

(b) if so, whether Government propose to open new telephone exchanges at all the headquarters of Revenue Mandals which do not have telephone exchange at present for the sake of convenience to the people as well as administrative machinery ; and

(c) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be in operation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Out of a total of 1104 Mandals, 845 Mandals have exchanges. The opening of exchanges in the remaining 259 Mandals will depend on the :

- (1) Pay of requisite number of demand notes.
- (2) Financial viability of the proposal as per departmental policy.

#### Germany to participate in India's Industrial Growth

2331. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :  
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'The Economic Times' of 5 November, 1985 wherein it has been stated that Federal Republic of Germany is to participate in a substantial manner in India's rapid industrial growth ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India welcomes collaboration with other countries within the parameters of its policy, its priorities and India's national interest.

#### Setting up of Gas Based Industries in Tripura

2332. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there are huge reserves of natural gas in Tripura ;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to set up gas-based industries in Tripura so that the natural gas can properly be utilised for the development of this industrially backward area ; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has already been agreed to supply natural gas to Tripura State Electricity Board for power generation. It is understood that the State Government of Tripura are considering setting up gas based industries in the State.

#### Foreign collaboration Agreements

2333. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign collaboration agreements in the industrial sector entered into during 1985 ;

(b) the nature of industries to be set up with such collaboration ;

(c) whether there will be a complete transfer of the latest technology in each area where such collaboration is made ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) During the year 1985, 687 foreign collaboration approval letters were issued. Details of foreign collaboration approvals showing name of the Indian Party, name of the foreign collaborator, item of

manufacture etc. are published on a quarterly basis by the Indian Investment Centre as a supplement to its Monthly News Letter. Copies of this publication are sent to the Parliament Library regularly.

(c) and (d) All efforts are being made to transfer complete technology during the tenure of the Foreign Collaboration agreement or immediately thereafter by stimulating in-house Research and Development in the Industries, for absorption and upgradation of technology.

**Mini Car designed by an executive of Auto-motive Company of Hyderabad**

2334. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that an executive working with an automotive company of Hyderabad has designed a 'mini car' which will have seating capacity of 4 persons, fuel consumption will be much less and will cost very low if produced commercially ; and

(b) whether Government propose to issue licences for manufacture of such a car in the public/joint sector as it will lead to considerable economy in consumption of petroleum products and will be within the reach of a larger number of people ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) Government have seen a news item to this effect.

(b) It is not proposed to licence new units for manufacture of passenger cars outside the broad-banding policy on account of capacity constraint.

**Proposal for Increasing Price of Molasses**

2335. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sugar industry has given a proposal for increasing the price of molasses from Rs. 60 to Rs. 200 per tonne and for its partial decontrol ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon ; and

(c) whether the proposal, if accepted, will help the sugar industry and at the same time not disturb the economy of the distilleries ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Policy on molasses would be decided after due consideration of all related aspects, including the impact on alcohol-based industries.

**Indo-GDR Accord in Coal Lignite and Power sectors**

2336. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the salient features of Indo-German Democratic Republic accord signed recently for cooperation in the coal, lignite and power sectors ;

(b) whether Government of German Democratic Republic will make available technical know-how for improving coal mining operations and/or modern machinery equipment ; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the proposed cooperation and collaboration ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) to (c) The Protocol of the First Session of the Indo-GDR working Group on Coal, Lignite and Power was signed on 6.11.85. The Working Group was entrusted with organising cooperation between the two countries in selected fields to rationalise and increase efficiency in the exploitation, processing and refining of coal and lignite by providing scientific and technological know-know, specialised technological equipment and engineering services. In