

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIM. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Necessary resources in the form of budget allocations are provided to the Commission to enable them to discharge their functions.

Demand for Cooking Gas in Kerala

945. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the total demand for cooking gas in Kerala ;

(b) what percentage of demand has been met ; and

(c) when the demand is likely to be fully met ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c) The average monthly demand for the existing customers in Kerala is around 3332 M.T. Except for occasional backlog in supplies, this demand is being met in full.

The Endeavour to meet the demand in full will be maintained.

Production of Sugar

946. SHRI D.N. REDDY : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sugar production during 1986-87 ; and

(b) whether any increase in sugar production is expected during this year to meet the demands of the country and to have some surplus for export ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) and (b) The pro-

duction during 1986-87 season is estimated at 75 lakh tonnes as against 70.03 lakh tonnes of sugar produced during the last season. With the increased level of domestic sugar production during the current season together with the carry-over stock at the beginning of the season and imported sugar, there would be sufficient availability to meet the domestic requirement, as well as small quantities of committed exports.

Two-Tier Telecommunication System

947. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Telecommunications is thinking of having a two-tier System for telephone communications ; and

(b) If so, what will be the expenditure involved for this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The Department of Telecommunications is exploring the feasibility of setting up a network for the specialised needs of business and industrial subscribers.

(b) This proposal is still under consideration at present. Hence, details for expenditure are not known at present.

[Translation]

Electronic Telephone Exchange at Ranikhet

948. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the site for electronic exchange to be set up in Ranikhet (Uttar pradesh) has finally been selected; and

(b) if so, when the site was selected and the time by which construction work is likely to start there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Electronic Exchange