

(b) 12,181 Post Offices in villages have telegraph facilities.

Manufacture of alloy and special steels

296. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of companies in India which are at present having foreign technical/financial collaborations for the manufacture of steel alloy and special steels; and

(b) what are the main terms and conditions of such collaborations?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Aluminium production in the country

297. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimates of demand and supply of aluminium in the country during the next five years; and

(b) whether the shortfall in the availability of power and bauxite is likely to be a constraint on production of aluminium in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK) :

(a)	(In thousand tonnes)	
Year	Estimated Demand	Estimated Supply
1977-78	220	206
1978-79	242	250
1979-80	268	280
1980-81	295	300
1981-82	325	325

The above estimates of domestic supply assume a satisfactory supply of power to smelters from August, 1977.

(b) While bauxite supply is not a constraint, power supply is likely to be.

Steel development programme

298. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the entire steel development programme will be carried out with indigenous designs and manufacturing know-how;

(b) if so, what are the names of designers and manufacturers in the country who can undertake this work ;

(c) whether the private sector will be allowed to play any role in designing or manufacturing steel plant equipment ; and

(d) if so, whether technical collaborations will be allowed in this line of fabrication ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK) : (a) The Steel Development programme is planned to be carried out in accordance with the Government's policy to adopt and utilise, to the maximum extent possible, indigenous designs and manufacturing know-how from the indigenous National Sector which includes parties in the private as well as public sector.

(b) The illustrative list of designers and manufacturers is given in Annexure. (See below)

(c) Yes, Sir. The private sector is already playing a significant role in the de-

sign, development and manufacturing of equipment for the steel plants and it is the intention that the private sector should continue to perform this role.

(d) Technical collaborations proposals will continue to be cleared on merits depending upon availability of similar know-how, essentiality of obtaining this know-how, financial implications and other terms of the collaboration agreement etc.

Annexure

An illustrative (not exhaustive) list of designers/manufacturers in steel industry.

1. M/s. Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants (India) Limited (MECON).
2. M/s. M. N. Dastur and Co. (Private) Ltd.
3. M/s. Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. (EPI).
4. M/s. Atkins and Das (Pvt.) Ltd.
5. M/s. Tata Consultants Private Ltd.
6. M/s. Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC).
7. M/s. Mining and Allied Mechanies Corporation (MAMC).
8. M/s. Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL).
9. M/s. National Government Electrical Factory (NGEF), Bangalore.
10. M/s. Bharat Heavy Plates and Vessels Ltd., Vishakhapatnam.
11. M/s. Instrumentation Ltd., Kota
12. M/s. Jessops and Company, Calcutta.

13. M/s. Gardenreach Ship Builders and Engineers, Calcutta.

14. M/s. Development Consultants Private Ltd.

15. M/s. Mukand Iron and Steel Works Ltd.

16. M/s. Triveni Structural, Naini.

17. M/s. Utkal Machinery Ltd., Rourkela and many others.

Telephone and postal facilities in rural areas

299. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telephone exchanges and post offices opened in rural areas during the year 1976-77, State-wise ;

(b) whether Government have formulated their programme for opening telephone exchanges and post offices in rural areas during the current year ; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES) :

(a) 573 telephone exchanges and 2028 post offices have been opened in rural areas, during 1976-77. The State-wise break-up for telephone exchanges and post offices is given in Annexure I.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 655 telephone exchanges and 3100 post offices are proposed to be opened during 1977-78, as detailed State-wise in Annexure 'II'.