

and even these wire telephones work only in election time and once election season is over, these telephones do not work. Many people of these areas have submitted memoranda about the difficulties they are facing in the absence of telephones in the tribal areas and hill areas. I want a categorical assurance from the honourable Minister that he will consider this problem seriously on a priority basis and see that telephone communication is established in these areas on a permanent basis.

**SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO:** There are physical lines in the rural areas and their difficulties will be looked into; steps will be taken for the repair of the lines. It is to overcome these difficulties that we have developed this new technology and with that there will be no trouble for the people.

#### Shoe complex and second tannery at Bhopal

\*185. **SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:†**  
**SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any letter of intent has been issued for a shoe complex and second tannery to be located at Bhopal;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the name of the company, capacity, projected outlay etc.;

(c) whether any import of technology is involved; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM):** (a) No letter of intent has

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Kamal Morarka.

been issued for a shoe complex and tannery at Bhopal.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

**SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:** I would like to know whether applications have been received for putting up shoe complexes either export oriented units or units for indigenous production and sale in Madhya Pradesh or elsewhere.

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** We have received applications. We have cleared two applications: one for leather finishing unit at Dewas in Madhya Pradesh and one footwear unit at Raisen. This is a 100 per cent export oriented unit by NRIs.

**SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:** Sir, my second supplementary is, has the Industry Ministry prepared any plan for the export potential of leather and leather manufactured goods and when is this NRI unit in Dewas likely to go into production and what is the projected export from this unit and is there any overall plan for leather exports?

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Sir, this letter of intent has been given very recently. One hundred per cent production they have to export to foreign countries. They are having collaboration with the best Italian company.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Is this for Bhopal or Dewas?

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Dewas, Sir.

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO):** For two places, Sir, one at Mandi Deep and the other at another place, not actually Bhopal.

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Dewas and Raisen, Sir.

**AN HON MEMBER:** What is the meaning of the best Italian company?

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** The question asks about Bhopal, and here also you have said about the tannery at Bhopal.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** That is why answer to the main question is, No, Sir. That is why the straight answer is, No, Sir.

**SHRI YASHWANT SINHA:** Sir, there is great potential for the development of leather industry in Madhya Pradesh. It is one of the areas which is very rich in cattle population. On the other hand there is a tremendous export potential for manufactured leather and leather goods. What I would like to know specifically from the Minister is that with the setting up of the NRI units or complexes in Madhya Pradesh or setting up of such units in the past, has the potential for exploitation of leather industry in Madhya Pradesh, has that been completely covered or has the Government made a study in this particular State and whether there is potential for the development of this industry in Madhya Pradesh in future? If so, then what is the Government doing specifically in relation to Madhya Pradesh.

**SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM:** Sir, the status of leather industry in Madhya Pradesh: In the organised sector the State has units for the manufacture of leather and leather footwear goods owned by the Tata Exports. Sir, the unit is located in Dewas again. Proposals for the new units which we have just now mentioned have been cleared by the Government. Details of the small scale units in Madhya Pradesh are not known to us but there is a scope for the development of leather industry in the State. Leather industry is predominantly concentrated in Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra.

**SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, in view of the "No, Sir" reply of the hon. Minister, may I know from the Hon. Minister, is it a fact... (Interruptions)... that the international shoe and leather cartels are allowed to buy semiprocessed and processed leather in India at a throw-away price and when

they sell their goods in the finished form in other countries, including in India, it is at a very high price? So, in view of this fact and in view of the shortage of foreign exchange may I know from the hon. Minister what adequate facilities are sought to be established in this country for completing this semi-processed and processed leather goods in India, so that we could earn foreign exchange.

**SHRI J. VENGAL RAO:** Sir, the question is about Bhopal. It does not arise out of it.

**MR. CHAIRMAN:** Next question.

#### **Richilone Cracker Unit in Madhya Pradesh**

\*186. **SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:**

**THAKUR JAGATPAL SINGH:†**

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3656 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether any final decision has since been taken by Government on the proposal sent by Madhya Pradesh Government for setting up a Richilone Cracker and Poly Propylene unit based upon natural gas;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and

(c) if not, when the decision is likely to be taken by Government in this regard?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO):** (a) No final decision has been taken on the requests from the Government of Madhya Pradesh for the setting up of a gas cracker and a poly propylene unit at Bijaipur based on HBI Pipeline.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Decision on such cases is taken on techno economic considerations.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Thakur Jagatpal Singh.