

tractors to whom works are awarded by NLC. The number of such labourers is 7800. The period of contracts is generally for one year.

(c) No, Sir. Necessary steps are taken by NLC to ensure that contract workers are paid the minimum statutory wages.

(d) NLC is not under any statutory obligation to absorb the contract labourers on regular basis.

[*Translation*]

**Setting of Automatic Telephone Exchange at Devidhura in Pithoragarh District, U.P.**

8221 SHRI HARISH RAWAT Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether a proposal to set up an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Devidhura in Distt Pithoragarh U.P. has been approved

(b) if so when

(c) whether the said exchange has started functioning and

(d) if not the time by which it is likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) No Sir

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above

(d) Minimum required demand does not exist as yet

**Supply of Kerosene to Industrial Units**

8222 SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are supplying kerosene oil to industrial units for their industrial use and

(b) if not the reasons therefor?

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) and (b) Kerosene is essentially meant for domestic purposes i.e. cooking and illumination. Under the Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Price) order 1966 as amended from time to time the use of kerosene for essential industrial purpose is permitted only on technological grounds and necessity and the state Governments are competent to make allocation for such essential requirements from the State's quota. No separate allocation of kerosene is made by the Central Government for industrial use.

[*English*]

**Approval for setting up of industries in Tamil Nadu**

8223 SHRI P. R. S. VENKATESAN Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state

(a) the number of proposals for expansion or setting up new industrial units in Tamil Nadu pending consideration of Union Government and

(b) the reasons for delay in approval thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) (a) As on 21-4-87 70 Industrial Licence applications received under the provisions of Industries (Development and Regulation) Act 1951 for setting up Industries in Tamil Nadu were at various stages of processing

(b) It is the constant endeavour of the Government to dispose of all pending