

Proposal for setting up Small Thermal units by Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation

*476. SHRI I. S. ANAND: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation has a proposal for setting up small thermal units in that State; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects and what is Central Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) No such proposal has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Complaint against the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Meerut Division

*477. SHRI S. A. HASHMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received complaints of nepotism, favouritism and misuse of official position against the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Meerut Division; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. D. SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Enquiries were made into the complaints, but the allegations of corruption, favouritism, and nepotism against the Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Meerut Division could not be substantiated.

Inadequate production of Telephone equipments and underground cables

*478. SHRI GANESH LAL MALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to inadequate production of equipments and

under-ground cables, a large number of applications for new telephone connections are on the waiting list all over the country; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ease the position in the next financial year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI S. D. SHARMA): (a) and (b) There is a large waiting list for telephone connections in the country totalling nearly six lakhs as on 31-12-1974. The demand for additional telephones could not be met fully for want of resources, both material and financial. Development of capacities of factories for producing the necessary equipments, cables, etc. has also been limited by the same considerations.

Under the present constraints it has been proposed to provide about 1.2 lakhs telephones during 1975-76.

Assistance to Small Scale Industries

*479. DR. V. A. SEYID MUHAMMAD:

SHRIMATI AZIZA IMAM:

SHRI KHURSHED ALAM

KHAN: SHRI SARDAR AMJAD

ALI, SHRI HARSH DEO

MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 1766 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th December, 1974 and state:

(a) what are the details of the assistance given to the small scale industries during the last three years; and

(b) what was the mode, basis and channel of distribution of such assistance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI A. P. SHARMA): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.