

(c) if not, whether Government propose to examine such feasibility ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) to (c). ONGC have already carried out geological, gravity-magnetic and seismic survey in the area adjoining the Rann of Kutch. Two exploratory wells have also been drilled in this area.

Supply of mobikes by Hero Honda Motors Ltd., New Delhi

1126. SHRI G. BHOOPATHY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of deposits collected by Hero Honda Motors Ltd., New Delhi towards advance booking of its motor cycles; and

(b) the production capacity of the above company and how much time it will take to supply the mobike to those who have booked for it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The Company has advised having collected about Rs. 25 crores as advance against bookings for motor-cycles.

(b) The licensed capacity of the Company is 2 lakh motorcycles per annum and it expects to clear bookings within 5 years.

Opening of Foreign Post Office at Varanasi

1127. SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a strong demand for opening a Foreign Post Office at Varanasi in view of heavy export of Varanasi Sarees etc., and carpets; and

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

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

(b) The Government is examining the matter.

Hiring of premises at NOIDA by Bharat Leather Corporation.

1128. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bharat Leather Corporation's office at NOIDA on a monthly rent of Rs. 10,000 has been lying unoccupied for the last four and half years;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been made in order to fix responsibility for hiring premises and wasting public money ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) and (b). The premises in question had been taken on a monthly rent of Rs. 2,254/- w.e.f. 4.9.1979 for the registered office of the Corporation. This rent was enhanced to Rs. 3,220/- per month w.e.f. 18.7.1984. The premises have been in use as the registered office of the Corporation.

(c) Does not arise.

Disposal of applications for expansion/ setting up of new units

1129. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of applications from various companies for expansion or for setting up new units were received during the years 1982-83, 1983-84, and 1984-85; if so, the details thereof, year-wise :

(b) whether any new foreign company has also applied; if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of applications which were referred to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission during the above period and the action taken by the Commission thereon;