

Salt production in Tamil Nadu

621. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of salt production in Tamil Nadu during the last two years;

(b) what steps have been taken to increase the production of salt; and

(c) what incentive and assistance are being given at present to salt producers in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The production of Salt in Tamil Nadu for the last 2 years is as follows:—

Year	Production in lakh tonnes
1986	17.07
1987	17.58

(b) Due to drought conditions during the last 3 years, Tamil Nadu had prolonged salt manufacturing seasons, resulting in increased production of salt. No specific steps are considered necessary to increase the production of salt.

(c) Salt producers/workers in Tamil Nadu are at present getting the following assistance from the Government:—

- (1) Technical guidance is being rendered for scientific lay-out of salt works and improvement in quality of salt etc.
- (2) Training programmes are organised for the salt workers, artisans and salt manufacturers on quality control, scientific method of salt manufacture and analysis of salt.
- (3) Financial assistance is being extended for the execution of deve-

lopment works benefiting the Salt Industry such as augmentation of brine supply, construction of roads, channels and bridges and flood preventive works etc. Labour welfare measures such as provision of potable water supply, construction of labour rest sheds and educational and re-creational facilities etc. are being provided.

(4) Grant of loans to the salt manufacturers for expanding salt works, purchase and installation of plant and machinery etc.

(5) Providing financial assistance to the salt works damaged on account of natural calamities like floods, cyclones, heavy rains etc. in the form of ex-gratia grants and development loans.

(6) Allotment of priority rail wagon quota for despatch of salt to consuming centres.

Manufacturing of items by the small scale sector

622. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA:
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the items for manufacture in the small scale sector for which a licence is necessary;

(b) what are the names of the items which were earlier banned for manufacture in the small scale sector but are now allowed for manufacture in Centrally declared backward areas; and

(c) what are the names of the items which are still banned for manufacture in the small scale sector and since when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The lists of industries for which an industrial licence is required even by the small scale industrial undertakings are given in Schedules I & II to