

(Bettiah) with Patna and Delhi by STD facility. East Champaran (Motihari) is already linked with Patna and Delhi by STD.

[English]

Amount Earmarked for Various Programmes in Oil Sector in Seventh Five Year Plan

5435. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the amount provided for implementing various programmes in oil sector in Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the main programmes included for implementation in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) the amount likely to be made available through internal sources of those companies;

(d) the amount of external aid sought for oil exploration in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(e) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) The Seventh Five Year Plan of the Ministry of Petroleum has not yet been finalised.

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

Issue of Commemorative Stamp in Honour of Vir Surendra Sai

5436. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any proposal from the Orissa Government as well as the Vir Surendra Sai Death Centenary Committee to bring out a commemorative

stamp in honour of Vir Surendra Sai, one of the foremost freedom fighters of the Country;

(b) if, so the reasons for its non-compliance; and

(c) whether Government are considering to bring out the same this year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A Philatelic Advisory Committee function in the Department to advise the Government regarding the issue of commemorative and special postage stamps and other philatelic matters. The proposal regarding issue of a commemorative stamp on Vir Surendra Sai was placed before this committee but was not recommended. The working group constituted to advise the Government on personalities and themes to be portrayed in the series on India's struggle for freedom too did not recommend this issue.

(c) No, Sir. The programme for the issue of stamps for the year 1985 was finalised and announced in 1984. This programme does not include the name of Vir Surendra Sai. It is, however, proposed to place this proposal again before the Philatelic Advisory Committee for re-consideration.

S.T.D. Facility from Bombay to Vasai and Virar

5437. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are any proposals to extend STD facility from Bombay to Vasai and Virar ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a)
Yes, Sir.

(b) Virar is already an automatic exchange. Vasai is a manual exchange at present and automatic exchange has been planned to replace the manual exchange. A suitable transmission link for connecting Virar and Vasai to Bombay Trunk Automatic Exchange is under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Constitution of Tyre Committee

5438. SHRI SARFARAZ AHMAD :
Will the Minister of INDUSTRY &
COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to
state :

(a) whether a 'Tyre Committee' was constituted in May, 1984 to go into the problems being faced by tyre manufacturers and users and if so, the names of the members thereof and the time within which it was asked to submit its report ;

(b) whether Government have received its report and if so, the recommendations made in the report ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay in this regard and the time by which its report is likely to be received ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF
MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (c).
The Committee on Automobile
Tyres and Tubes was set up in
May 1984 with the composition of
Shri M. Satyapal (formerly Secretary,
Technical Development), as Chairman and
Dr. S. Chandrashekhar, Member, BICP;
Shri S. Chandrasekharan, Director, ISI;
Shri M. Sivaguru, Additional Director
General, Ministry of Shipping and Trans-
port and Shri G.R. Inamdar, Industrial
Adviser, DGTD. The Committee was

required to submit its report within three months' time. However, tenure of the Committee was extended upto January, 1985. The Committee has since submitted its final report to the Government. The main recommendations of the Committee are as under :

- (1) adoption of measures to stabilize the prices of raw materials including expansion of domestic production capacities in respect of raw materials ;
- (2) ISI certification of products and informative labelling of products indicating size, date of manufacture, maximum permissible load, minimum remaining skid depth ;
- (3) formulating of association standards covering tread patterns, categorisation of tyres and limitation of ply ratings ;
- (4) compulsory notification of dealers' and retail prices including discounts offered by industry voluntarily ;
- (5) continuance of production of low ply-rated tyres by the industry providing adequate choice to consumers to purchase such tyres ;
- (6) reduction of cost of production of tyres through better utilisation of capacity, particularly, by increased exports and incorporation of better management practices ;
- (7) encouragement of expansion of existing capacities ;
- (8) establishment of Central R & D Institute in the country for basic and applied research to be funded by a cesson the industry and the Government so as to achieve technological self-reliance in these fields ;
- (9) establishment of material testing facilities ;