

cellaneous equipment between P and T and the French Company SOFRECOM.

Two Memoranda of Understanding were also signed. One Memorandum will cover R & D collaboration between Telecom Research Centre of P & T Department and its counterpart. Organisation CNET of the French Telecom Administration; the second memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Ministers of Communications of India and France to cover all the above agreements assuring the support of the French Government in the execution of these agreements. The total financial commitment at current prices is estimated at 870 million F.F.

(c) The imported equipment will partly meet the shortfall in telephone exchange equipment during the current Plan. The setting up of the indigenous production will help in substantial increase in the indigenous availability of telephone switching equipment to meet the requirements during the next plan.

The places selected for installation of the directly imported exchanges are Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Delhi, Kanpur, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Pathankot and Sriganaganagar.

Coal Production

421. SHRI AMAL DUTTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state the State-wise break-up of coal production during the last five years and how much of it has been used for thermal power stations (State-wise break-up)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Safety measures in coal mines

422. SHRI SUSHIL BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unsafe coal mines—the number being as large 99—are being operated without taking proper safety measures;

(b) if so, what steps the Ministry have so far taken to avert disaster in such mines; and

(c) if not, what measures Government propose to take in making the erring companies conform to the prescribed safety devices in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA): (a) No unsafe mine under Coal India Ltd. is being worked in the country. However, when a mine or any part of the mine is considered unsafe, a prohibitory order under Sec. 22(3) of Mines Act 1952 is imposed immediately by DGMS and the work is stopped. The mine so declared unsafe is not worked until the hazards are removed.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Unemployment Allowance

423. SHRI R. N. RAKESH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the names of States which give unemployment allowance together with the amount and period for which it is given in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): The available information is given in the attached statement.