

the new situation following which they will revert to the Government in the matter. So far, Government has not received any response from Tata Sons Limited.

(c) The disinvestment processes in VSNL, IBP, IPCL and Maruti Udyog are progressing according to programme. In Indian Airlines the disinvestment could not proceed due to lack of interested bidders. In the case of MTNL, Government would take a view after examining all aspects. In view of poor response of prospective bidders in case of Hindustan Copper Limited (phase I), the disinvestment in HCL may entail a financial restructuring of the company as a whole. As regards HZL, the sole financial bid received has been rejected since it fell short of the Reserve Price. Action has been initiated to ensure better response from the bidders when bids would be invited afresh.

Disinvestment of Policy

† 758. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no permanent and clear-cut policy of disinvestment;

(b) whether 249 public sector units have been earmarked for disinvestment;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it is also a fact that customers are not available even for the profit making undertakings;

(e) if so, the total number of such undertakings in the country which have become sick/are on the verge of closure due to Government's policy; and

(f) the effects thereof on our economy?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir. The disinvestment policy of the Government has been announced from time to time in the Parliament during the Budget speeches, and during debates on the matter.

(b) and (c) The policy covers all central PSUs, in the non-strategic areas. Currently, the number of enterprises, including subsidiaries, for which disinvestment has been approved by the Government and is currently under implementation is 30. These are: Air India Ltd. (AI), Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd. (BHPV), Computer Maintenance Corporation Ltd. (CMC),

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Engineering Project (India) Ltd. (EPIL), Hindustan Cables Ltd. (HCL), Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL) — Phase-I, Hindustan Organic Chemicals Ltd. (HOCL), Hindustan Salts Ltd., Hindustan Zinc Ltd., (HZL), HTL Limited, Indian Airlines Ltd. (IA), Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Ltd. (IPCL), India Tourism Development Corporation Ltd. (ITDC), IBP Ltd., Instrumentation Ltd., Jessop & Co. Ltd. (JCL), Madras Fertilizers Ltd. (MFL), Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (MMTC), National Fertilizers Ltd. (NFL), NEPA Ltd., Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL), Sponge Iron India Ltd. (SIIL), State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC), Tungbhadra Steel Products Ltd. (TSPL), Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL), Instrumentation Control Valves Ltd., (ICVL), Maruti Udyog Ltd., MECON Ltd., National Aluminium Company Ltd. (NALCO), Hotel Corporation of India Ltd. (HCIL).

(d) The response of the bidders to disinvestment in a particular PSU depends upon a variety of factors and it is difficult to generalise.

(e) The companies do not become sick due to the policy of the Government. The total number of loss-making enterprises, as per Public Enterprises Survey 1999-2000 is 106 during the year 1999-2000.

(f) An industry can turn sick for a variety of reasons. Disinvestment will help improve the functioning of the enterprises, and thereby lead to higher growth of the economy.

Disinvestment of heavy Industries in Public Sector

759. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the heavy industries, in the public sector, identified for disinvestment, till date;

(b) the names of those industries; and

(c) the total capital investment made by Government therein and the amount expected to be realised through disinvestment during 2001-2002?

THE MINISTER OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) The names of Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) under the administrative control of Department of Heavy Industry identified for disinvestment and the equity held by Government/holding companies are given in the Statement. (See below). The amount realizable by disinvestment of these PSUs would depend on factors like market conditions, financial performance of the companies under consideration, terms and conditions of sale, interest of bidders, attractiveness