

(c) the reasons for shortage; and

(d) what steps are being taken to meet this threat?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):

(a) to (d). Government are aware that the demand for paper and paper board is likely to exceed domestic production by about 75000 tonnes, in 1979. Steps are being taken to increase production and it is also planned to import paper, to meet the demand.

Factors for Shortfalls of Industrial Production

2580. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether of late there has been considerable fall in the industrial growth in the country;

(b) if so, the extent of fall in industrial production registered in 1977-78 and the factors contributing to such shortfalls; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to remove the bottlenecks, if any, and to increase the growth rate?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES):

(a) No, Sir. In fact, industrial production which increased by 3.9 per cent during the fiscal year 1977-78, has shown a marked uptrend during the seven months. The index of industrial production compiled by the Central Statistical Organisation showed an increase of 8.3 per cent during April—August, 1978 according to the preliminary estimates available. The rate of industrial growth was also maintained around this level in the subsequent two months.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have taken special measures to ensure adequate supplies of essential raw materials. Imports

of raw materials and components are also being permitted to meet the full requirements of industry. The arrangements for monitoring production in the industrial sector have been strengthened; and special attention is being paid to resolving quickly difficulties arising from localised or temporary shortages of power, transport, etc. Government will continue to take whatever measures are necessary to sustain and further improve the rate of growth of industrial production.

Criteria for selecting Persons for talks on T.V./A.I.R.

2581. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria followed by the Government in selecting persons for giving talks on Radio/TV on various topics; and

(b) the names of persons selected to give talk on TV/Rradio at Madras, Delhi & Bombay during the last one year and the number of occasions on which the same persons were invited more than once during this period giving the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) The criteria followed at present for selection of persons for giving talks on Radio/TV on various topics are the merit, the expertise in the subject and the suitability of the artiste and talker for Radio and TV, as the case may be.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Pending Proposals to Revive Sick Mills

2582. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals pending with Government to revive the