

from 2 foreign companies when the Government was considering an offer from the French Government which included the setting up of an electronic telephone equipment factory by a French Company.

(b) The offer from the French Company was part of an offer received from the French Government for technology transfer regarding the introduction of digital electronic switching system E-10 into the Indian network including local manufacture. It was considered advantageous to accept this offer since the system offered was the most well-proven among the digital electronic switching systems in the available field of choice. Moreover the various elements of the offer including the credit terms were found to be satisfactory.

Operation of off-shore oil exploration by M/s. Chevron

*323. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:
DR. SARUP SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Oil firm M/s. Chevron has begun operations under the contract signed early this year for off-shore oil exploration;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the agreement; and

(c) whether the text of the agreement has been published or is available for reference?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The salient features of the agreement have already been placed on the Table of the Rajya Sabha in reply to Unstarred Question No. 69 answered on 26th April, 1982.

(c) No, Sir.

Grant of licence to Indian Companies to manufacture Synthetic Pyrethroids

*324. SHRI DHULESHWAR
MEENA:

SHRI SATYA PAL MALIK:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations/suggestions from various Members of Parliament that Indian Companies should be given preference in granting industrial licences to manufacture Synthetic Pyrethroids over the proposals submitted by MRTP/FERA Companies;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to issue industrial licence to any Company which is entirely an Indian medium size company; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The question of licensing of manufacture of Synthetic Pyrethroids was referred to the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission by the Department of Company Affairs. The Commission has since submitted its report and the Department of Company Affairs is processing its recommendations. Final decision will be taken only after due consideration at the appropriate level.

बिहार में असंतोषप्रद टेलीफोन सेवाएं

*325. श्री राम भगत पासवान : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आम जनता, बिहार सरकार तथा बिहार के संसद सदस्यों ने बिहार में असंतोषप्रद टेलीफोन सेवाओं के सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार से शिकायत की है ; और