

Manufacture of gas cylinders

4359. SHRI U. H. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) how many companies in private and public units are manufacturing gas cylinders at present in Gujarat and other parts of the country;

(b) the total number of gas cylinders manufactured in each unit from 1-1-84 to 18-11-85;

(c) the present requirement of gas cylinders in the country; and

(d) the plans, projects and estimates for the manufacture of gas cylinders during 1-12-85 to 31-12-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) In the organised sector, 37 companies including one in Gujarat are at present manufacturing LPG cylinders in the country.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) and (d). The estimated requirements of LPG cylinders during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 are 37.70 lakhs Nos. and 34 lakhs Nos. respectively. The manufacturing units are at present geared to meet the country's requirements of LPG cylinders.

Expansion in the Research and Development Wing of Indian Telephone Industries

4360. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to expand the Research and Development Wing of the Indian Telephone Industries;

(b) if so, the details of expansion programme to be undertaken by Indian Telephone Industries;

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on the expansion of Indian Telephone Industries; and

(d) the likely time by which the expansion programme will be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal for expansion of the R and D Wing of Indian Telephone Industries.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Unsatisfactory Telephone Service in Bihar

4361. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the telephone services in patna, and in districts like Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Saran, Champaran, Saharsa, Purnia, Mungher and South Bihar are totally unsatisfactory and most of the time the lines remain dead;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that no action is taken by the departmental heads at Patna on the complaints made by the public in this regard; and

(d) if so, the total number of complaints received by them regarding unsatisfactory service, wrong and excess billing since 1982 to date alongwith the details of action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir, telephone services in Patna and Bihar circle are generally satisfactory and in most of the cases the lines do not remain dead except those which are affected due to break down faults.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply against (a) above.

(c) No, Sir; prompt action is taken by General Manager Telecom. and District Manager Telephones Patna on all the complaints addressed to them.