

Waiting list for Telephone connections in major cities

794. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps in the last few months to wipe out the waiting list for telephone connections in major cities; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government has taken steps to meet the telephone demand at all places in the country including the major cities. At the beginning of the year, i.e., on 1-4-77, there was a waiting list of about 1,52,000 in the 19 large cities in the country. It is hoped to provide about 1 lac new telephone connections in these places during the current financial year. Of these, approximately 33,000 connections have been provided during the first 6 months of the year.

Labour unrest in Faridabad, Bombay-Poona and Madras Industrial Areas

795. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial areas of Faridabad, Bombay-Poona and Madras have been victims of widespread labour unrest in the last six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what steps have been taken to remove the cause of this unrest; and

(d) whether Government suspects organised sabotage in these areas and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (d). The Government has received re-

ports of industrial unrest in the industrial areas of Faridabad, Bombay-Poona and Madras during the last six months. The matter essentially falls in the State sphere.

Bonus to Workers of Burhampur Tapti Mills

796. SHRI PARMANAND GOVINDJIWALA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state whether Bonus has been given to the workers of Burhampur Tapti Mills, an undertaking of N.T.C.?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): Bonus for 1976-77 is reported to have been paid to the workers of Burhampur Tapti Mills.

Losses in Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Udaipur

797. SHRI PARMANAND GOVINDJIWALA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in Hindustan Zinc, Udaipur the average treated ratio for the zinc cathode to calcine is only 0.39 which is 25 per cent less than the normal efficiency;

(b) is it not also a fact that due to below normal efficiency Hindustan Zinc has incurred a loss of Rs. 40 lakh from June 1976 to February 1977; and

(c) the steps taken to stop the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) to (c). The average ratio between zinc cathode and calcine during 1976-77 was 0.46 (and not 0.39) against the normal ratio of 0.50 attainable. The reduced recovery was mainly due to disruptions that occurred in the process of change-