

company in this regard during the intervening period, these have not been kept on the permanent records of the company, as the problem was of a temporary nature.

#### **Electricity from Rice Straw**

4602. SHRI D. N. REDDY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. has plans for setting up a Pilot plant in Punjab to generate 10 MW of electricity using rice straw as fuel;

(b) whether it is estimated that 2,700 MW of power can be produced from the quantity of straw available in Punjab thereby reducing dependence on coal;

(c) whether Government have made any allocation of funds for this purpose; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. A 10 MW Agro Thermal Power Plant using rice straw as a fuel is being set up at Jalkheri near Patiala in Punjab as a joint project of the Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources and State Government of Punjab. The project is being executed by M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. Preliminary estimates show that about 1200 MW could be generated from the surplus rice straw in the State of Punjab. These estimates can however only be firmed up after satisfactory trials operation of the pilot plant. The Central Government's share in the capital cost of the project is Rs. 12.5 crores of which Rs. 10 crores has been paid to M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

#### **Indian Telephone Industries under the Concept of Holding Company**

4603. SHRI YASHWANTRAO GADAKH PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering a proposal to bring the Indian Telephone Industries under the concept of a holding company; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the objective in view.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). A proposal to reorganise the Indian Telephone Industries Limited is still under consideration in all its aspects.

#### **Introduction of Energy Buses**

4604. DR. (MRS.) T. KALPANA DEVI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether European Economic Community has suggested introduction of energy buses in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHTAGI): (a) to (c). Government of India and the European Community have agreed in principle to cooperate in setting up an Energy Bus Programme in India to carry out on the spot energy audits for small and medium sized industries. The Commission of the European Communities deputed an expert to India in the first week of August, 1987 to undertake the initial feasibility study for the establishment of an Energy Management Centre, which would also run the Energy Bus Programme. He has since completed his study and the report of the Commission is awaited.

#### **STD facility in Ramanathapuram**

4605. DR. V. RAJESHWARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not provided STD facility in Ramanathapuram so far;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) what action is being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Installation of transmission equipment is held up due to non-availability of building. Acquisition of the land for the building is under litigation. The case is being pursued with the State Government.

#### **Misuse of Telephones of Subscribers in Ludhiana**

4606. SHRI SALAHUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of complaints regarding misuse of telephones of the subscribers at Ludhiana have been received;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether telephones of the subscribers are disconnected arbitrarily even before the complaints are settled on account of non-payment of the bills; and

(d) if so, the details of the telephones such disconnected during the last six months and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b). Only two such complaints have been received so far.

(c) No, Sir. A notice under relevant ITR Rule is issued to the subscriber before disconnection is resorted to.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to (c).

#### **F.C.I. Storage Godowns in Kerala**

4607. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRIISHNAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of existing storage and godown facilities of the Food Corporation of India in Kerala;

(b) the storage capacity in metric tonnes and percentage of use during the years 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(c) whether it is proposed to build new godown facilities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD):

(a) As on 30.6.1987, the number of godowns with the Food Corporation of India in Kerala, owned and hired taken together, was 36.

(b) The storage capacity in Kerala and its percentage utilisation during the last three years was as follows:

Year	Capacity (In metric tonnes)	Percentage Utilisation
1984-85	4,84,540	60.4
1985-86	4,94,110	44.4
1986-87	5,23,500	67.5