

THE DEPUTY MINISTER, IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) and (b). No specific complaint has been received with regard to the closure of any of the mills in the State of Gujarat due to shortage of coal. Co-ordinated efforts are being made by the coal producing organisations to increase the coal production and by the Railways to increase movement of coal to the various industries in the State.

Application from Rajasthan for Industrial Licences

2319. SHRI SHRIKRISHAN MODI: Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state:

(a) total number of applications received for grant of industrial licences for various industries in Rajasthan upto November, 1974; and

(b) the number out of them which have been disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b). The total number of applications for industrial licences from the State of Rajasthan received and disposed of during 1974 upto 15th November, 1974, are 177 and 106 respectively.

Applications from Goa for Industrial Licences

2320. SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR: Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES** be pleased to state:

(a) total number of applications received for grant of industrial licences from various industries in Goa upto November, 1974; and

(b) the number out of them which have been disposed off?

THE MINISTER OF STATE, IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b). The total number of applications for Industrial Licences from Goa received and disposed of during 1974 upto 15th November, 1974 are 27 and 17 respectively.

Utilisation of unspent amount sanctioned by R.E.C. for tubewells and Electrification of Villages in Bihar

2321. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of **ENERGY** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2414 on the 14th August, 1974 regarding utilisation of unspent amount sanctioned by REC for tubewells and electrification of villages in Bihar and state:

(a) whether the entire amount allocated by the R.E.C. to Bihar for rural electrification remained unutilised but was entirely spent on some other purposes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD): (a) to (c). The Schemes sanctioned by the R.E.C. are phased for completion over a period ranging upto 5 years. The loan amount is disbursed in instalments according to the year-wise phasing as also physical progress of the schemes. Consequently, there is some gap of time between the disbursement of loan amount by the Corporation and its full utilisation by the State Electricity Board.

The Bihar State Electricity Board had upto 30th June, 1974 utilised about 45 per cent of the amount disbursed to them till 31st March, 1973. The Board have not spent the amount already received for some other purpose.

The main reasons for shortfall in utilisation have been organisational deficiencies and short supply of certain essential construction materials such as Poles, Conductors, Transformers, Steel Sections, etc.

The Corporation has taken steps to ensure that loan amounts drawn by the Electricity Board are utilised in the manner prescribed. While sanctioning further loan assistance the Corporation is now taking into account the progress and proper arrangements made by the Board in implementation of the schemes approved earlier. The first instalment of the loan amount has also since been reduced from 40 per cent to 25 per cent.

The Bihar State Electricity Board has agreed to strengthen their rural electrification wing and assured that the required material for the rural electrification schemes would be procured in time. It is likely to improve utilisation of funds during this year.

Setting up of Paper Plants in U.P.

2322 SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.P. Government have urged the Centre to set up two paper plants in the State; and

(b) if so, the decision of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) and (b). The U.P. Government have written to the Centre suggesting a number of alternatives for the setting up of two paper plants in the State. No final decision has been taken in this regard and the suggestions are being examined in the light of resource availability and the possibilities of early implementation of the projects.

Setting up of Watch Factory in Collaboration with Switzerland

2323. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

SHRI R. S. PANDEY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached with the Federations of Swiss Watch Manufacturers for the establishment of a watch factory in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI B. P. MAURYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Applications for new Telephone Connections in Delhi

2324. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of applications for new telephone connections registered in Delhi since April, 1973 and the time by which the demands in full are likely to be met?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKAR DAYAL SHARMA): The No. of applications for new telephone connections registered in Delhi since April, 1973 are:—

OYT	—	15550
General	—	12417
Special	—	4243

There is a general shortage of exchange equipment and underground cables in the country. Steps have already been taken to arrange for additional exchange capacity and underground cables for providing new