

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Ministry's O.M. of even number dated 14th December, 1983 on the above subject and to state that the rates of Special Compensatory

Allowance for Manipur and 'Other Areas' of Tripura in para 1 (iv) of the O.M. may be substituted as follows:—

Mani Pur

Pay up to Rs. 260/-

Pay above Rs. 260/-

Rs. 40/- p.m.

15% of basic pay subject to minimum of Rs. 40/- p.m. and maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.

Tripura Other Areas

Pay up to Rs. 260/-

Pay above Rs. 260/-

Rs. 40/- p.m.

15% of basic pay subject to minimum of Rs. 40/- p.m. and maximum of Rs. 150/- p.m.

2. These orders take effect from 1-11-1983.

3. In so far as persons serving in the Indian Audit and Accounts Department are concerned, these orders issue after consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.

Rise in production and demand of crude oil

*217. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH
MALAVIYA:

SHRI RAM NARESH KUSH-
AWAHA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent crude oil requirement in the country is anticipated to rise by the next five years;

(b) to what extent the domestic production of crude oil is likely to rise to meet the demand by that time;

(c) what is the estimated quantity (with value) of crude oil likely to be imported during the current year and during the next five years to meet the increasing demand; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to maximise the crude oil from the known oilfields and to intensify search for the new oil fields besides recuperation of the sick wells?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SHIV SHANKAR): (a) to (c) Projections regarding the requirements of crude oil, its indigenous availability and the imports during the next five years would be available after the finalisation of the Seventh Five Year Plan. The net import of crude oil during the current financial year 1984-85 is estimated at 6.587 million tonnes valued at approximately Rs. 1511 crores.

(d) Some of the steps proposed are:

(i) enhanced oil recovery techniques,

(ii) intensifying work-over operations,

(iii) intensifying exploration in less precisely known geological regions; and

(iv) induction of advanced technology.

Extension of E.S.I. Scheme benefits to the unemployed textile workers of Gujarat

*218. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTI-
RAM PATEL:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has submit-

ted a proposal to the Central Government that Employees' State Insurance Scheme benefits be extended to the unemployed workers of closed textile mills of Gujarat till they are re-employed;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has also proposed that quick payment of gratuity and compensation to the workers of closed textile mills be ensured by amending the relevant Acts; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI DHARMAVIR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. They have suggested the setting up of a Fund at the State level to ensure timely payment of gratuity and closure compensation to the workers of the closed mills.

(c) The eligibility to benefits under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme has a direct relationship with payment of contributions and the benefits are admissible for specified period as envisaged in the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948. The provision of benefits to unemployed workers of textile mills in respect of whom no contribution is payable will, therefore, be clearly beyond the scheme of the Act. The question of setting

up of a Fund to ensure timely payment of gratuity and closure compensation to the workers of closed mills is, however, engaging the attention of the Government.

Sarin Committee recommendations regarding clearing of waiting list for Telephone connections

*219. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted Sarin Committee's suggestion that waiting list for telephone connections be cleared by 1985; and

(b) how far the Sixth Five Year Plan targets about the setting up of telephone exchanges and production of telephone instruments have been achieved and what is the latest assessment about clearance of the waiting lists for telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) No, Sir. The Sarin Committee recommended the clearance of waiting list for telephone connections by 1988.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (See below)

The Sixth Plan achievements upto 31-3-84 are as under:—

Item	No. of telephone exchanges.	No. of Telephone lines provided (Lakhs).
As on 31-3-82	7430	20.14
As on 31-3-84	9978	26.68
achievement in first 4 years.	2548	6.54
Target for 6th Plan	3500	13.23
Percentage achievement upto 31-3-84	73%	46%

A waiting list of over 8 lakhs is expected to spill over to the 7th Plan. An objective of wiping out the wait-

ing list completely by 1990 is being set, in the 7th plan, if adequate resources become available.