

ISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (b). Rural Electrification Schemes received from State Electricity Boards are considered and sanctioned by the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) subject to techno-economic feasibility and availability of funds. During the current financial year (1987-88), REC has received 16 Rural electrification proposals from Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board, out of which 5 schemes have already been approved and the remaining are under scrutiny.

Telephone Facility in States

2355. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken by Government during 1987-88 to increase availability of telephone facility

in those States where availability to this facility is less than the national average?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): As a general policy telephone exchanges are sanctioned as per demand. The disparity existing amongst various states is sought to be overcome by allotting more equipment to States having lesser telephone facilities over a period of time.

Statement showing allotment of MAX-III equipment for 87-88 as against projected demand is given below.

LDPTs' in remote areas are provided mainly on spatial distribution. Proportionately higher targets are set for States will lesser achievement/availability.

STATEMENT

State	No of Exchanges	Project demand		Allotment for 87-88	
		25L	50L	25L	50L
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	1618	100	128	58	40
Bihar	305	65	26	55	21
Gujarat	603	35	153	35	54
J & K	75	Nil	7	Nil	7
Karnataka	990	60	100	50	39
Kerala	441	2	163	2	87
M.P.	629	145	52	80	52
Maharashtra	946	92	92	44	45
N. E. and Assam	251	29	15	29	15
Haryana		23	16	20	15
Himachal Pradesh	614	26	48	26	40

1	2	3	4	5	6
Punjab		20	16	20	16
Orissa	258	30	10	15	10
Rajasthan	506	75	20	60	20
Tamil Nadu	927	24	89	24	70
U.P.	782	150	58	70	45
W.B.	309	12	24	12	24

[English]

Increase in the Production of Drugs and Petrochemicals

2356. SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to effect sizeable increase in production capacities for drugs and petrochemicals in order to meet the rising demand;

(b) if so, the number of large petrochemical projects are under process;

(c) the number of applications for licences in the drug sector which are under consideration of Government;

(d) whether Government have also decided to set up regional petrochemical complexes;

(e) if so, which are the States where such projects are likely to be set up; and

(f) to what extent the production for drugs and petrochemicals will be increased and to what extent they are likely to meet the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (f). The new measures for rationalisation, Quality Control and growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical

Industry announced recently aim at, among other things ensuring abundant availability of essential life saving drugs and strengthening the indigenous capability for production of drugs.

The Committee on Perspective Planning for Petrochemical Industry have estimated the demand potential up to 2000 A.D. Based on this demand estimate there is gap between demand and supply and this is proposed to be met by setting up of a number of petrochemical units in the country.

Locations of such units is decided on techno-economic considerations.

[Translation]

Setting up of Industries in Bihar

2357 SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY. Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is scope for setting up many big industries in Bihar;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have taken or proposed to take any effective steps in this direction during 1986-87 and 1987-88 and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the place-wise and item-wise details of the industries to be set up in Bihar from which there is possibility of achieving good results, and whether Government