

lated for eliciting public opinion; and

(b) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE DEPARTMENT OF
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a)
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Unsatisfactory telephone system in
Bhopal**

153. DR. MOHD. HASHIM
KIDWAI : Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to
state :

(a) whether Government attention
has been drawn to the news item which
appeared in the *Time* of India* dated the
24th June, 1986 to the effect that 150
MLAs had sent a memorandum to the
Union Minister for Communications
against the chaotic telephonic system of
Bhopal ;

(b) if so, what action has been taken
by Government in this regard and what
steps have been taken so far to improve
the working of telephone systems in
Bhopal ;

(c) whether similar reports have
been received from other cities ; and

(d) if so, what remedial measures
Government propose to take in this
regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF
THE MINISTRY OF COMMU-
NICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS
MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information was available
even earlier from performance reports,
Officers from Directorate visited
Bhopal. Deficiencies were identified,
remedial measures have been taken to
speed up upgradation of the

system by deputing additional techni-
cian and Assistant Engineer, and also
initiating action against some
delinquents.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view
of reply at (c) above.

**Indian Telephone Industry, Rae
Bareilly**

154. SHRI M. S. GURUPADA-
SWAMY : Will the Minister of
COMMUNICATIONS be pleased
to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Gov-
ernment propose to introduce the latest
telecommunication technology at Rae
Bareilly unit of Indian Telephone
Industries ;

(b) if so, whether similar techno-
logy has been proposed to be intro-
duced in other units of the ITI; if so,
the details thereof ; and

(c) whether the production of
equipment and fleding components
at the cross bar factory at Rae Bareilly
is proposed to be discontinued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN
THE MINISTRY OF COMMU-
NICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS*
MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) No Sir, at
present, there is no proposal under
consideration of the Government for
introduction of latest telecommunica-
tion technology at Rae Bareilly Unit of
Indian Telephone Industries.

(c) No, Sir.

Heads of public sector drug units

155. DR. BAPU KALDATE :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be
pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that several
chiefs of the public sector drug and
pharmaceuticals units have either

resigned or submitted their resignations; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether the resignation of the Managing Director of the Smith Stanistreet Pharmaceuticals has since been accepted; if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b) The resignation submitted by Chairman and Managing Director, Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and Managing Director, Bhopal Immunity Limited have been accepted and they have already been relieved.

Th? resignation submitted by the Managing Director, Smith Stanistreet and Pharmaceuticals Limited as w 11 as making suitable alternative arrangements are being processed.

Import of Caprolactam

156. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have curtailed/restricted the imports of caprolactam, a basic raw material required by the nylon industry for producing nylon yarn and tyre cord, despite the fact that the indigenous supply is insufficient to meet the requirements; if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have made any arrangement to know how far the restriction imposed is likely to affect the production planning of the nylon industry beside its growth; and

(c) whether Government would reconsider its decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) As per Import and Export Policy 1985-88 the import of capro-lactam is allowed under the limited permissible category. The quantities permitted to be imported are determined taking into account the availability from indigenous sources.

Demands for telephone connections

157. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any assessment of the demands for telephones in the country by the end of this century has been made by Government;

(b) whether any special programme has since been chalked out by Government to meet the same; and

(c) if so, the number of new telephone exchanges likely to be opened by 2000 AD in the country and how much of funds have been allocated in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Estimated demand of telephones in the country by the end of this century is 300 lakh connections.

(b) No, Sir. Financial constraints are adversely affecting the development of the Telecommunications sector.

(c) It is not possible at this stage to indicate the number of new exchanges expected to be commissioned by 2000 A.D. in the country. An allocation of Rs. 4010 crores for the 7th Plan only has been made.