

[Translation]

Improvement in Dak Distribution System

3360. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the proposals which are being considered by Government to bring about improvement in dak distribution system; and

(b) how these proposals are to be implemented and by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) For monitoring the function of postal system, department has organised special drives which include monitoring the delivery of mails. In addition, special squads have been formed which have visited complaint prone areas. Lapses, shortcomings noticed during these drives have been studied and remedial steps taken to rectify the defects/deficiencies. Instructions have also been issued to post offices to monitor efficiency to ensure improvements in their working.

Investment profit in Maruti Car Udyog

3361. SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of investment made in the Maruti Car Udyog and the net profit earned by the company during 1984-85 and the model-wise number of cars produced ; and

(b) whether these cars are being exported ; if so, the names of those countries to which these are being exported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY & COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The total capital expenditure in Maruti Udyog Ltd. as on 31st March, 1985 was about Rs. 76 crores. The net profit earned by the company during the year 1984-85 was Rs. 90.34 lakhs. The model-wise number of cars produced during the year 1984-85 was as under :—

Maruti 800
Deluxe

14,924
5,429

(b) No Maruti cars have been exported so far.

Working of Mandla Telephone Exchange in Madhya Pradesh

3362. SHRI M.L. JHIKRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether working of telephone exchange in Mandla district in Madhya Pradesh is extremely poor and if so, the action being taken by the Department to bring about improvement therein ;

(b) whether Government propose to expand it and to replace it by an electronic telephone exchange ;

(c) if so, the details in this regard ; and

(d) the arrangements being made by Government to ensure smooth functioning of this exchange and to meet the demand for new telephone connections ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir; the functioning of telephone exchange at Mandla is generally satisfactory. To improve further the functioning of this exchange Mandla-Jabalpur alternative trunk route has been sanctioned, to avoid complete cut off of Mandla from rest of the communication network when interruption occurs.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A containerised electronic exchange of 400 lines will replace the existing telephone exchange as soon as supply is received.

(d) Provision of alternate trunk route and installation of electronic exchange will improve the telephone services at Mandla. There is no demand pending for telephone connection at present.

[English]

Setting up of L.P.G. bottling plants

3363 DR. V.VENKATESH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a policy decision to set up certain bottling plant alongwith the HBJ pipeline for production of liquid petroleum gas filled bottles for consumers ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether these plants would be set up in public sector or private sector ; and

(d) what shall be the annual rate of production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a), (b) & (d) It is proposed to extract LPG at Bijaipur and Auraiya along the HBJ pipeline. The availability of LPG from these projects will be of the order of 4.70 lakh tonnes per annum. This will meet the needs of about 47 lakh new consumers.

(c) Decision on this will be taken at the appropriate time.

Conversion of Exchanges into Electronic Exchanges in Orissa

3364. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of electronic exchanges functioning in the country ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to convert the present exchanges into electronic exchanges in all the major cities ; and

(c) if so, the cities in Orissa which are going to be covered during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) The total number of electronic exchanges functioning in the country is 26.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Electronic exchanges will be commissioned at the following towns in Orissa during the Seventh Five Year Plan :—

1. Bhubaneshwar	4000 lines
2. Keonjhar	600 lines
3. Koraput	400 lines
4. Phulbani	400 lines

5. Sundergarh 400 lines

6. Baripada 600 lines

7. Dhenkanal 600 lines

8. Chhatarpur 400 lines

[Translation]

Facilities recommended by Central Sainik Board to Ex-Servicemen

3365. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Sainik Board has made some recommendations for providing certain facilities to the Ex-Servicemen ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to implement these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI P V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) to (c) The Kendriya Sainik Board at its last meeting held on 10th July, 1985 reviewed the action taken by the States on its previous decisions. It also reviewed the action taken by them on the recommendations of the High Level Committee which needed to be accepted and implemented by the States.

On behalf of the Central Government it was emphasised that the paramount and fundamental issues concerning the welfare of ex-servicemen were :—

(i) Provision of gainful employment by way of :—

(a) Salaried employment, including to the extent possible employment under the Central and State Governments, by introducing/effectively implementing the reservation policy,

(b) Self-employment, with special incentives and reservations in their favour in such infrastructure as the issuance of transport permits, allotment of industrial sheds etc.

(ii) Conferment of appropriate welfare benefits by way for example of :—

(a) enhanced educational opportunities for their wards,