

and new fishing techniques besides fish handling and processing aspects.

19. Govt, should take effective steps to take the menace of pollutants/effluents" sewage let out by industries which affects marine life adversely.

20. Govt, should take a decision on the recommendations of the Committee within a period of six months.

21. The deep sea fishing policy should be revised periodically say every 3-5 years.

Proposals from Assam for establishment of food processing Industries

148. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals from Government of Assam are pending with the Ministry for establishment of Food Processing Industries in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the stage of maturity /execution of each of these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Most food processing industries except for brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages and those items reserved for small scale sectors have been delicensed. No approval is required from this Ministry for setting up these industries by the domestic entrepreneurs.

Since liberalisation, till December, 1995 four Industrial Entrepreneur memoranda involving an investment of Rs. 190 crores and employment of 205 persons have been filed for setting up food processing industries in the State of

Assam. In addition, one approval has already been granted for setting up a food processing industry in Assam involving an investment of Rs. 15 crores including foreign investment of Rs. 1 crore and employment of 347 persons.

The Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also provided financial assistance for setting up of various food processing industries in Assam. While some have been implemented most are in various stages of implementation. Action in respect of two proposals received from Assam seeking financial assistance has been initiated.

Rural Telephone Exchanges in Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi Districts

149. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many rural exchanges have been set up during the last five years in Bihar especially in Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi districts;

(b) whether it is a fact that rural exchanges were proposed to be set up as back as in 1992 in the village named Kurlaiah in Aurar Block and Jamalabad Ashram, Musehri and Rajkhand in the District of Muzaffarpur; and

(c) the reasons for not installing the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yearwise details for the last five years are given in the annexed statement, (*see below*).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

No. of rural telephone exchanges set up during the last five years in Bihar, Especially in Muzaffarpur and Sitamarhi Districts.

Year	No. of rural telephone exchanges set up in:		
	Bihar	Muzaffarpur Distt.	Sitamarhi Distt.
1990-91	13	—	—
1991-92	48	2	—
1992-93	125	1	—
1993-94	108	1	—
1994-95	25	—	—
TOTAL:	319	4	—

Granting of FPO licence to Coca Cola India

150. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a multinational company, Coaca Cola India has been issued a conditional FPO licence;

(b) if so, from which date and the reasons therefor with full details:

(c) whether it is a fact that FPO licences are issued before a manufacturer met all the mandatory obligations, if so, to what extent Coca Cola India fulfilled these conditions; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Coke has been manufacturing the canned beverage in its Britoo unit even before the date of issue of the FPO licence, if so, the facts

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO):
(a) No request for FPO licence has been received from M/s. Coca Cola India and no such licence has been issued.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Details are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Malfunctioning of Mini-Exchanges in Punjab

151. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the telephones operating through mini-exchanges in Punjab don't work properly and quite often lying in dormant state due to overstretched capacity of exchange lines; and