force of Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government maintains a close watch over all developments and takes timely and effective measures to safeguard National security, at all times. Due attention has been given by the Government to the special security requirements of the South-East coast.

(b) No case of harassment of Indian fishermen in Indian territorial waters has come to the notice of the Government. The Indian Navy and the Coast Guard maintain continuous vigil/surveillance in Indian territorial waters to protect India's maritime interest, including Indian fishermen.

Granting dealership/appointing agents by Indian Petrochemical Corporation

1570. SHRI PRAKASH YASHWANT AMBEDKAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Petrochemical Corporation appoints agents or grants dealership;

(b) the norms for granting of dealership/appointing agents; and

(c) whether there is reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in granting dealership/appointing agents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) IPCL has a well established policy approved by its Board for the selection of dealers/agents. Dealers/agents are selected after a systematic scrutiny and assessment of the financial position, commercial experience in the relevant field and the availability of the infrastructural and communication facilities of the applicants.

While there is no specific reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates in the selection of dealers/agents, IPCL has a policy of giving preference to SC/ST candidates who fulfil the minimum requirement.

Arms Licence to M.Ps.

1571. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision for providing arms on out of turn basis to Members of Parliament, who hold licence for the purpose at market rate from the ordnance factories;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that if a Member of Parliament who is eligible to get licence for buying three arms purchases any arm from the market then in that case he is not eligible to purchase arms on out of turn basis from the Defence Ministry for five years; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would remove this condition of five years and allow him to buy at least one arm on out of turn basis?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Members of Parliament are eligible for "Out of turn" allotment of a weapon from the Ordnance Factories provided no weapon has been obtained by them ex-import/ex-Ordnance Factor-

ies during the preceding five years. The purpose of this condition is to enable large number of persons from all eligible Categories to avail of the facility.

(c) No, Sir.

1572. [Transferred to the 31st July, 1991]

Licencing limit

1573. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the industrial licensing limit Rs. 200 crores; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) No investment limit have been prescribed for exemption from the licensing provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act under the recently announced industrial policy.

Safety of nuclear power plants

1574. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to ensure the safety of the nuclear power plants in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details in this regard for the nuclear power plants in the country are as follows:

(i) Design of the plants based on the concept of defence in depth philosophy provides for safety features in the normal operation of the plant, preventing an accident and