

(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' ;

(b) if so, the new factors expected to be taken into consideration in the new drug policy ; and

(c) the time by which the new policy is expected to be introduced ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) ; (a) to (c) : Review of the 1978 Drug Policy is in progress. The basic approach underlying the report of the National Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Development Council is that—

- (i) Special attention need to be paid by the Government to the priority drugs—drugs which are widely used in medical practice and are required for national programme for major diseases like T.B., Leprosy, Malaria etc., and
- (ii) That Policy should be re-oriented to ensure that the drugs are available in abundant quantities at fair prices and with good quality.

The report would now be considered by the Consultative Committee attached to the Ministry. It is difficult to indicate specifically when the New Drug Policy would be announced.

Action taken on 95th Report of Law Commission Bifurcation of Supreme Court

477. SHRI CHITTA MAHATA :
PROF. MADHU DANAVATE :
SHRI AMAR ROYPRADHAN :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to states :

(a) whether Government propose to divide the Supreme Court into the constitutional and legal divisions on the recommendations contained in the 95th Report of Law Commission ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the number of constitutional cases and

legal cases so far pending in the Supreme Court ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ) : (a) and (c) : The Commission has recommended in its Ninety-fifth Report submitted to the Government on 1st March, 1984 that the Supreme Court of India should consist of two divisions, namely, (a) Constitutional Division; and (b) Legal Division, and has also recommended certain amendments to the Constitution and consequential provisions to be regulated by ordinary legislation. The matter is at a preliminary stage of consideration and no decisions have been taken with regard to these recommendations. It is only after an indepth study of these recommendations in consultation with the authorities concerned that decisions will be taken.

(b) The number of constitutional cases and legal cases pending in the Supreme Court as on 31.12.1984 is as follows :—

(i) Constitutional matters ... 15,021

(ii) Non-Constitutional matters
... 31,847

In addition, there are 33,865 admission matters and 62,158 miscellaneous petitions pending in the Supreme Court as on 31.12.1984.

Increase in Profit Levels in Public Undertakings Under Ministry of Defence

478. SHRI K. RAMCHANDRA REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether all the nine public undertakings under Ministry of Defence have increased their profit levels by 27 per cent ;

(b) if so, details of this achievement :