

puri Telephone Exchange during the financial year 1984-85 and upto 31st July, 1985 under each category ;

(b) the date upto which the persons registered for telephone connections in this exchange have been provided telephone connection in the general category as on 31st July, 1985 ; and

(c) the further programme for sanctioning more telephone connections under general category in 1985-86 and the date in the waiting list likely to be covered ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The number of new telephones given from Chanakyapuri Telephone Exchange is as under :—

| Period            | Category |         |         |
|-------------------|----------|---------|---------|
|                   | OYT      | Special | General |
| 1.4.84 to 31.3.85 | 867      | 470     | 1204    |
| 1.4.85 to 31.7.85 | 70       | 40      | 83      |
|                   | —        | —       | —       |
| Total             | 937      | 510     | 1287    |

(b) Applicants registered upto 6.9.1983 under General Category have been provided telephone connections as on 31st July, 1985.

(c) It is proposed to provide about 150 connections in General Category during 1985-86. The date likely to be covered is 1st November, 1983.

#### Cess on Paper

3305. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given up the plan to impose a cess on all types of paper so as to subsidise supplies of white printing paper ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government contemplate to import this paper to meet any shortfall in supplies to the educational sector ; and

(d) if so, the expected landed cost of imported paper (including customs duty)

as compared to the indigenous white paper, per ton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) A final view has not yet been taken on the paper Industry's proposal to introduce a scheme of cess on production of paper and paper-board for subsidising supplies of white printing paper.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No proposal is at present under consideration of Government to import white printing paper to meet the requirements of the educational sector.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Use of Plastics in Agriculture

3306. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have by now considered the Reports submitted by the National Committee on the use of Plastics in Agriculture ; and

(b) if so, their reaction to some of the important recommendations made in these Reports, particularly in the Report on plasticulture development centre ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) & (b) The National Committee on the use of Plastics in Agriculture (NCPA) submitted the following reports :—

(i) First Report.

(ii) Report of the study group on Plasticulture Development Centre.

(iii) Report on the fruit package.

(iv) Final report.

Major recommendations made in these reports are propagation of use of plastics film in canal lining, drip irrigation, substitution of wooden crates by plastic crates for fruit packages, promotion of plastic pipes for irrigation systems, promotion of green houses for cultivation of high value crops