

Statement

It has been decided to STD bar most of the P&T service connections as a measure of economy at all exchanges where facility for STD barring exists or becomes available. In such exchanges STD facility should be barred from all office connections for officers below the rank of Divisional Engineer Telegraphs/Sr. Supdt. of Post Offices and equivalent. The office connections would also include those provided in Telegraph Offices, Telephone Exchanges, Post Offices, etc.

In regard to residential connections, the STD service may be barred from connections provided for officers below the gazetted ranks and on request from officers of gazetted ranks.

Exceptions to the general policy indicated in para 2 above may be made in very special cases by the Heads of Offices (not below the rank of Directors) after recording the reasons why it is considered essential to allow STD facility in the particular cases in public interest. A list of cases in which exceptions are made should be forwarded to the Director General, Posts & Telegraphs (PHA Section) together with the reasons recorded in each case. In respect of STD barred connections, access to the trunk service will be available as usual, i.e. via the manual trunk exchange.

Cement factory at Cooch Behar; West Bengal

6056. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received a scheme from the Government of West Bengal to issue a licence for a cement factory at Cooch Behar, West Bengal;

(b) if so, the outlines of the scheme proposed investment and employment potential and the time by which the Scheme will be cleared by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons for delay in clearing the project?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). An application has been received for a licence from the Government Meghalaya for the setting up of a cement factory at Garo Hills/Cooch Behar as a joint venture with the Government of West Bengal. A sum of Rs. 17 crores is to be spent on the scheme. About 900 persons are likely to get employment in various capacities. The application is being examined in consultation with the various authorities.

Cigarette factory at Cooch Behar, West Bengal

6057. SHRI R. N. BARMAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has received a request from the Government of West Bengal for the issue of a licence for a cigarette factory to be started at Cooch Behar, (West West Bengal);

(b) if so, the outlines of the scheme, proposed investment and employment potential and how soon the same will be cleared by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) and (b). Recently a proposal was received from the Government of West Bengal for approval in principle to the setting up of a new industrial undertaking in Cooch Behar District for the manufacture of cigarettes by a company with foreign investment. The State Government have been informed that in view of the foreign investment involved, the dominance of foreign companies in this industry and the priority to be

assigned to this industry, the proposal could not be viewed with sympathy. They have however been informed that any other proposal sponsored by the State Government in an acceptable form could be considered.

Civil Force to cope with various Internal Threats to the Country

6058. SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH;
SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government are considering to set up a strong civil force to cope with various internal threats to the country's security; and

(b) if so, when the final decision is likely to be taken?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) No such proposal is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

पांचवीं योजना का मसौदा

6059. श्री हुकम चन्द कदवाय :
क्या योजना मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पांचवी योजना का अन्तिम मसौदा इस बीच तैयार कर लिया गया है, और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके कब तक तैयार हो जाने की संभावना है ?

योजना मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मोहन भारिया) : (क) पांचवी पंचवर्षीय योजना का प्रारूप तैयार किया जा रहा है ।

(ख) सितम्बर, 1973 के अन्त तक ।

International News Agency

6060. SHRI FATESINGHRAO GAEKWAD:

DR. RANEN SEN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that news about India and other Asian countries tend to be one-sided or slanted in favour of the West because the global news agencies incorporated in the Western countries dominate in Asia;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any efforts towards promoting an International News Agency in collaboration with other Asian countries; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof and the results achieved?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government consider it desirable to strive for greater flow of information between developing countries in Asia through bilateral arrangements between Indian news agencies and the news agencies in the countries concerned.

(c) Does not arise.

Utilization of mass media in curbing violence

6061. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mass media can be successfully utilised in curbing violence by opening and maintaining channels of effective communications between the people and the policy-makers;