

### New Telephone Connections Given to Bangalore Development Authority

\*194. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether very few new telephone connections have been given to newly formed Bangalore Development Authority layouts and extensions;

(b) whether, in view of increasing thefts and other problems, Government will ensure that telephone facilities are provided to newly formed Bangalore Development layouts/extensions in Bangalore on priority basis; and

(c) the number of applications pending for new telephone connections under General Scheme relating to J. P. Nagar Layout, Banashankari second stage and Vijayanagar Layout ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Telephone connections have been given in newly formed Bangalore Development Authority layouts and extensions as per the waiting list and the telephone allotment rules subject to availability of capacity in the concerned exchanges.

(b) Priority is not normally given for individual telephones. However, public telephones can be provided on merits for needs of the residents of such areas.

(c) The number of applications pending for new telephone connections under General Category is given as under :

| Locality                      | Waiting List |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. J.P. Nagar                 | 409          |
| 2. Banashankari<br>2nd Stage. | 107          |
| 3. Vijayanagar                | 1912         |

### Taking over of M/s. Containers and Closures Limited (W.B.)

\*195. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :  
SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from Government of West Bengal to reconsider the proposal for taking over M/s. Containers and Closures Limited in West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to take over this unit; and

(c) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### Import of Crude Oil and Petroleum Products from Soviet Union

\*196. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to import 5.5 million tonnes of crude oil and petroleum products from Soviet Union during the current year;

(b) if so, whether any agreements in this regard were signed recently;

(c) if so, the main features of agreements; and

(d) the extent to which the import of crude oil and petroleum products will help India in meeting the demand that has increased over the years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISORE SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The agreements are concluded in pursuance of the Trade Protocol between India and USSR to provide for the import of the requisite quality and quantity of crude oil and the products to meet our demands.

(d) The import will help in partly meeting the gap between the demand and the production in the country.

### Allotment of Kerosene for West Bengal

\*197. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have received any communication from West Bengal Government regarding allotment of kerosene for the State;

(b) if so, when and the salient features of the said communication;

(c) whether Government have responded favourably to the said communication;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons for the delay ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM. (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since July, 1984, Government of West Bengal have been requesting for increasing their monthly kerosene allocation by 5000 to 7500 tonnes per month to meet the increased demand mainly due to short supply of soft coke.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The following additional releases on ad-hoc basis over and above the normal allocations have been made to West Bengal since July, 1984 :—

| Month           | Additional ad-hoc releases. |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| July, 1984      | 2500 Tonnes                 |
| August, 1984    | 3500 Tonnes                 |
| September, 1984 | 3500 Tonnes                 |
| October, 1984   | 3500 Tonnes                 |
| November, 1984  | 2350 Tonnes                 |
| December, 1984  | 4850 Tonnes                 |
| January, 1985   | 2350 Tonnes                 |
| February, 1985  | 2850 Tonnes                 |
| March, 1985     | 2110 Tonnes                 |

(e) Does not arise.

#### Quality and Production of Newsprint

**\*198. SHRI AMAR SINGH RATHAWA :  
SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :**

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether the quality of newsprint manufactured in India is inferior to the imported one;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to ascertain the causes;

(c) if so, the main causes identified;

(d) the steps being taken to improve the quality and also to increase the production of newsprint within the country to avoid the import;

(e) whether there is any proposal to establish more newsprint plants in the country in the Seventh Plan period or expanding the production capacity of the existing plants; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :** (a) The quality of newsprint produced by Hindustan Newsprint Ltd., and Mysore Paper Mills Ltd., is generally comparable with that of imported newsprint. The newsprint produced by Nepa Mills is darker in shade and the grammage is also generally higher as compared to imported newsprint.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The raw material is of unconventional type and has very short fibre length and poor strength characteristics as compared to coniferous soft wood being used in other countries, which is long fibred and naturally bright, thus requiring no bleaching or only marginal bleaching.

(d) Continuous efforts are being made to improve the quality of Nepa newsprint as indicated below :—

(i) The mills have introduced Bamboo Cold Soda Pulp instead of Salai Cold Soda Pulp to increase the strength properties resulting in good runnability, reduction in grammage and higher production.

(ii) Paper Machines are being renovated to get better quality newsprint and more yardage per tonne of newsprint.

(iii) Imported soft wood pulps are being used to improve the longer fibre fraction in furnish to help in production of better quality newsprint.

(iv) Large scale plantation of Subabul has been taken up to produce newsprint of acceptable shade and strength characteristics with better printability, opacity and smoothness.

With regard to increase in the production of newsprint within the country, continuous efforts are being made to improve the capacity utilisation of the existing mills.

(e) and (f). An additional capacity of 5.83 lakh tonnes have been approved by way of Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent, which are under various stages of implementation. The details of Industrial Licences/Letters of Intent given to the various parties are as follows :—