

STD Facility in Towns of Madhya Pradesh

1868. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide STD facilities at Ganj Basoda, Raisen, Mandideep and Sironj towns of Madhya Pradesh in near future; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b). Raisen is planned for STD during 1989-90, and the remaining three stations are being considered for STD facility during the Eighth Plan.

Setting up of Telecom Equipment Factories

1869. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to set up four telecom equipment factories in the country soon;

(b) if so, the details of these factories;

(c) the names of the places where these factories are likely to be set up;

(d) whether there is any proposal to set up one of the factories in Orissa; if so the name of the place;

(e) the total cost of these factories;

(f) the details of the equipment and components likely to be manufactured in these factories; and

(g) when the construction work of these

factories is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (g). Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

U.S. Offer for Research and Development Technology

1870. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether USA has made any offer for providing research and development technology to Indian companies;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard so far;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) to (d). The State of Ohio under its Thomas Edison Programme has offered cooperation to Indian industries in the field of research and development of technology. They have set up nine technology centres, bringing together business units, universities and other relevant institutions on promising areas of research. The Punjab, Haryana and Delhi (PHD) Chambers of Commerce and Industry has a Memorandum of Understanding with them for economic cooperation relating to S & T, promotion of joint ventures, participation in fairs, technical training etc. The question as to how Indian Indus-

try can benefit from the Thomas Edison Programme has been under discussion between them for some time. High powered PHDCCI delegation have visited Ohio in this connection. The question of availing of the research and technology facilities is still under discussion among them and no final decision has emerged. Only thereafter formal proposal are to be presented to the Government for approval.

[English]

Encashment of Earned Leave

1871. SHRI HAFEEZ MOHD. SIDDIQ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the award given by Board of Arbitration that Government servants be allowed encashment of earned leave;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Inter Departmental consultations are in progress.

Indigenous Manufacture of Oral Polio Vaccine

1872. SHRI NARSING SURYAWANSHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided

to revive manufacturing of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) indigenously to end the total dependence on imports which has often crippled to immunisation programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) and (b). The Govt. has decided to establish an R & D cum Production Unit for Oral Polio Vaccine to undertake indigenous manufacture of 100 million doses annually of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV). The Unit is being set up in Chola village of Bulandshahr in (U.P.) A new Company namely 'Bharat Immunologicals & Biologicals Corpn. Ltd., (BIBCOL) has been incorporated in March, 1989 in the Public Sector under the Companies Act, 1956 . A Letter of Intent (LOI) for setting up this R & D cum Production Unit has been granted by the Min. of Industry. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Technology Consultancy Co-Operation between India & USSR for this project has been signed. Land for the project has been acquired. Provisional 'No Objection Certificate' for site clearance from environment angle has been obtained from the concerned State and Central Agencies/Departments. Lay-out plans have been finalised. Projects and Development of India Limited (PDIL), a Govt. of India Undertaking, has been engaged for engineering consultancy and construction management. Detailed engineering of the plant and facilities has been commenced Recruitment and training of all personal for the project has also commenced. Production of the Vaccine is scheduled to start in 1991.

Reports About Rains in 1989-90

1873. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP: Will the