

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposal has evoked mixed reactions from various telephone users.

(d) Decision has not yet been taken. Question of postponement does not arise.

(e) No additional revenue is anticipated.

(f) The degree of de-congestion will depend on the duration at which the calls are timed. This has not yet been decided.

#### **Handing over properties of ITDC to Multinationals**

4107. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:  
SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

●(a) whether the Government have decided to hand over ITDC hotels to multinationals;

(b) if so whether the prominent hoteliers in the country have protested against the decision of the Government to handover some of the properties of ITDC to multinationals; and

(c) if so, details thereof; and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir, However, Government have formulated a scheme whereby small groups of ITDC hotels would be formed for the purpose of developing them as joint ventures with leading foreign hotel chains.

(b) The Federation of Hotel and Restau-

rant Associations of India have represented that the Indian hotel chains may also be permitted to participate in this scheme.

(c) as a much wider of objectives was being served by the scheme as formulated, it was not found feasible to agree to other suggestions.

[Translation]

#### **Issue of bonds for Irrigation Projects in Maharashtra**

4108. SHRI TEJSINGH RAO BHONSLE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has sought the approval of the Union Government to issue bonds to raise the funds for irrigation projects of the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the approval is likely to be given; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). As the total investable resources for the market borrowing programme, both for the Central and State Governments, is limited there is not scope for allowing any additional allocation to Maharashtra Government over and above the borrowing programme as already approved.

[English]

#### **Awarding of Contracts by Bokaro Steel Plant**

4109. SHRIMATI GIRIJA DEVI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: