

(b) if so, the likely date by which this recommendation will be implemented; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN-
TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN-
FORMATION AND BROADCASTING
(SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) The Joshi
Committee has not recommended any such
separate channel.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Amendments to ONGC Act

*383. SHRI AJOY BISWAS: Will the
Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL
GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Malaviya Committee
and other Committees have recommended
comprehensive amendments to the Oil and
Natural Gas Commission Act, 1959;

(b) whether the ONGC has put forward
for consideration of Government these
amendments to the Act; and

(c) if so, what steps Government pro-
pose to take to modify the provisions of the
ONGC Act at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATU-
RAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) and
(b). Yes, Sir.

(c) Action has been initiated to amend
the Act in respect of those provisions where
modifications have been considered neces-
sary.

Reopening of Ashok Paper Mills

*384. SHRI ABDUL HAMID: Will the
Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the revival and
rehabilitation of the Ashok Paper Mills of
Assam including the amount paid;

(b) the outcome thereof; and

(c) when the Mill is likely to be reo-
pened?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI
J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c). The Central
Government has offered to provide neces-
sary assistance to the Government of As-
sam for the reopening of Ashok Paper Mills
as envisaged in the Assam Accord. Consul-
tations with the Government of Assam on the
modalities for the revival and reopening of
Ashok Paper Mills are in progress.

A sum of Rs. 2.84 crores was released
to the Government of Assam in August, 1986
as ways and means advance forwards pay-
ment of post salaries and wages of employ-
ees and for emergent repair of plant, build-
ings and equipment of Jogighopa unit. This
advance was later on converted into non-
plan grant in March, 1987.

On a reference made by the Company
in June, 1987, the Board for Industrial and
Financial Reconstruction has declared
Ashok Paper Mills as a Sick Industrial
Company in terms of Sick Industrial Compa-
nies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985, and has
initiated necessary proceedings under the
Act.

Inclusion of Andal and Pandaveswar Exchanges in Rural Automatic Ex- changes

*385. SHRI PURNA CHANDRA
MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for
inclusion of Andal and Pandaveswar Ex-
changes in the Rural Automatic Exchange;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH). (a)
No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

- (c) i) Pandaveswar does not qualify for a C-DOT RAX due to inadequate demand.
- ii) A 500 line PLU at Andal forming part of E-10-B Exchange at Asansol is proposed in 1990-91.

Collaboration with Japan in High Tech. Areas

3754. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India wants Japanese firms to invest in high tech. areas of certain fields of industry;

(b) if so, whether discussions have been held with representatives of the Indian industry about the possible areas of collaboration between India and Japan and the items have been shortlisted; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Discussions between the enterprises of both the countries take place

on a continuous basis at various levels and in different forums and the areas of mutual co-operation are discussed and the projects for joint co-operation are identified. The important areas which have attracted Indo-Japanese co-operation include automobiles, electronics, electrical items, industrial machinery, fertilizers, chemicals etc. Fresh areas stressed for Indo-Japanese co-operation pertain to high technology areas, in export-oriented or import substitution manufacturing industries

Blacklisted Companies

3755. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of companies/ parties which have been blacklisted by the project department of the Indian Oil Corporation for engineering;

(b) the amount of damages, if any, recovered by Government from these companies/ parties; and

(c) if no amount has been recovered the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT): (a) The details of the companies/parties which are currently blacklisted/banned by IOC are as under:

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| 1. M/s. R.B. Bholanath & Co.,
A-64B, Nizamuddin (East),
NEW DELHI. | 5. M/s. Chandak Engg. Works,
8-E, Kailash Apartment,
35/1, Jawaharlal Nehru Road,
CALCUTTA-71 |
| 2. M/s. Deepak Constn. Co.,
A-64-B, Nizamuddin (East),
NEW DELHI. | 6. M/s. Prasad & Prasad Constn. Co.,
1428-B, Chowki Bagh Bahadur,
MATHURA. |
| 3. M/s. Dilip Manna,
P.O. Haldia Oil Refinery, Haldia,
MIDNAPUR-721 635. | 7. M/s. K.Paramasiv Mudaliar,
No.16, Coats Road,
T. Nagar,
MADRAS. |
| 4. M/S. N.N. Desai,
BOMBAY. | |