

(b) if so, the details alongwith the number thereof, State-wise and particularly in district Coochbehar, West Bengal; and

(c) the action taken, by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information has been called for the same will be placed on the Table of the House.

- (c)
1. Instructions have been issued to provide STD/ISD/ PCOs from electronic Exchanges only. In places which are served by electronic Exchanges only. In places which are served by electronmechanical exchanges, new 128-P C-DOT electronic exchanges are opened to cater to the needs of STD/ISD PCOs as far as possible.
  2. The Electronic exchange provides dynamic STD/ISD Control facility by which STD/ISD on the telephone can be opened or closed as a check against misuse. Moreover, bills with details of STD/ISD calls are issued through which franchisee can know the details of the calls made from the PCO.
  3. Indoor equipment and outdoor plants are checked to identify any technical fault.
  4. Entry to the exchanges has been restricted.
  5. Vigilance unit also conducts surprise checks against misuse or diversion of line.

[Translation]

#### Import of Sugar

\*318. SHRI GANGA CHARAN RAJPUT : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of sugar imported during 1994-95;

(b) whether it is a fact that the then Government had sold the imported sugar through the Government agencies at less than the cost price; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the loss of foreign exchange as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (c). During the financial year 1st April, 1994-31st March, 1995, STC and MMTC together imported about 9.77 lakh tonnes of sugar. The value of this sugar worked out to about US \$ 37.93 crores.

This sugar was imported for meeting the demand of Public Distribution System and therefore, sold at an issue price of Rs.9.05 per kg. In view of this the question of loss does not arise.

[English]

#### Production of Minerals

\*319. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the States where chromite, graphite, bauxite, dolomite and manganese ore are available;

(b) the approximate quantum of these minerals deposits in those States, State-wise;

(c) the annual production of these minerals during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the steps taken for the proper exploitation of these minerals?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) States where Chromite, Graphite, Bauxite, Dolomite and Manganese Ore available is given below :-

S.No.	Mineral	States where available
1.	Chromite	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Karnataka, Maharastra, Manipur, Orissa & Tamil Nadu.
2.	Graphite	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.
3.	Bauxite	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
4.	Dolomite	Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.
5.	Manganese Ore	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal.

(b) State-wise deposits are mentioned in the enclosed Statement-I.

(c) State-wise Annual production of the minerals during last three years is as per enclosed statement-II.

(d) The Govt. policies including the New Mineral Policy of 1993 encourage investments in the mineral sector. Also the Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957, Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 and Mineral Conservation & Development Rules, 1988 provide for proper exploitation of the minerals.