

(b) and (c). Apart from the regular post offices and mobile post offices, a new scheme has also been introduced under which suitable institutions and individuals can be licensed to undertake specified items of postal work on commission basis.

(d) and (e). Postal facilities in Basti district of Uttar Pradesh have been reviewed. Already there are 577 post offices in the District. In that district there is one post office for 2.25 sq. kms. in urban areas and 12.97 sq. kms. in rural areas. The corresponding figures for Uttar Pradesh are 2.40 sq. Kms. and 17.77 sq. kms. respectively. The present state of development of postal facilities in Basti can therefore be taken as adequate.

[English]

**Telecommunication Services in
Arunachal Pradesh**

*418. SHRI WANGPHA LOWANG : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that tele-communication services in Arunachal Pradesh are extremely poor;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the same; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up on priority basis the improvement of the telecommunication services in Arunachal Pradesh in view of Arunachal Pradesh being situated in far-flung area of the country and cut-off from the mainstream of national life ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Telephone services in Arunachal Pradesh are generally satisfactory.

(b) Following steps are being taken to further improve the telephone services :

(i) Maintenance routines are being vigorously enforced.

(ii) Long overhead open wire lines are being replaced by reliable UHF microwave radio relay systems and satellite communications.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Surrender of LPG Licences by
Distributors in Hyderabad
and Secunderabad**

*419. SHRI SODE RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 50 LPG distributors in Hyderabad and Secunderabad have surrendered their licences to the civil supplies authorities protesting against the Government's refusal to increase commission to them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) and (b). On November 15, 1985 LPG distributors of Hyderabad and Secunderabad other than those operated by the Andhra Pradesh Civil Supplies Corporation surrendered Licences granted to them by the State Government, expressing apprehension about arrests through stringent application of the Andhra Pradesh Petroleum Products (Licensing and Regulation of Supplies) Order, 1980. The situation was resolved on November 17, 1985 and normal functioning of the distributorship resumed.

Supply of Cement to Orissa

*422. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement of cement in Orissa and actual quantity supplied by Government during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that supply of cement to Orissa during the last three years has been far below its requirement; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof and the action Government propose to take to meet full requirement of Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) On introduction of policy of partial decontrol, the initial

basic allocation for Orissa State was fixed at 57,8000 tonnes per quarter in April, 1982. This was raised to 61,800 tonnes per quarter in April, 1983 and again to 67,800 tonnes per quarter in October, 1984. The Government of Orissa had requested in February, 1984 that their quarterly allocation may be increased to 1,01,800 tonnes. The request was not agreed to on account of limited availability of levy cement. Besides the States' quarterly allocations, allocations for the irrigation and power projects in the States are made in addition, as per the quantities determined and advised every quarter by the Central Water Commission and the Central Electricity Authority.

The details regarding the allocations made for Orissa State (including allocation for Irrigation and Power Projects) and the despatches (including those for irrigation and power projects) in the financial years 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 are as per the details given below :—

(Figures in '000 tonnes)

Period	Allocation to the State (including allocation for Irrigation and Power Projects)	Despatches	%age of despatches to allocation
1982-83	559	359	64
1983-84	503	441	88
1984-85	469	324	69

(b) and (c). The despatches have not been to the full extent of allocation because of various factors like shortfall in production on account of power cuts imposed on factories supplying cement to Orisa; less availability with local factories in Orissa to meet the full allocation; transport difficulty in movement, etc. On account of the expansion in the licensed capacity of Hira Cement (Bargarh) from 4 lakh tonnes per annum to 5.65 lakh tonnes per annum the local availability of cement in Orissa is expected to increase. In addition, the position is reviewed from time to time and appropriate remedial action is taken.

Tender for Second Mine Expansion of Neyveli Lignite Corporation

*423. DR. V. VENKATESH :
SHRI H. G. RAMULU :

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the total cost of the project for second mine expansion of the Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited has been finally determined;

(b) whether the same would involve some credit financing for abroad; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). KFW, a West German Financing Agency, has agreed in principle to give financial assistance for meeting the foreign exchange requirements in respect of equipment/components to be procured from West Germany.

Industrialisation of Tribal Area of Baroda District (Gujarat)

*424. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the tribale area of Baroda District in Gujarat is the most backward area in regard to industry;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to start some big industry in this area to provide jobs to the adivasi people of the area; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to industrialise this area during the Seventh Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) Baroda district in Gujarat has not been declared as Centrally identified backward area.

(b) and (c). No survey has been conducted by the Central Government in this area.