

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). Central investments in Public Sector industries are not decided with a view to distribute such investments State-wise. In deciding the location of public sector undertakings many factors, mostly techno-economic, are taken into consideration. Subject to these considerations, locations are decided keeping in view regional balancing.

Review of Public Sector Undertakings

386. SHRI B. V. DESAI :
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the performance of the public sector undertakings under the Department of Public Enterprises of the Ministry of Industry was reviewed in a series of meetings held on 16th and 17th October, 1985;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed and decisions arrived at during the two-day meeting;

(c) whether any guidelines have been issued to these public sector undertakings to improve the performance; and

(d) the steps likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI NARAYAN DUTT TIWARI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Amongst the subjects discussed were production, financial results, technology upgradation, productivity, Research and Development, closer monitoring of performance at Corporate and Ministry level. The Public Sector Undertakings have been advised to update their Corporate Plans, to strengthen their R and D activity, to constantly upgrade their technologies and to improve productivity. The monitoring at Corporate and Ministry is to be strengthened. It has been decided that the progress on these subjects will be reviewed periodically.

Drop in sales and prospects of production in commercial vehicles industry

387. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether segments of commercial vehicles industry are facing hard times with a sudden drop in sales and prospects of production cutbacks over the next three months, both in the main and in the related industries;

(b) whether some of the ancillary industries have already cut their output and some are about to opt for a lower output in a bid to adjust themselves to the new situation;

(c) if so, the main reasons for this; and

(d) the assistance and help that are being provided to the industries by the Union Government to over-come this difficulty ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir. However, sales have been stagnating at the 1984-85 level due to lack of growth in demand.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Setting up Digital Switching Unit

388. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications is sceptical about the Indian Telephone Industry's claim that all major components for the proposed two digital switching factories at Palghat and Bangalore can be obtained from ancillary units;

(b) whether the ITI has proposed that as against the originally estimated cost of Rs. 177 crores for a 5 lakh lines per annum digital switching unit, two factories can be set up;

(c) whether it is a fact that the capital cost has been reduced by decentralisation of production and ancillarisation;

(d) if so, whether the ITI has proposed to Government that similar decentralisation and ancillarisation strategy is being followed