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Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

Written Answers

- (a) whether a number of Taluka places like, Bagalkot, Gadag, Harihar and Ravangir in the Bijapur District of Karnataka are linked by S. T. D.;
- (b) if so, whether the district headquarters of Bijapur has not been linked by S. T. D.; and
 - (c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir, Bagalkot, Gadag and Harihar in Bijapur district of Karnataka have been linked by STD through Bangalore TAX.

- (b) No, sir.
- (c) Bijapur being a manual telephone exchange. STD facility on automatic subscriber-dialled basis cannot be provided. Due to limited availability of switching and transmission equipment Bijapur could not be converted to an automatic telephone exchange so far and linked by STD to Bangalore. Limited manual STD facility may be provided if the demand therefor is sufficient. After automatisation, Bijapur is planned to be connected to Belgaum Trunk Automatic Exchange, which is to be set up in the 7th plan period.

Setting up of coal-Based Fertilizer Plants

3162. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of coal-based fertilizer plants set up at different places in the country
- (b) whether Government will exeamine the proposal to set up some more coal-based fertiliser plants in the country; and
- (c) if so, the various new sites proposed to be taken into consideration for the location of new coal-based fertiliser plants in Seventh Five Year plan?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDSTURY AND

COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Two coal-based fertilizer plants are, at present, in operation at Ramagundam (Andhra Pradesh) and Talcher (Orissa). The implementation of the third coal-based project at Korba (Madhya Pradesh) was held in abeyance due to resource constraints. The revival of the plant will be considered after the production at the other two coal-based fertilizer plants stabilises.

- (b) At present there is no proposal to set up more coal-based fertilizer plants in the country.
 - (c) Dose not arise.

[Translation]

Decline in the Production of Fertilizers in Barauni Fertilizers Factory

3163. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI: SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI:

Will the Minister of **CHEMICALS** AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for considerble decline in the production in the Barauni Fertilizer factory during the last three years; and
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to increcse the production?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZER AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) the production in the Barauni Fertilizer Plant of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited during the earlier two years (1982-83 and 1983-84) was comparatively steady. However; due to power problem including power cuts/failures/restricted supply/volatage dips and frequipency flucturtions and equipment breakdowns problems of industrial relations due to inter union rivalry and contractors labour the production during 1984-85 has declined.

(b) To improve power supply position, a 2.5 MW gas turbine has been installed and is in operation since July, 1983. A 16 MW captive power plant is under implemenation and is expected to be comissioned during 1986. State Government has also been requested to supply adequate and stable power to the unit. M/s PDIL have, after end to end survey, suggested capital additions/improvements/debottlenecking. and renovating schemes which are being implemented. Industrial relations problems are regularly discussed with recognised and registered unions.

[English]

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Modification of laws relating to various religions

3164. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are considering to modify the laws relating to various religions in the country; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ): (a) No sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Losses suffered by drug manufacturing companies due to diversification

- SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether some of the important drug manufacturing companies have been compelled to diversify as they are sustaining heavy loses on their pharmaceutical products;
- (b) whether as a result of this, the production of important drugs in the country has suffered; and
- (c) whether Government propose to undertake an indepth study of the financial problems of these companies so that they are not forced to diversify and people do not suffer due to lack of essential drugs?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Diversification, if any, is as a result of the corporate policy of the individual companies.

- (b) No. Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.

Import of Pressure Regulators from Danish Firm

3166. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Indian Oil Corporation has decided to import pressure regulators from a Danish firm; and
 - (b) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA): (a) Yes,

(b) In the context of the conversion of LPG cylinders from the system of 'F' type valves and pressure regulators to the selfclosing system, for meeting the shortfall in the indigenous availability of pressure regulators and with a view to standardising the design, pressure regulators and free technology are being imported from Denmark.

Setting up of Automatic Telephone Exchange in Tirupati

3167. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are microwave system failures at Tirupati;
 - (b) if so, the corrective steps proposed;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to start an automatic trunk telephone exhange at Tirupati;
- (d) whether foundation stones for this trunk exchange was laid by the present Prime Minister; and
- (e) whether there has been inordinate delay in setting up the exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) There has been no equipment failure in the recent