

the Government in its favour. The import, distribution and pricing will be made by the STC, as per the connected policy of the Government in the Ministry of Industry.

In view of the improved availability of cement in the country, Government, at present, has no plan to import cement.

Distribution and Pricing of Cement

After the introduction of the scheme of partial decontrol of cement with effect from 28.2.82, there are two categories of cement viz. levy cement and non levy cement available to the consumers. While levy cement is subject to pricing and distribution control, non-levy cement is free from such control. The procedures of cement have to give a part of their production for sale as levy cement.

[*Translation*]

Income of South Eastern Coalfields Limited

4391. DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total income of South Eastern Coalfields Limited in 1985-86 after locating its head office of Bilaspur;

(b) the total number of persons provided with employment after setting up of the new company there; and

(c) the number of local people among them and the posts on which they have been appointed ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) The South Eastern Coalfields Limited, a new subsidiary of Coal India Limited, was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 with effect from 28.11.1985. For accounting purposes, the Company started functioning with effect from 1.4.1986. The accounts in respect of period prior to 1.4.1986 were merged with the accounts of companies i.e. Western Coalfields Limited and Central Coalfields Limited, out of which this company has been carved.

(b) and (c). 1236 persons were provided with employment in South Eastern Coalfields Limited from 1.4.1986 to 30.10.1986. Out of them, 1134 were local persons who were appointed as monthly rated workers, daily rated, piece rated and badly/casuals etc.

[*English*]

Commissioning of Automatic Telephone exchange at Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu

4392. SHRI S. SINGARAVADIVEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Automatic Telephone Exchange at Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu could not be commissioned within the target period;

(b) whether there was inordinate delay in the completion of the construction of the building;

(c) whether the delay was caused because of the sinking of a portion of the building; and

(d) whether Government have made any enquiry and taken any action against anybody for this lapse ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Revised target for commissioning of this exchange was January 1987 but this has been already commissioned on 12.10.86, ahead of target date.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The building has inspected by the Chief Engineer (Civil), Madras and he was reported that the sinking was due to flooding of the site on account of heavy rains. The building is completed and the exchange is working now. As such no action against anyone was taken.

Industrial proposals from NRI investors in Kerala

4393. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :