

intent/industrial licences issued for establishment of new sugar factories in the cooperative sector and pending implementation is as under :

(As on 15.6.96)

S.No.	State	No. of Letters of intent Pending Implementation
1.	Haryana	1
2.	Punjab	1
3.	Uttar Pradesh	3
4.	Gujarat	9
5.	Maharashtra	43
6.	Karnataka	8
7.	Tamil Nadu	2
8.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1
Total		68

Generally, it takes about 3-4 years to set up a new sugar factory. 25 Letters of intent were issued during the sugar year 1993-94, (October-September) & one letter of intent during 1995-96 and the remaining letters of intent are under various stages of implementation.

(c) The implementation of Letter of Intent/Industrial Licence is the responsibility of the entrepreneur. The Central Government does not provide any loans for the setting up of new sugar factories in the cooperative sector. However, such loans are provided by the financial institutions directly to the undertakings. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) also provides loan assistance to State Governments for contribution towards the share capital of the sugar factories.

Special Increment of Officials In Vidhesh Sanchar Nigam

2487. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Vidhesh Sanchar Nigam Limited has granted 14 special increments to some of its higher officers appointed in 1995-96 on the plea that these officers were highly qualified;

(b) if so, the rules under which these increments were sanctioned;

(c) whether these officers were sent abroad for further training; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of (c) above.

P.F. Racket At Post Office

2488. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government have been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Hindustan Times dated March 15, 1996 captioned 'PF racket at post office';

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether investigation into the said scandal has since been completed;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons for delay;

(f) whether some officers/employees of the Department of Posts/Post Office have been found involved in this case;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken against them?

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

(b) The fraud to the extent of Rs.14,84,630/- has taken place at Kalkaji Post Office during the period from Nov. 94 to Sep.95, relating to money orders presented by Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Nehru Place to be issued at Kalkaji Post Office, New Delhi.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) the responsible officials have been identified.

(e) Question does not arise in view of (c) and (d) above.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) and (h). 4 officials found involved have been placed under suspension and appropriate action initiated.

Loss Suffered by KSCSC

2489. SHRI A.C. JOS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the amount suffered by the Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation due to difference in ex-factory price and issue price of levy sugar;

(b) whether the Union Government compensate the above loss;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the other steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) to (d). The losses suffered by the State Governments are compensated by the Central Govt. through a fund

named Levy Sugar Price Equalisation Fund (LSPEF) maintained by the Food Corporation of India on behalf of the Central Govt. Government of India has released a subsidy of Rs.258.67 crores and Rs.155.62 crores to Food Corporation of India to make payment to State Agencies for their differential claims due to the revision of levy price of sugar. FCI has, therefore, made an on account payment of Rupees Five crores ninety four lakh sixty nine thousand six hundred and sixty (Rs.5,94,69,660/-) to the Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation for the losses suffered by the KCSCSC for the period 1.10.95 to 30.6.96.

Bidhanbag Unit of BALCO

2490. SHRI HARADHAN ROY : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 118 on December 4, 1995 and state :

(a) whether the streamlining and modernising of the Conductor Plant of Bidhanbag Unit of BALCO has since been completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the time by which it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (c). The work of revamping and modernisation of Conductor Plant of Bidhanbag Unit of Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd (BALCO) to produce All Aluminium Alloy conductor (AAAC) was awarded to M/s Galada Power and Telecom Ltd. Hyderabad (GPTL). Supply/erection/commissioning of all equipment/facilities except for 37 Bobbin Stranding Machine has been completed. This remaining work is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to States

*2491. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA :

SHRI CHANDRESH PATEL :

SHRI DATTA MEGHE :

SHRI GANGA RAM KOLI :

SHRI KACHARU BHAI RAUT :

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided or propose to provide financial and any other assistance to various States for the construction of hotels, motels and guest houses and for the maintenance of the same;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance provided during the last three years, till date State-wise;

(c) the locations of hotels, motels and guest houses opened in the country during the above period and the expenditure incurred on each of them;

(d) whether the Union Government propose to open such new hotels, motels and guest houses during the next three years; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):

(a) to (c). The Department of Tourism, Government of India does not provide financial assistance for construction of hotels, motels and guest houses to the State Governments. However, financial assistance is provided to State/Union Territory Governments for construction of Tourist Bungalows, Tourist Complexes, Tourist Lodges, Wayside Amenities, Yatri Niwases, Cafeterias, Tented Accommodation, etc. During the last three years, the financial assistance provided to State/Union Territory Governments is given in the attached Statement.

(d) and (e). No, Sir. Does not arise.

STATEMENT

Central Financial Assistance Sanctioned to the State Governments/Union Territories during VIII Five Year Plan, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96.

S.No.	States	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
		Amount Sanct- ioned	Amount Sanct- ioned	Amount Sanct- ioned
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	114.28	171.99	13.46
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	45.40	-	52.26
3.	Assam	78.11	52.99	70.24
4.	Bihar	9.75	103.10	116.53
5.	Goa	78.82	76.74	181.06
6.	Gujarat	65.76	14.50	7.98
7.	Haryana	226.76	173.98	111.45
8.	Himachal Pradesh	369.25	297.90	475.90
9.	J and K	236.19	143.47	105.30
10.	Karnataka	177.44	229.96	229.76
11.	Kerala	97.40	287.05	209.94
12.	Madhya Pradesh	30.42	-	-
13.	Maharashtra	309.11	207.39	38.31
14.	Manipur	45.50	-	75.82
15.	Meghalaya	1.85	-	4.09
16.	Mizoram	88.18	56.49	154.66
17.	Nagaland	16.66	23.08	51.60
18.	Orissa	101.52	164.60	108.86