

Exemption from minimum standards maintenance

4660. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether some items used in industry such as switch gears have been exempted from the test of minimum standards maintenance;
- (b) if so, the reasons behind this decision; and
- (c) the list of such items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (c) Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion *vide* Electrical Wires, Cables, Appliances and Protection Devices and Accessories (Quality Control) Order, 2003 published in the official gazette *vide* S.O. 189(E) dated 17th February, 2003 had brought 24 electrical items including low voltage switchgears under mandatory certification of Bureau of Indian Standards. Subsequently, that Department *vide* its notification published in the official gazette *vide* S.O. 165(E) dated 5th February, 2004 had deleted the following switchgears and control gears from the Quality Control Order on the ground that these items are not used by the common man but are mainly for industrial purposes:—

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| 1. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.2)
circuit breakers | IS 13947 (Pt.2) |
| 2. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.3)
switches, disconnectors, switch disconnectors and
fuse combination units | IS 13947 (Pt.3) |
| 3. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.4)
contactors and motor starters | IS 13947 (Pt.4) |
| 4. | Low voltage switchgear and control gear (Pt.5)
control circuit devices and switching elements | IS 13947 (Pt.5) |

Allocation of APL quota of rice to Tamil Nadu

4661. SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the allocation of rice to Tamil Nadu for the Above Poverty Line (APL) families from the Central pool under PDS for the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) whether the allocation is having a downward trend;
- (c) if so, the reasons for reduction of APL quota of rice to the State which has affected the APL card holders of the State;
- (d) whether Government proposes to increase the allocation of rice to the State; and