

**SHRI UMA SHANKAR DIKSHIT:** Sir, the question was discussed with the Chief Minister of Haryana as to the selection of a site and other preparatory work in connection with the building of a capital. No selection of site has been made nor has any request been made for making available funds required under the decision. But, that does not mean that the decision taken is in any way affected adversely.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Waiting period for new telephone connections

\*810. **SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under the consideration of Government to reduce the waiting period for new telephone connections from the present 30 months to half the period;

(b) if so, the time by which decision would be taken; and

(c) the time by which the telephone connections would be provided to persons whose requests are pending for more than 10 years?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. BRAHMANANDA REDDY):** (a) and (b). The draft 5th Five Year Plan for Telecommunications (Issue 2-Dec. '72) submitted to

the Planning Commission envisages reduction of average waiting period for telephone connections from 2.5 years to 1.3 years. The Waiting Period is also planned to be eliminated by about 1982-83.

(c) It is not possible to indicate a specific date as these locations call for extensions to the existing network or capacity.

##### Setting up of Oxygen and Dissolved Acetylene Units in West Bengal

\*811. **SHRI LUTFAL HAQUE:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3835 on the 20th March, 1974 regarding shortage of Industrial gases in West Bengal and state outlines of the proposals for setting up the Oxygen and dissolved Acetylene gases Units in West Bengal/the location of the unit, capacity and the timing when the industries will come up?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM):** In addition to the units already installed in West Bengal for manufacture of oxygen and dissolved acetylene gases, two more proposals have been approved for manufacture of these gases. The position of these two cases is as follows:—

S. No.	Name of the firm	Location	Annual capacity approved (million cu. metre)	Stages of implementation, position of capital goods etc.	
			Oxygen	D.A.	
1	2	3	4	5	
1.	Sh. Dilip Kumar Jajodia, Calcutta	Not indicated.	0.90	0.20	The firm has not placed order for the supply of Oxygen plant. It is therefore, difficult to indicate the period of implementation of the project.

1	2	3	4	5
2	Sh. Ram Rup Calcutta	Sharma, Howrah	0.70	The firm expects to obtain delivery of the Oxygen plant in August, 1975. The project is likely to be implemented by the end of the next year.

**Grants-in-aid to Welfare Associations of Government employees**

years and the total amount given to them is as follows:—

\*813. SHRI P VENKATASUB-BALAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Welfare Associations of Government servants are granted grants-in-aid as a welfare measure;

(b) the number of such Associations and the total amount given to them during last three years as grants-in-aid; and

(c) whether the grants-in-aid are paid towards the end of the year generally; if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken to ensure that the grants are given in the beginning of the year to carry on the welfare activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information about the number of Associations that have received grants-in-aid during the last three

	No. of Associations	Total Amount
		Rs.
1971-72 . . .	85	96,745 93
1972-73 . . .	92	78,179 55
1973-74 . . .	85	1,06,547 40

(c) No, Sir. In order to see that the grant-in-aid is justified by the financial position of the grantee and to ensure that the previous grant was spent for the purpose for which it was intended, the associations are required to submit audited statements of account for grants given in the previous year before further grants are sanctioned. The majority of the Welfare Associations submit the accounts of the previous year by the prescribed date, viz 30th June, and are sanctioned grants by the middle of the financial year. Sanction of grant-in-aid is delayed only in the case of those Associations which fail to observe the time schedule and submit the accounts late or take unduly long time to settle the observations made on the accounts. In the case of Associations known to be functioning efficiently and making proper use of the grants, advance grant-in-aid up to 25 per cent of the amount received by them in the previous year is given if required by them for use during the period April-June.