

exchanges are proposed to be installed during the 8th Plan.

(b) Eight (8).

(c) The waiting list for telephones in the towns/cities (as classified in 1981 Census) of Vidarbha region is about 29300 as on 31.3.90. It has been planned to clear progressively the present waiting list by the end of the 8th Plan.

Requirement of Phosphoric Acid

2408. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement and produc-

tion of phosphoric acid in the country and how it is met;

(b) whether the Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-operative Limited has decided to purchase an existing phosphoric acid plant in the United States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) The total requirement of phosphoric acid of the fertilizer industry based on installed capacity and indigenous production during the last three years, were as under:—

(in '000' MTs)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total requirement</i>	<i>Indigenous production</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
1987-88	1788	307
1988-89	1935	329
1989-90	1935	344

The gap is met, as far as possible, through imports.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Setting up of Fertilizer Plant at Vedaranyam

2409. SHRI B. RAJA RAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set

up a fertilizer plant at Vedaranyam; and
(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA): (a) No, Sir.
(b) Does not arise.

Output of IFFCO

2410. SHRI BHABANI SHANKAR HOTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: