

Communication policy

1215. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to evolve a national communication policy and if so, whether details of the proposed policy are being worked out; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to consult the opposition parties in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRKHA): (a) and (b) The policy is being formulated.

Study conducted by Industrial Toxicology Research Centre

1216. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that according to the study conducted by the Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, as reported in the 'Times of India' dated the 16th July, 1985, the use of solid and liquid household detergents can cause several dermatological diseases, including cancer and that with the heavy concentration of detergent dust in the manufacturing units, the employees are suffering from various ailments, such as nausea, nasal congestion, respiratory problems and eye irritation etc.; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) A paper was published by one of the Scientists of Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, Lucknow, in 1982 highlighting some of the hazards involved in the manufacture and use of synthetic detergents and also the possibility of dermatological diseases including cancer on prolonged contact with poor quality detergent formulations.

Industrial Toxicology Research Centre, has taken up studies on various commercial detergent and cosmetic preparations which are in progress. It cannot be confirmed at this stage that the use of solid and liquid household detergents can cause several dermatological diseases including cancer. ITRC has not conducted any survey of employees engaged in the detergent industry.

(b) Indian Standard Institution is examining the safety aspects in use of synthetic detergents and expect to formulate method of safety evaluation of synthetic detergents.

Allotment of Maruti cars and vans

1217. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the region-wise allotment of Maruti cars and vans till date;

(b) the number of vehicles allotted to the four metropolitan cities so far; and

(c) whether it is a fact that no norms are being followed in allotting the vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The region-wise supply of Cars & Vans up to 30th June, 1985 is as under:—

	Cars	Vans
Northern	14,803	2,409
Eastern	3,811	736
Southern	4,319	778
Western	7,230	1,085
TOTAL	30,163	5,008