

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Flaring of Gas in Bombay High

2230. SHRI D. B. PATIL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that gas is being flared at the platforms on Bombay High where crude oil is struck;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) how much gas is being flared daily on an average and the amount involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Associated natural gas is being flared in Bombay High for reasons such as inadequate compressions facilities offshore, inadequate infrastructural facilities downstream, failure of consumers to lift the committed offtake, safety factors, etc.

(c) The average quantity of associated natural gas that was flared in the year 1984-85 in Bombay High was about 5.19 million cubic metres per day. The total notional value of the gas flared in Bombay High during 1984-85, computed at the rate of Rs. 100 per thousand cubic metres, was Rs. 18.93 crores.

#### Allocation for Telecommunications during Seventh Plan

2231. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the projected expenditure during the Seventh Plan of the Department of Telecommunications is rupees thirteen thousands crores whereas the Plan-

ning Commission finally allotted only rupees four thousand crores; and

(b) whether with the above provision, Government will be able to meet the pending demands of new telephone and telex connections apart from the expected growth in the number of applicants during the next five years ?

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.

(b) No, Sir.

While the objective is to provide telex connections practically on demand by the end of the 7th Five Year Plan, it will be possible to add only 11 lakh Direct Exchange lines against the existing waiting list of around 8.29 lakh as on 31-3-1985.

#### Progress of Rangit Hydel Project in Sikkim

2232. SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether work on Rangit Hydel Project in Sikkim has started;

(b) if so, the progress thereof and when it is likely to be completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The project has been techno-economically cleared by Central Electricity Authority and can be considered for investment decision after clearance under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been received.

#### Badli Industrial Estate

2233. SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :  
SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :