

Construction of Telecommunication Buildings at Bhanjanagar and Aska in Orissa

1456. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many telecommunication buildings are going to be constructed in Orissa in the coming two years;

(b) whether the telecommunication buildings at Bhanjanagar and Aska are going to be constructed this year,

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the land assigned to the Department of Telecommunications by the Revenue Department of Orissa for the construction of telecommunication buildings at Bhanjanagar and Aska will automatically revert to Revenue Department unless the buildings are constructed within three years on the land assigned by Orissa Government; and

(d) if so, what action is going to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Nineteen (19) Telecommunication buildings are proposed to be constructed during the coming two years, depending upon the availability of funds.

(b) No, Sir. The building construction is proposed to be taken up in 1988-89.

(c) State Government of Orissa has made available land for construction of a Telephone Exchange building at Bhanjanagar. No land has yet been made available by the State Government for the purpose at Aska.

While allocating the land at Bhanjanagar, the State Government has not imposed any time limit for the construction of the T.E. Building at Bhanjanagar.

(d) Does not arise.

Generation of Biogas from Biomass

1457. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the research work that is being done at Bombay to generate Bio-gas from Biomass;

(b) whether the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has some specific proposals to make available subsidy for the bio-gas plants run with Gobar gas feed stock;

(c) if so, the details of the scheme, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) (a) Yes, Sir. R & D work on generation of biogas from different substracts like water hyacinth, sewage and willow dust etc. and construction material is being carried out by different institutions in Bombay under the Biogas R&D programme of Department of Non-Conventional Energy Sources

(b) to (d). The National Project on Biogas Development (NPBD) is a Central Sector scheme for which the Central Subsidy is budgeted and disbursed by the Deptt. of Non-Conventional Energy Sources. The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), is a main central agency already implementing the programme, together with many State Nodal Agencies. The KVIC does not provide any additional Central Subsidy for the biogas programme as there is no need for it.

New Drug Factories

1459. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up new drug factories in public sector; and

(b) if so, the locations of these factories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETROCHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Stock Import and Export of Sugar

1460. SHRI P.M. SAYEED : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the stock of sugar available at the end of year 1986-87, both indigenous produce and imported, separately;

(b) the quantum of sugar imported during 1985-86 and 1986-87 and produced in India during these two years;

(c) the quantum of sugar exported during 1985-86 and 1986-87; and

(d) the time by which India is likely to become self-sufficient as far as sugar is concerned?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) The Sugar year 1986-87 (October-September) is still in progress and as such the firm figures of stocks of both indigenous and imported sugar at the end of the year are not available. However, it is expected that there would be sufficient stock of sugar including imported sugar at the end of the year to meet the internal requirement during the initial months of the next season.

(b) and (c). The quantum of sugar produced during the sugar year 1985-86 was 70.03 lakh tonnes. During the current 1986-87 season, the sugar production aggregated to 83.82 lakh tonnes upto 15.7.1987.

The quantum of sugar imported/exported by STC during the financial years 1985-86 and 1986-87 was as under:—

(Lakh Tonnes)

Financial Year	Qty. imported	Qty. exported (Prov.)
1985-86	20.33	0.41
1986-87	7.81	0.34

(d) Sugar production depends on various factors including natural factors such as drought conditions, excess rains etc. After achieving record sugar production of 84.38 lakh tonnes in 1981-82 and 82.32 lakh tonnes in 1982-83 season, the production suffered set-back in 1983-84 and 1984-85 season due to drought conditions etc. The sugar production again increased due to various measures initiated by the Government during 1985-86 and 1986-87 season. Given favourable weather conditions, it should be possible to maintain

sugar production at higher level thereby reducing the dependence on import of sugar.

Setting up rice bran oil extraction Plants

1461. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for edible grade rice bran oil is on the increase in view of the rebate given in the excise duty for the