

1	2	3	4
3.	Pathanamitha	19	6028
4.	Alleppy	22	5237
5.	Kottayam	28	12189
6.	Idduki	16	16965
7.	Ernakulam	47	3798
8.	Trichur	24	11892
9.	Palghat	48	4411
10.	Malapuram	28	5664
11.	Calicut	19	11598
12.	Wynad	12	1629
13.	Cannanore	38	12169
14.	Kasargod	39	2612

(c) 19,100 lines are proposed to be added in switching capacity during 1989-90 and about 15000 new connections are proposed to be given. Out of total number of 632 exchanges 7 are manual exchanges which are proposed to be automatised during 1989-90.

[*Translation*]

Facilities to Small Industries in Punjab

7637. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMMOOWALIA:
SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the small industries in

Punjab observed a strike on March, 27, 1989;

(b) whether they have submitted a memorandum to Government for providing certain facilities to them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government thereon?

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

(b) Yes, Sir. The Punjab Government have informed that Federation of Associa-

tions of Small Scale Industries of India (Punjab Chapter) has submitted a Memorandum dated 27.3.1989.

(c) The Memorandum seeks facilities and concessions covering a wide range of items. These include upward revision of income tax exemption limit, modification in labour laws applicable to small scale industries, reduction in rate of interest charged by banks and collection charges, withdrawal of Government of India's Press Note No. 1/89 dated 18.1.1989, raising of Central Excise Exemption limit and enhancement of licensing limit for the purpose of excise duty, abolition of auxiliary custom duty on Nickel, adequate supply of Iron and Steel items etc.

(d) Government have been receiving similar suggestions from Industries Associations/small scale units from time to time. In taking decisions, various aspects like availability of resources, needs of other important sectors of the economy etc. have to be kept in view.

Additional limit to the extent of 50% of the existing limits enjoyed by units in Punjab has been extended upto 31.3.90. The national credit under MODVAT scheme at 5% has been extended beyond 31.3.89. The Government have enacted "The Labour Laws (Exemption From Furnishing Returns and Maintaining Registers by Certain Establishments) Act, 1988" to ease the situation in this regard. The list of items reserved for exclusive manufacture in the small scale sector is kept under constant review.

[English]

Broadcasting of Regional News Bulletin on Medium Waves

7638. SHRI V.S. VIJAYRAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the news bulletins in regional languages are broadcast from Delhi on Short Waves;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the audibility of the broadcasts is very low;

(d) whether it is proposed to broadcast the regional news bulletins on Medium Wave; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b). The Central regional language news bulletins are broadcast from Delhi on short-wave frequencies for networking by AIR Stations as these are required to be relayed by the regional stations on their medium wave channels;

(c) No, Sir;

(d) The regional language news bulletins are already being broadcast on medium wave by the respective regional stations of AIR.

(e) Does not arise.

Large/Small Scale Industrial Units in Orissa

7639. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of large and small scale industrial units in Orissa as on 31 March, 1989 and the total number of workers engaged therein;

(b) the number of sick industries in Orissa alongwith reasons therefor and workers retrenched; and