

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 *Times 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 COMMUNICATIONS
(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 technician 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
Bareli**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce the latest telecommunication technology at Rae Bareli unit of Indian Telephone Industries ;

(b) if so, whether similar technology has been proposed to be introduced in other units of the ITI; if so, the details thereof ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) No Sir, at present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for introduction of latest telecommunication technology at Rae Bareli 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.

The resignation submitted by the Managing Director, Smith Stanistreet and Pharmaceuticals Limited as well 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 assessment 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 caprolactam 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 A.D. 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.