

(b) The State Governments of Gujarat and West Bengal had suggested participation of the Central Government in the equity share capital of the petro-chemicals complexes proposed to be set up in their respective States.

[Translation]

**Setting up of Small Telephone Exchanges in Almora District of U.P.**

+473. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to set up small Telephone Exchanges at Lamgarh Danya, Tarikhet and Devalikhet in Almora District of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the time by which these Exchanges will be set up ?

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) : Estimate for opening of 25 line SAXs at Lamgarh stands sanctioned. The exchange could not be opened due to non-payment of demand notes by the minimum required prospective applicants. It will be opened after the required applicants make the payment.

An estimate for opening of 25 line SAX at Danya is being processed for sanction and is likely to be opened in 1985-86 on receipt of stores.

There is no proposal to open SAXs at Terikhet and Devlikhet at present.

[English]

**Phone Expansion Plan**

474 SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are ambitious telephone expansion plans to cover the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether these plans also cover the rural areas whereby telephones in rural areas will be available within a reach of 1 Km. for every citizen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) These are still under discussion with the Planning Commission.

(c) No, Sir. The proposals envisage availability of telephone within 5 Kms. of most inhabitations.

**S.T.D. Facilities in Pattanathitta District**

475 PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pattanathitta district in Kerala does not have STD facilities at present ; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to introduce STD facilities in this district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is planned to provide STD facility to Pattanathitta by linking it with Trivandrum Trunk Automatic Exchange.

**Introduction of 'New Drug Policy'**

476 SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce 'New Drug Policy' ;