

(c) whether Government propose to give any incentive to the entrepreneurs with a view to increase the production of plastic as well as plastic made goods?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) and (c). These include approvals to setting up additional capacities for the manufacture of plastic raw materials, measures to facilitate availability of raw materials to processing units at reasonable prices, setting up of facilities for training and other services to plastic industries, dissemination of information etc.

(b) No such census has been carried out.

Utilisation of Equipment Lying with Public Sector Units

2427. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of equipment lying unutilised with the public sector units under his Ministry and the total value thereof;

(b) the reasons for not utilising the equipment by them;

(c) the value of imported as well as indigenous components of the said equipment; and

(d) whether there has been any deterioration in the quality of the equipment due to their non-utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO) : (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Direct Telegraph Service Between Calcutta and Balurghat W.B.

2428. SHRI PALAS BARMAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce direct telegraph service between Calcutta and Balurghat and open a Departmental Telegraph Office (DTO) at Balurghat, the district headquarters of West Dinajpur in West Bengal; and

(b) the reasons for non-functioning of telegraph service between Balurghat, Hilli and Kumarganj in West Dinajpur of West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) It is proposed to connect Balurghat with Calcutta through Store and Forward System at Siliguri for more speedy delivery to telegrams. Presently, opening of a Departmental Telegraph Office is not justified as the Telegraph Traffic is much below the required norms.

(b) The Telegraph Service between Balurghat, Hilli and Kumarganj has been disrupted because of natural calamities like cyclones, floods etc. However, action is being taken to stabilize the same.

[Translation]

Performance of Telephone Exchanges In U.P. and Bihar

2429. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government to