

**SHRI K. A. RAJAN:** May I know from the hon. Minister, when there are dues from the telephone subscribers, what was the preference given to them, when the rules require that if there are dues, their telephones should be disconnected.

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA):** There was no preference given.

**SHRI K. A. RAJAN:** Why is it that those phones are still in use when there are dues?

**SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA:** There is no special preference given to anybody.

**SHRI K. A. RAJAN:** I am sorry to say that the reply is quite vague. I have put a very specific question. It has been reported very correctly that there are dues from a number of telephone subscribers in Patna and their telephones have not been disconnected though the rules demand that. What is the preference given to these phones? I want a specific answer from the Minister for this.

**SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA:** We do not have information about any such case. If there is any specific case brought to my notice, I will look into it.

**SHRI H. P. MANDAL:** The hon. Minister in reply to parts (b) and (c) of the question has said "Do not arise". I would like to know whether he is sure that when there are dues from the subscribers, their telephones are cut and that there is not a single subscriber in Patna from whom there are dues.

**SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA:** I have no information about it. If you give any specific case, I will look into it.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** The question is very specific. The allegation is that many telephones are still not disconnected though there are dues from the subscribers, due to some other reasons. Instead of one specific case, there is a general case about telephones in Patna city. I would

like to know as to what actions you are taking to collect all the dues.

**SHRI BRIJLAL VERMA:** In Patna city, 98 per cent is collected every month. No concession is given to the persons who have got dues and their telephones are cut.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Mini Steel Plant in Salem

\*266. **SHRI P. KANNAN:**

**SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU:**

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the present policy of Government for opening more Mini Steel plants;

(b) the role assigned to Tamil Nadu in this scheme; and

(c) whether Government have considered the possibilities of encouraging setting up of such plants in Salem (Tamil Nadu)?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):** (a) The policy of the Government with regard to the Mini Steel Plants is that no new units should be licensed, the reason for this is that a large capacity (145 units having a total capacity of 33 lakh tonnes) which has already been licensed, is only partially being utilised. Consolidation and rationalisation of existing authorised units is being encouraged. In order to allow flexibility in production and to improve their economic viability, the existing Mini Steel Plants excluding those coming within the purview of MRTIP Act and Foreign Exchange Regulation Act are permitted freely to diversify to all grades of carbon and alloy steels (excluding stainless steel flat products, high speed steel, die steel and electrical steel sheets) within the overall existing licensed capacity of each unit.

Units coming within the purview of the above mentioned Acts are required to apply to the Government for such permission.

(b) No special role is assigned to any State including Tamil Nadu as there exists no such scheme. However, the State Government can help to improve the performance of the existing mini steel plants in their State by providing adequate power at reasonable rates.

(c) In view of (a), does not arise.

#### Increase in Sexual Diseases

\*267. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item published in the *Hindustan Times* dated 13-11-78 in regard to 'sexual diseases increasing';

(b) whether it is a fact that incidences of venereal diseases (VD) like Syphilis is on the increase in India;

(c) if so, the names of States which are mostly affected;

(d) the cause of the diseases; and

(e) the steps taken by Government for its remedy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All the States of the country are affected but the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal are more affected.

(d) The two most important sexually transmitted diseases are Syphilis and Gonorrhoea. Syphilis is caused

by a germ called *Treponema pallidum*, whereas Gonorrhoea is caused by a germ called *Neisseria gonorrhoea*. Both these diseases are primarily transmitted from one individual to another by sexual contact.

(c) (i) Central Government have established 237 STD Clinics in different parts of the country for providing diagnostic and the therapeutic services. Services for treatment also exist in all the Medical Colleges Hospitals.

(ii) STS test is performed in the Medical Colleges Hospitals, District Hospitals, Maternity and Child Health Centres in order to detect Syphilis among pregnant women.

(iii) Drugs free of cost are supplied by the Centres to all the States for treatment of Syphilis.

(iv) Medical and para-medical staff are given Refresher Courses in the discipline of venereology at the Government General Hospital, Madras and at the STD Training and Demonstration Centre, Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi.

#### Durgapur Steel Plant

\*276. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has rejected the plea of the West Bengal Government to increase installed capacities of the Durgapur Steel and Alloy Steel Plants; and

(b) If so, on what grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK): (a) This Government has not received any such suggestion. However, in the case of the Durgapur Steel Plant, as the best production so far has been only 73 per cent of the rated capacity, increasing the utilisation of the existing capacity has been set as the immediate objective; at the same time a