

(a) whether there is any proposal to improve the facilities at Badagara Telephone Exchange in Kerala in view of the increase in demand for new telephone connections; and

(b) whether keeping in view the fact that thousands of Keralites living in gulf countries hail from Northern Kerala, Government propose to extend direct dialling facilities from Northern Kerala to Gulf countries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Badgara exchange at present is a 900 line MAX II exchange. A 200 line equipment for expansion of the existing exchange has been allotted in 1985-86 supply programme. The exchange is likely to be expanded at the end of 7th Plan.

(b) International Trunk Exchanges at Ernakulam and Trivandrum have facilities of directly dialling calls to Gulf countries as well as many other countries. These International Trunk Exchanges connect calls from all parts of Kerala; South as well as North.

Provision of an International Exchange at Calicut is also under consideration.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Cement Factories in Rajasthan for proper Utilisation of Deposits of Limestone

4897. SHRI VISHNU MODI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether, with a view to achieving balanced economic regional development of Rajasthan through exploration of natural resources, the State Government submitted any proposal or suggestion to Union Government for setting up of more as well as big cement factories for proper utilisation of the rich deposits of limestone there;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered any proposal for granting licences for these big cement factories;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d) A suggestion to the effect that the Cement Corporation may set up two one-million tonne cement plants—one at Shambhupura and another at Bundi in Rajasthan has been received. As the Seventh Plan outlay in respect of the Cement Corporation has not yet been finalised, no final decision in the matter has yet been taken by the Government.

[*English*]

Manufacture of Jelly filled Cables

4898. SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have issued any letter of intent for manufacture of Jelly filled cable to Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s. Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation have been granted letter of intent No. LI : 880 (81) dated 31.12.1981 for the establishment of new Undertaking in a Backward District in Bihar State to manufacture 5 lakh CKM per annum Jelly filled cables. The Letter of Intent is valid upto 30.6.1985 (as extended). Foreign Collaboration application of the company has been cleared and F.C. agreement with M/s. AEG-Telefunken of West Germany has been taken on record.

12.00 hrs.

[*Translation*]

SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV (NALANDA) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have given a calling Attention Notice.