

(d) the number of applications cleared by Government on the recommendations of MRTP Commission during the above period; and

(e) the number and details of the applications which are still pending for clearance, since when these are pending and the reasons for delay in taking the decision ?

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 number of Industrial Licence applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for the grant of Letters of Intent during the years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 from various companies including the FERA companies is as under :

Sl. No.	Year	Total Number of applications received
1.	1982-83	1635
2.	1983-84	1545
3.	1984-85	2069

All the details of approved cases wherein letters of intent have been issued are regularly published in the monthly news-letter brought out by the Indian Investment Centre.

(c) and (d). Of the 16 applications referred to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission during this period, 4 cases were closed owing to the applicants having withdrawn their applications and three cases were closed as approval was not necessary. Out of the remaining nine cases, reported by the Commission, seven were approved and one proposal was rejected by the Government. The proposal in the remaining one case has since been exempted.

(e) The details of pending applications are not divulged till the Government have taken final decisions thereon. Efforts are being made to dispose of all the pending cases and to ensure this, procedures have been streamlined.

Hiring of Drilling Rigs for Exploration of Oil

1130. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of oil drilling rigs engaged by India for exploring oil;

(b) how many rigs have been purchased and the number of such rigs which have been procured on hire during the last three years;

(c) the cost involved for the buying and what amount is being paid for hiring these rigs and from which countries they were procured; and

(d) the terms and conditions for hiring a rig ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The information is as follows :

Oil and Natural Gas Commission :

Onland : 54 (Owned)
2 (Charter hired)
Offshore : 8 (Owned)
6 (Charter hired)

Oil India Limited :

Onland : 6 (Owned)
Offshore : 1 (Charter hired)

(b) and (c). Oil and Natural Gas Commission

13 Onland rigs were purchased from BHEL whose price is yet to be negotiated. 6 Offshore rigs were purchased at a cost of approximately Rs. 263 crores from Japan (3) Singapore (2) and West Germany (1).

2 Onland rigs, one each belonging to an Italian and a West German company were taken on charter hire at a daily operating rate ranging between Rs. 1.38 to 1.70 lakhs. 10 Offshore rigs belonging to American companies were chartered whose daily rates ranged between \$ 16,689 to \$ 87,000.

Oil India Limited

3 Onland rigs were purchased from M/s

BHEL at a cost of Rs. 26 crores 1 Offshore rig belonging to a Mexican company was chartered at an effective day rate of \$ 23,300.

(d) Among the important terms and conditions are those relating to :

- (i) the period of the charter hire.
- (ii) Rate payable during the period of the contract.
- (iii) Supply of the requisite number of personnel/equipment by the contractor.
- (iv) Option to extend contract by one year either on the same rates, terms and conditions or on mutually agreeable terms.

Opening of Branch Post Offices in Rural Areas During Seventh Plan Period

1131. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have fixed any targets for the opening of new Branch Post

Offices in the rural areas during the first year of the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the targets for each constituent Postal Circle (State-wise in case of multi-State Postal Circles) for 1985-86;

(c) whether the shortfall covered by not opening that BPOs found justified and planned for 1983-84 and 1984-85 but not opened due to ban by the Ministry of Finance on the filling up of existing vacancies and recruitment to new posts, would also be kept in view so as to cover the backlog; and

(d) if so, the details of the backlog, State-wise for the last two years ?

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

(b) Circle wise targets and not State-wise fixed for 1985-86 are indicated in Statement below :

(c) The physical targets and financial outlays of the Sixth Five Year Plan are deemed to have lapsed on 31.3.1985.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Circle-wise targets for opening of post office during 1985-86

Name of Circle	Opening of post offices during 1985-86			
	Normal	Tribal	Backward	Total
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra	82	15	10	107
2. Bihar	148	25	25	198
3. Delhi	02	—	—	02
4. Gujarat	47	16	10	73
5. J. & K.	—	—	38	38
6. Kerala	34	06	05	45
7. Karnataka	35	04	10	49
8. Madhya Pradesh	118	40	25	183