[Translation]

Effect of Pepsi Project on Land Area for Agricultural Production of Common Use

7229. SHRI RÅMESHWAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether setting up of companies like Pepsi Cola is likely to result in utilization of more area for production of items of high commercial value and less area of land for growing crops of common use; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to avoid such a situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b). Farmers' choice of crops to be cultivated on available lands is determined by land and other resource endowment and economic conditions. Government encourages the establishment of food processing industries to ensure better returns to farmers and proper utilisation of agricultural produce, leading to optimum utilisation of land and other resources.

Corruption in Exchanges of Calcutta Telephones

7230. SHRIM.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of subscribers, telephones in Calcutta are being tampered with by some vested group of employees in Calcutta Telephones;

(b) whether large number of telephone accessories and cables have been missing from the stores and records;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of cases processed and completed during the last two years; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There are some complaints about tampering of subscribers' telephones in Calcutta Telephones. However, these have been found to be vague and could not be substantiated.

(b) Some cases of loss of telephones accessories and cables have come to notice.

(C)		Value	
(i)	Telephone instruments- 314 Nos. and other accessories	Rs.	15,79,265/-
(ii)	Sw. Bd Cable and Power cables (59 drums)	Rs.	8,85,000/-
(i#)	Lead sleeves-186 Nos.	Rs.	35,890/-

Investigations are in progress. Reasons will be known after investigations.