

जामनगर, राजकोट, भावनगर, मुरेन्द्र नगर, अमरेली और कच्छ जिलों में, जिलावार, कितने नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन उपलब्ध कराये गये;

(ख) वर्ष 1977-78 में इन जिलों में जिलावार, उपलब्ध किये जाने वाले नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों की कुल संख्या क्या है; और

(ग) वर्ष 1978-79 में इन जिलों में जिलावार, कितने नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन उपलब्ध कराये जाने का प्रस्ताव है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी) : (क) से (ग) विभाग हर एक टेलीफोन एक्सचेंज की प्रतीक्षा सूची और नए टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों आदि का रिकार्ड सामान्यतः अलग-अलग रखता है । इन तीनों जिलों के विवरण का संकलन किया जा रहा है और सत्र के दौरान इसे सभा पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

छाया प्लॉट वार्ड संख्या 11, पोरबन्दर (गुजरात) में एक शाखा डाकघर खोलने संबंधी मांग

453. श्री धर्मसिंह भाई पटेल : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि .

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात राज्य में स्थित आदर्श मित्र मंडल, पोरबन्दर जिला जूनागढ़ ने नवम्बर, 1977 में पोरबन्दर के छाया प्लॉट वार्ड संख्या 11 में एक शाखा डाकघर खोलने की मांग की थी और यदि हां, तो शाखा डाकघर खोलने के लिए क्या कारण दिए गए हैं ;

(ख) वहां पर शाखा डाकघर कब खोलने का प्रस्ताव है ; और

(ग) इस मामले में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई है अथवा करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नरहरि प्रसाद मुखर्जी) : (क) जी हां ।

इस इलाके की जनता को बेहतर डाक सुविधाएं देने के लिए ऐसा किया गया है ।

(ख) और (ग) इस प्रस्ताव की जांच की गई है और डाकघर खोलने का औचित्य पाया गया है । उपर्युक्त इमारत उपलब्ध हो जाने पर यह डाकघर खोल दिया जाएगा ।

Points discussed with Prime Minister of U.K.

454. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN:
SHRI YASHWANT BOROLE:
SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the main points discussed by the Prime Minister of India with the Prime Minister of UK while the latter visited India recently;

(b) the assessment regarding the result of this visit and also the discussion held with him;

(c) whether it is a fact that India and UK could not agree on questions in relation to nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJ-PAYEE): (a) During the visit of the British Prime Minister to India, the talks covered various international issues, including the situation in Africa and West Asia and the North-South Dialogue. Bilateral issues pertaining to trade, persons of Indian origin in

the UK and economic cooperation were also touched upon.

(b) The visit succeeded in achieving its main objective which was to strengthen the friendly relations between the UK and India.

(c) and (d). The Prime Minister explained Government of India's stand on various aspects of the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. This was understood by the British Prime Minister.

Points discussed with Shah of Iran

455. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the main points discussed by the Prime Minister with Shah of Iran when he visited India recently; and

(b) the assessment regarding the result of this visit and also the discussion held with Shah of Iran?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Prime Minister held detailed discussions with the Shahanshah of Iran during his visit to India on important international issues and matters of regional significance. They also decided to explore further possibilities of expanding bilateral cooperation between them.

(b) The visit resulted in forging closer bonds between India and Iran and in widening the field of cooperation between the two countries, both bilaterally and through joint ventures in other countries. The Shahanshah of Iran offered to make available additional crude oil supplies on credit basis to participate in or finance approved project such as Alumina project for the Eastern Coast deposits of bauxite. Paper and Pulp Factory for Tripura and the Second Stage of Rajasthan Canal. It was also decided to constitute a Sub-Joint Committee on Petro-Chemicals for pursuing possibilities of

bilateral cooperation in that field. In the cultural field, it was decided to establish two chairs, one at Tehran and the other in Delhi to promote research and study of the history of India-Iran relations. The Government of India have decided to assist in the organisation of an exhibition of India art and culture in Iran in 1980.

Steel production hampered during the current year

456. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that steel production has been hampered during the current year;

(b) if so, what are the main reasons;

(c) the steps taken by Government to rectify these faults; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to increase its production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI KARIA MUNDA): (a) Yes, Sir. Although the aggregate production of saleable steel from the integrated steel plants during the period, April 1977—January 1978, exceeded the production in the corresponding period in 1976-77 by 1.2 per cent, it fell short of the target by 5.9 per cent.

(b) and (c). Production has been affected adversely on account of such factors as frequent restrictions/interruptions in the supply of power, particularly at Bokaro and Durgapur Steel Plants and at IISCO; inadequate supplies of coking coal in terms of quantity and quality; strike at Dugda and Bhojudih Coal Washeries in October, 1977 and indifferent industrial relations situation in some of the plants, particularly at IISCO.

Constant liaison is being maintained with the Ministry of Energy, D.V.C. and the coal supplying agencies so as