

(c) The aim of the project is to provide entrepreneurs with work-sheds, necessary infrastructure and training in order to improve their earning capacity. Thirteen districts are covered under the project.

(d) A proposal is under consideration of the State Government of Karnataka.

(e) The target by the end of the Seventh Plan is yet to be finalised by the Government of Karnataka.

**Modernisation of telephone system in Allahabad**

2593. SHRI AMITABH BACHCHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether complaints have been received about the malfunctioning of the telephone department in Allahabad;

(b) whether the equipment of the Allahabad Telephone Exchange is obsolete and outdated and cannot cope with the present-day demands on the system;

(c) whether there is any proposal to modernise the Telephone system in Allahabad;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

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

(b) Only 2700 lines of Allahabad Cantt. strowger exchange have outlived their lives, but extensive maintenance efforts are made to provide reasonably satisfactory service to the subscribers.

(c) to (e) It has been planned to install a new 5000 lines digital electronic exchange in Allahabad towards the end of 7th plan. This new exchange will replace the old 2700 lines strowger exchange and also provide substantial relief to clear the present waiting list.

**Claims for family pension from widows of postal employees in Punjab postal Circle**

2594. SHRI KAMAL CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of claims received from widows of postal employees in Punjab Postal Circle for family pension during the period from August 1985 to June, 1986;

(b) the number of claims not settled upto the end of June, 1986 and reasons for delay; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to pay interest on late payments of claims where delay is for more than three months ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) 465.

(b) 65 Pendency due to incomplete information/documents.

(c) No, Sir.

**Hike in Fiat car prices**

2595. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approved recently hike in price of Fiat cars;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the five-fold increase in price of cars since 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) Government do not exercise any control over prices of vehicles.

(b) and (c). The Company has increased the ex-factory net-dealer price of their Premier Padmini Car by Rs. 3,940 with effect from June, 1986. A number of factors