

efforts to augeмент plan resources, increased delegation of powers, better utilization of rigs, increased in-house capabilities for processing of data, use of modern technology, closer monitoring of supply of equipments.

(b) and (c). Some delay in exploration programmes was inter-alia due to slippages in timely acquisition of rigs and their spare parts, pumps, Compressor, Computers etc.

(c) It is not possible to quantify the extent to which the steps taken for removing bottlenecks will improve the exploration programme.

[Translation]

Delay in delivery of dak

1405. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of sorting sections in the trains have been abolished, causing delay in the delivery of inter-circle/State dak;

(b) if so, remedial stepstaken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) All the Sorting section have been converted into transit sections to provide rapid transit system for the movement of inter-circle/inter State mail without causing delay in delivery of inter-circle/State dak except in very marginal cases.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Credit offer by West Germany for Development of Telecommunication System

1406. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the SIEMENS A. G. of West Germany had made an offer to the Union Government of credit limit for Rs. 750 crores for the development of telecommunication system in the country;

(b) if so, whether any action had been initiated to create the infrastructural facilities to utilise the credit offered;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any amount out of this will be spent in Orissa State to improve the tele-communications, particularly in the backward tribal areas; and

(e) if so, the projects in view and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes Sir. The offer was from consortium comprising Siemens Germany, Siemens Austria and Siemens Switzerland.

(b) The offer was considered and it was found that it would not be possible to avail of the offer within the present plan allocations.

(c) to (e). Do not arise in view of reply at (b) above.

Production capacity and production of cement

1407. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the production capacity of cement annually during the last three years;

(b) the actual production of cement annually during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that the production of cement is less than the production capacity; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps being taken to increase the production

of cement in the country to meet the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (d). Installed capacity and production of cement during the last three years were as follows :

Year	Installed capacity	(Million tonnes) Actual production
1984-85	42.80	30.17
1983-84	36.90	27.06
1982-83	33.50	23.35

Low capacity utilization was due to internal constraints as well as external constraints such as lack of infrastructural facilities like power, coal and railway wagons, occasional labour problems teething troubles of new units which take times to stabilise their production, etc. Constant efforts are being made to increase the availability of cement in the country by removing constraints on production and also by creation of additional capacity.

Revision of royalty on petroleum and crude oil given to Gujarat

1408. SHRIMATI PATEL RAMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI :

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat had agreed to withdraw the notification levying the rural development cess and also committed not to levy the cess till the existing royalty rates on petroleum and crude oil are in force, on an assurance given by the Petroleum Minister in August, 1985;

(b) if so, whether Union Government are aware that non-revision of royalty rate is causing serious loss to the State revenue; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to revise royalty rate and to compensate for the loss to the Gujarat Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND

NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The question of revision of rate of royalty on crude oil is under the consideration of the Government.

Import of Technology in Capital Goods

1409. SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantum of import of technology embodied in capital goods and dis-embodied technology in the form of know-how during the past five years, year-wise details of both the categories;

(b) the names of countries from which both of these are being imported; and

(c) the details of areas for which these are imported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) No centralised information regarding total quantum of import of technology embodied in capital goods is available in Secretariat for Industrial Approvals. For import of know-how, 3428 proposals for foreign collaborations were approved during the period 1981 to 1985. Details of all approved foreign collaborations showing the names of Indian and foreign firms, item of manufacture and nature of collaboration are published on a quarterly basis by Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its *Monthly News Letter*. Copies of this publication are sent regularly to Parliament Library.

12.00 hrs.

[English]

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : Sir, I want to raise a very serious matter before the House. I have given a privilege motion.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : I will call upon you.

(Interruptions)