#### \* Provisional

@ Excluding 604 tonnes sales of Lubes & Greases for which state-wise break-up is not available.

## Criteria for opening new Telephone Exchanges in villages

4727. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria laid down by Government for opening new telephone exchanges in villages;
- (b) whether any minimum number of subscribers has been laid down as one of the criteria for opening new telephone exchanges in villages;
- (c) if so, what is the minimum number and whether that minimum limit is to be followed in all cases; and
- (d) the reasons for not opening telephone exchanges in villages of Dahod (Gujarat) when these are said to fulfil the

minimum limit of subscribers and other criteria?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The information is given in Statement below.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) The minimum limit is to be followed in all cases, the information about minimum number is given in Statement given below.
- (d) There is no case pending that fulfills all the stipulated conditions for opening of telephone exchange in Dahod at present.

#### Statement

Policy regarding opening of new Telephone Exchanges in rural/backward and hilly areas.

Under the normal rules of the Posts & Telegraphs Department, projects for opening of Telephone Exchanges are sanctioned only after carrying out a financial appraisal of the project and ensuring that the annual recurring expenditure does not exceed the anticipated annual revenue. With increasing cost of equipment, stores and labour, however, it has been found that a large number of projects for small exchanges in rural areas prove unremunerative not only in the initial stages but also after the full connectable capacity is utilised. To permit extention of telephone services in rural areas, following liberalised policy for opening expansion of telephone exchanges upto 100 lines capacity has been adopted with effect from This is subject to availability 1-4-1980. of finance and materials.

- be opened and expanded in rural areas upto 100 lines, capacity without insisting on each individual project being remunerative. Instead the opening and expansion of such exchanges shall be governed by the demand for private and public (other than service) telephone connections.
- (ii) A 10 lines exchange may be provided there is a opened, minimum telephone demand for 5 (five) such connections in a group of villages village or a radius of 5 Kms of within the central village subject to the anticipated revenue being at least 35 per cent of the anticipated expenditure. annual recurring (This is not applicable for the time being since a 10 lines small automatic exchange is being developed, reference may also please be made to para (v) below).
- (iii) The 10 lines exchanges may be replaced by or a new 25 lines

- exchange may be installed if there is a demand for 10 such connections in a village or group of villages within a radius of of 5 Kms of the Central village subject to the anticipated revenue being at least 40 per cent of the anticipated A.R.E.
- (iv) The 25 lines exchange may to replaced by a 50 lines exchange when the demand reaches 23 and a 50 lines exchange may be expanded to 100 lines when the demand reaches 46 subject to the anticipated revenue being 60 per cent and 70 per cent respectively of the anticipated A.R.E.
- (v) In general, the initial capacity of a small automatic exchange at a new station should not exceed 10 lines. However, in view of the fact that development work is still in progress on a 10 lines electronic SAX and the smallest exchange available as on date is of 25 lines exchanges till 10 lines SAXs are available freely, subject, of course to the minimum demand for 10 regular private and public connections (other than service).

The above liberalised policy is applicable for opening/expansion of automatic exchanges.

- 2. Opening of small manual exchanges involves employment of a minimum of 5 operators to provide round the clock service throughout the week. As such opening of small manual exchanges involves much higher losses. It is, therefore, normally not envisaged that a manual exchange with less than 100 lines should be opened.
- 3. Thus at present Heads of Tele-communications Circles are sanctioning schemes for opening of 25 lines small automatic exchanges wherever at least 10 prospective subscribers register their demands with prescribed advance deposit of Rs. 100/- For this purpose the prospective subscribers may contact the Sub-Divisional Officer Phones/Telegraphs of the area.

4. The opening of such exchanges involves renting out a suitable building and procurement of exchange equipment, power plant, batteries, cables, line materials etc. It, therefore, may take upto about 24 months for the exchange to be commissioned conce the scheme is approved.

#### Setting up of second Gas terminal at Usar Maharashtra

4728. SHRI BANWARI LAL PURO-HIT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether during February, 1986 the Union Government had received any proposal from Government of Maharashtra to set up a second gas terminal at Usar in Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, whether the Planning Commission has since given its approval; and
- (c) if so, when the proposed second gas terminal will be set up at Usar in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). As there is no provision of funds in the 7th Five Year Plan of ONGC for this purpose it is not possible to set up a terminal at Usar in Maharashtra during the 7th Plan period.

# Projects of Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd.

4729. SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state; the progress in the cine colour positive film and X-Ray

graphic arts film projects of M/s. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNA-CHALAM): The Government have since cleared the X-Ray and Graphic arts film project of M/s. Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

It has not been found possible to clear the cine colour film on account of resource constraints.

### Import of Mobile Phone Exchanges

4730. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have imported Mobile Phone Exchanges;
- (b) if so, the countries which have supplied these Mobile Phone Exchanges;
- (c) how many Mobile Phone Exchanges have been imported; and
  - (d) where they will be installed?

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

- (b) Netherland.
- (c) 25 Numbers of Mobile Telephone Exchanges with total capacity of 60,000 lines have been imported.
- (d) (A) 19 Mobile Telephone Exchanges have been commissioned at the following stations.