

(b) After examining various alternatives, the Committee recommended the setting up of facilities at Udyogamandal for the manufacture of caprolactum. A detailed appraisal of the Techno-economic feasibility report submitted by the company for the setting up of a caprolactum plant is on hand.

Appointment of Head of A.I.R. and T.V.

*862. SHRI K. MALLANNA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Directors-General of both the organisations, All India Radio and Doordarshan have been retired on 31st March, 1979;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint an I.A.S. officer with some previous background of handling the media as an interim head of both the Radio and Television until the media are 're-structured' in the light of the Verghese Committee report; and

(c) details regarding the policy of Government to combine Radio and Television into one unit?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) to (c). On reaching the age of superannuation, Shri P. C. Chatterji, Director General, All India Radio and Shri P. V. Krishnamoorthy, Director General, Doordarshan, have retired from service on the 31st March, 1979. There is no proposal to restrict the choice of the Director-General to any particular Service. The Government have yet to take a view on the Verghese Group's recommendations.

Closure of Small Scale Units of Synthetic Ropes etc.

*863. DR. P. V. PERIASAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the grant of licences for the manufacture of synthetic ropes in large scale sector with foreign technical financial and foreign brand name collaboration to Garware, Nirilon, National Rayon and Shriram Rayon has led to the closure of 50 small scale units engaged in the manufacture of nylon ropes;

(b) whether the big units, having the raw materials like caprolactum are switching off their supply to small units at will; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to protect the small industries from the big units manufacturing products reserved for small scale sector?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) M/s Garware Wall Ropes Ltd. is the only Company holding an industrial licence for the manufacture of ropes above four inches circumference. The manufacture of such ropes is outside the scope of the small scale sector and hence the closure of small scale units should not arise.

(b) and (c). The question of switching off of supplies of raw materials like caprolactam to small units does not arise because such units produce synthetic ropes from nylon moulding powder. Moreover caprolactam is produced by the Gujarat State Fertilizer Company which does not produce synthetic ropes.

Shortage of Linear Alkyl Benzene Dodecyl Benzene and Soda Ash

*864. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to meet the shortage of basic raw-material like Linear Alkyl Benzene (LAB) Dodecyl Benzene (DDB) and Soda Ash especially in the small and tiny sector;

(b) how many new import licences have been issued by the STC or by