

(c) whether it is a fact that whole country has about 30 lakh phones as against 40 lakhs each in London, New York and Tokyo ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Plan has set targets for development and improvement of Telecom. services for the year 1986-87. Some of the salient points of the Plan are :

- (1) Commissioning of = 2.8 lakh lines net switching capacity
- (2) Provision of new = 2.2 lakh lines net Telephone connections
- (3) Commissioning of = 3,000 lines new Telex capacity
- (4) Improvement in = 5—10% fault rate in local systems
- (5) Improvement in = 10—15% fault rate in Telex system

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The total number of working lines in the country as on 31.3.86 is 31.66 lakhs, while the number of telephones in London, New York and Tokyo as on 1.1.82 was 59.16, 57.51 and 60.62 lakh lines respectively.

Underground fire in Bihar Coal Mines

9027. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is now a truce amongst the labour leaders of Bihar Coal mines ;

(b) whether it is likely to improve productivity and returns to Government from the coal mines ;

(c) whether underground fires are still raging in some of the mines ; and

(b) if so, the corrective action taken to

save these losses through R & D or borrowed technology ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Government has no information regarding the state or nature of relations among the trade union leaders. But there is overall industrial peace in the coal industry, barring a few aberrations, which is true in respect of Bihar coal-fields also.

(b) Industrial peace and cordial labour relations do contribute to increase in production and productivity.

(c) & (d). 84 fires are reported to be active at present in underground coal mines in the country. Projects are already under implementation to contain and extinguish 65 of these. Schemes are under preparation to deal with the remaining fires.

[Translation]

Construction of Power Sub-station in Giridih, Bihar by Damodar Valley Corporation

9028. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Damodar Valley Corporation had started the construction of a power sub-station in Giridih city (Bihar) about 6-7 years ago ;

(b) whether the construction of this sub-station was suspended after completion of more than half of the work ;

(c) the reasons for suspending the construction work and under whose order it was suspended and the total expenditure incurred thereon ;

(d) whether this sub-station was being constructed to meet the power requirement of Giridih city ; and

(e) if so, how the power requirements of this city are being met at present ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The work was suspended after the construction of site office and store barracks had started.

(c) DVC commenced the construction of the sub-station as Bihar State Electricity Board originally indicated that their demand at Giridih would be 8.5 MVA by 1973-74, with prospects for further growth. The construction had to be stopped as subsequently, in 1978, BSEB reduced the demand for power at Giridih to 6 MVA with no proposal for enhancement. This demand could conveniently be supplied by feeding the 33 KV sub-station of Bihar State Electricity Board without having a new sub-station. An expenditure of Rs. 14.83 lakhs was incurred by DVC on the earlier constructions.

(d) Yes, Sir. The work on the sub-station at Giridih was started for meeting the enhanced demand originally indicated by the consumer (BSEB).

(e) Requirement of power at Giridih is being met by Bihar State Electricity Board. Damodar Valley Corporation feeds the required power to the existing 33 KV sub-station of Bihar State Electricity Board at Giridih.

Allotment of coal to industries in Basti District of U.P.

9029. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of coal allotted by Coal India Limited to various industries in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh during 1983-84 and 1984-85 alongwith the names of such industries ; and

(b) the number of coal dealers appointed by Coal India Ltd. in that district at present and the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Coal India Ltd. allotted the following quantities by road for industries in Basti Distt. of Uttar Pradesh.

(i) 1983-84	262 tonnes
(ii) 1984-85	517 tonnes

The names of the industries to whom coal was allotted, are given below :—

- (i) Textile Printing Corporation ;
- (ii) Sant Kabir Sahakari Katai Mills Ltd.

(iii) Purbanchal Straw Board and Paper Mills Ltd.

(iv) Soda-fil Glass Works

(v) Sanjay Paper and Chemicals Industries Ltd.

(vi) PVK Papers.

(b) Coal India Ltd. do not appoint any coal dealers in the districts.

[English]

Procurement of burnt stone lime by Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., Kerala

9030. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Hindustan Newsprint Limited, Kerala had procured certain quantities of burnt stone lime from M/s. Satna Stone and Lime Company, Satna recently ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the burnt stone lime was produced from the above party without any indent or purchase order ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

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

(a) to (d). A trial order for supply of burnt stone lime was placed on 16.9.85 by Hindustan Newsprint Ltd. on M/s. Satna Stone Lime Co. located in Madhya Pradesh, as the supplies from local sources had been very low, resulting in too low/critical position, as also stock-out of lime. The trial order was placed with a view to developing alternative source of supply, in piece-meal wagon loads, to supplement the supplies of lime at HNL and also to generate competition. M/s. Satna Stone Lime Co. supplied 27 wagons, i.e. 649 MT of lime against a valid trial order.

Post Offices and Railway Mail Sorting Sections Disbanded in Bihar

9031. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :