

(b) if so, whether Government propose to open new telephone exchanges at all the headquarters of Revenue Mandals which do not have telephone exchange at present for the sake of convenience to the people as well as administrative machinery ; and

(c) the time by which these exchanges are likely to be in operation ?

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

(b) and (c) Out of a total of 1104 Mandals, 845 Mandals have exchanges. The opening of exchanges in the remaining 259 Mandals will depend on the :

- (1) Pay of requisite number of demand notes.
- (2) Financial viability of the proposal as per departmental policy.

Germany to participate in India's Industrial Growth

2331. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO :

SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI MANIK REDDY :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the news item appearing in 'The Economic Times' of 5 November, 1985 wherein it has been stated that Federal Republic of Germany is to participate in a substantial manner in India's rapid industrial growth ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India welcomes collaboration with other countries within the parameters of its policy, its priorities and India's national interest.

Setting up of Gas Based Industries in Tripura

2332. SHRI AJOY BISWAS : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there are huge reserves of natural gas in Tripura ;

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to set up gas-based industries in Tripura so that the natural gas can properly be utilised for the development of this industrially backward area ; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has already been agreed to supply natural gas to Tripura State Electricity Board for power generation. It is understood that the State Government of Tripura are considering setting up gas based industries in the State.

Foreign collaboration Agreements

2333. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign collaboration agreements in the industrial sector entered into during 1985 ;

(b) the nature of industries to be set up with such collaboration ;

(c) whether there will be a complete transfer of the latest technology in each area where such collaboration is made ; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) :

(a) and (b) During the year 1985, 687 foreign collaboration approval letters were issued. Details of foreign collaboration approvals showing name of the Indian Party, name of the foreign collaborator, item of