

(c) According to the current price levels, the average investment per tonne of cement ranges from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1500 depending upon the size of the plant, technology adopted etc.

Drilling in Bay of Bengal

1141. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state the details of the drilling programme undertaken by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission in the Bay of Bengal and when the off-shore drilling would start ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : ONGC have identified the drilling locations and preparatory work for undertaking drilling is in progress. The drilling in Bengal offshore by ONGC is likely to start by end 1985.

Introduction of Green Boxes for Local Letter in the Country

1142. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :
SHRI BAJU BAN RIYAN :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce green boxes for local letter only in some selective cities; and

(b) the reason why Government do not propose to introduce such system in all other towns of our country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes. Green letter boxes have been re-introduced in 7 selected cities i.e. Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta, Madras, Ahmadabad, Bangalore and Hyderabad on an experimental basis.

(b) The past experience of various cities indicates that members of the public do not post local letters only in the green letter boxes.

Shortage of Molasses

1143. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at present there is a ban on building up additional capacity for potable alcohol;

(b) whether this ban is mostly due to scarcity of molasses, which is an important ingredient;

(c) whether scarcity of molasses is also affecting manufacture of industrial alcohol; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to increase the supply of molasses ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) . As part of prohibition policy, the Government banned, from 19.11.75, the creation of additional capacity or expansion of existing capacity for distillation or brewing of alcoholic drinks except in 100 per cent export oriented cases.

(c) and (d) . Molasses is a by-product in the manufacture of sugar. Hence, availability of molasses in any given year is determined by the production of sugar. Because of slightly higher sugar production, molasses production is also slightly higher during current alcohol year 1984-85 (December, 1984-November, 1985) as compared to last year. It is likely to result in higher production of alcohol also. However, due to increased demand for alcohol, shortage is being experienced. Government is, therefore, allowing duty free imports of denatured alcohol to industrial users.

Composition of group set up to study the repercussions on the transportation of P.O.L. Products

1144. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a high level official group has been set up to study the repercussions on the transportation of P.O.L. products arising out of the steep cut in the Seventh Plan allocation for the Petroleum sector; and

(b) if so, the composition of this group and the time by which its report is likely to be submitted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Telecommunication System in Orissa during Seventh Plan Period

1145. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken steps and chalked out programme for the department of the communication system in the State of Orissa during the Sevneeth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the State headquarter, Bhubaneshwar, is proposed to be connected with all the district headquarters by STD lines;

(c) whether Government have also made provision for providing STD system in sub-divisional headquarters and giving telephone facilities in every district and Public Call Office in every Panchayat Headquarters; and

(d) the details in this regard ?

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

(b) This would be subject to the availability of adequate plan funds.

(c) Provision of STD facility in sub-divisional headquarters is not a plan priority. Long Distance Public Call Offices can be provided at Panchayat headquarters if certain conditions as detailed in (d) are satisfied.

(d) Out of 13 district headquarters of Orissa, 2 district headquarters namely Cuttack and Puri are already connected on STD to the State Capital Bhubaneshwar. The remaining district headquarters namely Balasore, Baripada, Bhawanipatna, Bolangir, Chartapur (Ganjam), Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Koraput, Phulbani, Sambalpur and Sundergarh are planned to be provided with STD facility during the 7th Plan period subject to availability of funds.

Long distance Public Call Offices can be provided at Panchayat Headquarters on subsidised basis if they happen to be category stations as below :

- Sub-divisional/Tahsil Headquarters;
- Sub Tahsil Headquarters.
- Block Headquarters.
- Places with a population of 5000 or more in ordinary areas and 2500 or more in backward or hilly areas.
- Places with Police Stations under the Charge of an Officer of the rank of a Sub-Inspector of Police or above.
- Out of the way places beyond 40 Kms (radial distance) from an existing exchange.
- Tourist/Pilgrimage Centre/Agricultural/Irrigation/Power Project sites/Townships.
- Other stations on the basis of financial viability or in the case of loss on rent and guarantee basis.

Telephone Connections in National Capital Region

1146. SHRI B. B. RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the interest of quick development of National Capital Region, Government have drawn up a plan to give telephone connections to people in this area; and

(b) whether Government propose to consider shifting telephones of offices/individuals who shift to places like Faridabad, NOIDA etc., which will fall within the National Capital Region ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The plans are under preparation.

(b) Shifting of telephone from one exchange to another is permitted within the local area of a telephone system. Due to technical reasons the shifting of telephone outside the local area would not be possible.