

these factors and because nearly 70 days of production loss, we are in a difficult position.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister of Industries whether Government intends to utilise the excess manpower capacity in some other field and what is the capacity utilisation of the project and how many orders are with the Government for the next three years and what negative effect is it going to have on our import policy?

[English]

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: Its capacity utilisation is only 35% now. This project was mainly intended for the supply of equipment for steel projects, heavy machine tool plants, etc. But sufficient orders are not placed on this project. Anyhow we asked for the diversification of its resources to other fields also. I think within two or three years it will reduce the cash losses. I wish it would come to a position of earning profits within one or two years.

SHRI ANANDA GAJAPATHI RAJU: This is an old unit which relates to the old 50s and the early 60s. Is there any plan to rationalise this unit to infuse new technology, to retool the plant, to go in for modernisation and to see that the inventory control is also done properly? Is there any

such plan? It is working only with 35% capacity utilisation which is very poor for an industry of this sort.

SHRI J. VENGALA RAO: The hon. Member is correct. Now the cash loss is about Rs. 500 crores. Without modernisation this project cannot earn profits. We are restructuring it. We are sending it to the Finance Department for consideration.

Telephone connections in West Bengal

*422. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of telephone connections in rural areas of West Bengal as on 31st March, 1987;

(b) the number of telephones in Midnapur district;

(c) the number of telephones in Contai Sub-Division; and

(d) the number of new telephone connections proposed to be given during the current Plan period in Midnapur district and Contai Sub-Division?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (d). A Statement is given below.

STATEMENT

	West Bengal	Midnapore District	Contai division
1. No. of telephone connections working in rural areas as on 31.3.87	1,33,445	4,520	1,127
2. No. of new telephone connections likely to be provided in the 7th Five Year Plan (in the remaining areas)	6,000	650	100

DR. PHULRENU GUHA : I have gone through the statement very carefully. But I am not satisfied at all. Midnapore is the largest district in West Bengal. But its telephone connections are 4520 only. Again, the number of telephones on Contai sub-division is horribly low; it is only 1127.

In West Bengal, we have only one sea shore, i.e. Digha which falls under Contai sub-division. For pleasure trips in West Bengal, people go to Digha only because Darjeeling is almost out of bounds now-a-days because of the trouble there. For the people of West Bengal, there is only one place, Digha, for recreation. So, I would like to know that in view of the changed circumstances whether the Government will change their thinking and allow more connections to Digha.

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: The present position has been given. But, in the light of what the Hon. Member has said about Digha, we realise that it needs more connections than what it has today. We will certainly look into it and try to augment the position in Digha to the extent possible.

DR. PHULRENU GUHA: It is not possible to ring up Calcutta from Contai and the people of Contai cannot think of getting telephone connection with Delhi. So, they have to come to Calcutta to ring up Delhi. Contai people cannot ring up either Calcutta or Delhi.

May I know from the Hon. Member whether his Ministry will consider taking immediate steps so that the Contai people can ring up Calcutta and Delhi?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: I will look into the matter immediately and try to do whatever is possible.

SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: In view of the Reliance Cup being held in Calcutta shortly I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any steps have been taken to improve tele-communication system including telephones in Calcutta?

SHRI ARJUN SINGH: Although this question does not relate to the present question yet I would like to say that we are quite aware of the difficulties that citizens have been experiencing. We have had a very close liaison and dialogue with everyone there in Calcutta. Improvements are going on and looking to the importance of the city of Calcutta we are trying to see that Calcutta gets sufficient telephone facilities.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI USHA VERMA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to how many telephone connections have been provided to the Lakhimpur district of Uttar Pradesh and how many telephones are in order and how many are out of order in that district? When we try to ring up Lakhimpur or Lucknow from Delhi, we are not able to get the connection and similarly, we are not able to ring up Delhi from Lakhimpur.

SHRI DINESH SINGH: There is a lot of injustice done in regard to Uttar Pradesh.

MR SPEAKER: The question should be related to some point.

[*English*]

Scheme for use of non-conventional fuels and fuel saving devices

*423. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the scheme for use of non-conventional fuels and fuel saving devices has not made any material impact; and

(b) whether Government of Waste Land Board contemplate making films of one or two minute duration depicting the fire-wood saving devices or using some such other methods for mass education about these devices?