

approved by the Planning Commission. Targets however will be fixed after approval is received from the Planning Commission of the annual plans from year to year.

In regard to Telecommunications the Ministry had submitted draft proposals for the 7th Plan envisages an outlay of about Rs. 13,000 crores. The proposal are under discussion with the Planning Commission who have indicated that the resources to this extent may not be available and the draft proposals will have to be scaled down substantially.

The draft plan had proposed to provide telephone and telex connections all over India including Andhra Pradesh practically on demand. This would have involved nearly doubling the telephone exchange capacity and substantial increase in the telex capacity. It also proposed provision of long distance public telephones within 5 Kms of practically every habitation, involving an addition of 2,159 long distance public telephones to the existing 3735.

In view of the limited resources the proposals will be finalised once the total allocation has been agreed to.

Issue of Commemorative stamps

146. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposals has been received from Orissa for issue of commemorative stamps ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals are being considered in the context of issue of a series of stamps depicting landmarks in India's struggle for freedom.

Setting up of paper plants in Mehboobnagar District. A.P.

147. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether raw material required for manufacturing the paper is abundantly available in Kachempet Taluk, Mehboobnagar District (Andhra Pradesh) and sent to other parts of the country for manufacturing paper ;

(b) if so, whether keeping in view the availability of raw material i.e. the bamboo and grass, Government are considering to set up some factories in Andhra Pradesh for the manufacturing of paper ;

(c) whether State Government of Andhra Pradesh have also approached Union Government in this regard ; and

(d) the details of assistance that Government are providing to the State Government for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Exact information about availability of adequate forest raw material on a sustained basis to support a large paper mill in Kachempet Taluk, Mehboobnagar in the State of Andhra Pradesh is not available.

(b) There are at present 15 units in the State of Andhra Pradesh with an installed capacity of 3.29 lakh tonnes per annum, engaged in manufacture of paper and paperboard. The Central Government has no proposal to establish any additional unit in the State of Andhra Pradesh for manufacture of paper or paperboard.

(c) and (d). No proposal has been received for grant of industrial licence for setting up of paper mills in the State Sector based on forest raw materials. The Central Government have recently de-licensed setting up of capacity for manufacture of writing, printing and wrapping paper from agricultural residues, waste and bagasse.

Details of Newsprint plant set up in Tamil Nadu

148. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether bagasse based newsprint factory has been set up in Tamil Nadu ;

(h) if so, the cost at which the factory was set up, its annual production and when it is expected to start production ;

(c) what will be the quality of the paper produced ;

(d) the extent to which foreign exchange will be saved as a result of production of paper at the factory ; and

(e) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to set up such a factory in Andhra Pradesh also, if so, details thereof and if not reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARII MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Ltd. with an annual capacity of 50,000 tonnes of newsprint and 40,000 ton-

nes of writing and printing paper has been set up at a cost of Rs. 230 crores. Production of newsprint has already commenced in the unit.

(c) The quality of newsprint produced by the factory is expected to be on par with that of other units in the country.

(d) At full production of newsprint from the unit, foreign exchange to the extent of about Rs. 30 crores is expected to be saved.

(e) The Central Government have no proposal at present under consideration to set up such an unit in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Letters of Intent as indicated below have however been granted for setting up capacity for manufacture of newsprint in the state of Andhra Pradesh ; which are under various stages of implementation :

Name	Location	Annual installed capacity	Process
1. Shri B. Hanumantha Rao	Vijaygwada Distt. Krishna	40,000	De-inking
2. Shri Cleetus Vincent	Teh. and District Srikakulam	30,000	-do-
3. M/s. Deccan Cements	Tehsil Masulipatnam Distt. Krishna	40,000	-do-
4. Shri Sarvarayalu	-do-	80,000	-do-

Expansion and Modernisation of Telex Net Work

149. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced high priority for the expansion and modernisation of the telex net work in the country ;

(b) if so, the number of electronic telex exchanges to be set up in the country together with location thereof during Seventh Plan ;

(c) the extent to which these exchanges will be in a position to meet the requirements ;

(d) whether some such exchanges will be set up in Andhra Pradesh, if so, locations thereof together with their capacity ; and

(e) the expected expenditure to be incurred in the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 4 Electronic Telex Exchanges have already been set up at Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras. During the 7th plan, 10 more electronic telex exchanges are proposed to be set up at :

Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Jaipur, Erna-