

(c) whether Government propose to stop installing this system and replace the same wherever it is installed; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) and (b) Electronic switching systems are of the latest technology for telecommunication switching equipment but crossbar systems are working all over the world including India. Crossbar systems are not yet obsolete but are gradually giving way to electronic systems. Of the total switching capacity proposed to be commissioned during the 8th Five Year Plan, crossbar is expected to constitute only about 5%.

The compulsion to use crossbar systems arises out of:

- (i) Expansion of existing crossbar exchanges which have been installed recently and have a relatively longer life to go,
- (ii) New exchange for which equipment has already been ordered and is in the process of supply; and
- (iii) Two complete units for manufacture of crossbar equipments have been set up—one at Bangalore and one at Rae Bareilly. Unit at Bangalore has already been closed which has rendered about 3000 workers surplus. In order not to create a similar situation at Rae Bareilly, it is proposed to produce this equipment for a year or two till production facilities for electronic equipment are set up in Rae Bareilly.

(c) and (d). Installation of crossbar systems will be stopped after production

facilities for electronic equipment are fully set up in Rae Bareilly. All worn-out and life expired crossbar exchanges will be replaced by electronic systems in a phased manner.

**Talks with Chinese Foreign Minister about Pakistan's Involvement in Kashmir Issue**

\*531. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:  
SHRI A.R. ANTULAY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held with the Foreign Minister of China during his recent visit to India with regard to Pakistan's interference in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the view of China in this regard;

(c) whether Government have also conveyed its concern over the sale of weapons and arms by China to Pakistan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of China thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). The Chinese Foreign Minister was apprised regarding Pakistan's involvement in inciting violence and subversion in Kashmir and its dangerous espousal of religion as a basis for self determination, such acts being in clear violation of the five Principles of peaceful Coexistence and a derogation of the Shimla Agreement. The Chinese Foreign Minister said that our views would be conveyed to the Pakistan Government. He stated that friendly consultations and peaceful settlement of problems between India and Pakistan would contribute to peace and stability in South Asia.

(c) and (d). Government's concern at

Pakistan's acquisition of sophisticated weapons far beyond its legitimate needs is well-known. The Chinese Government are aware of this position. Government keep under constant review all developments having a bearing on India's security.

[*Translation*]

#### **Increase in Purchase Price of Onions**

\*532. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received requests from various organizations for increasing the purchase price of Onions by National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India Limited; and

(b) if, so the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The issue regarding the increase in market intervention price of onion was considered by the Government and the Government fixed a higher market intervention price of Rs. 70/- per quintal FAQ for purchase of onions during 1990 seasons in Maharashtra and Gujarat where the scheme is in operation as against Rs. 60/- and Rs. 50/- per quintal FAQ fixed by the Central Government in 1989 season in Maharashtra and Gujarat respectively.

#### **Recruitment of persons from Minority Communities in Delhi Police and other Departments**

\*533. SHRI JANARDAN TIWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Administration has taken a decision to recruit persons from minority communities in Delhi Police and other department in proportion to their population;

(b) whether relaxation in recruitment rules and other conditions has also been provided;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other decisions taken for the welfare of minority communities?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Direct recruitment in various ranks of Delhi Police is made on the basis of names sponsored by the Employment Exchanges. While making requisitions for sponsoring the names of eligible candidates, the Exchanges are requested specifically that the names of candidates belonging to minority communities be given due consideration. The selection is made out of the candidates sponsored by the Employment Exchanges.

#### **Fertilisers Factory in Kota District**

5487. SHRI GOPAL PACHERWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the proposal of setting up a fertilizer factory by the Birlas in villages Gadepan, Kota district which is a declared reserve area for sanctuary;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and