

Call offices is not available and in how many villages this is available;

(b) whether Government propose to extend these facilities to those villages in Ratnagiri District where medical aid is not available in area of 5 square miles of those villages; and

(c) if so, when Government propose to extend the same?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA):

(a) In Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra, telegraph facility is not available at 1430 villages and Telephone facility is not available at 1453 villages. Number of villages in this district where Telegraph facility is available is 90 and where Telephone facility is available is 87.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Ratnagiri Aluminium Project

6172. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether an amount of rupees 50 crores was earmarked for Ratnagiri Aluminium project in Fifth Plan out of which only rupees 1.50 crores have been so far spent over the said project;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether the Government propose to spend the balance of Rs. 48.50 crores over the Ratnagiri Aluminium project in the remaining period of Five Year Plan; and

(c) if not, the reason for not spending the amount over the project though earmarked in the Fifth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI BIJU PATNAIK):

(a) Provision of Rs. 50 crores made in the Draft Fifth Five Year Plan was

revised to Rs. 15.00 crores in the final Plan document. A sum of Rs. 1.75 crores has so far been spent on this Project.

(b) and (c). Owing to financial constraints, funds that would have to be steadily assured over the construction period (of 5/6 years) once the construction was taken up, were not available, and therefore, work on the construction of the project could not be taken up immediately after the project was approved.

Telegraph and Public Call Offices in Villages of Colaba District of Maharashtra

6173. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start telegraph and public call offices in villages in Mahad and Poladpur Taluka in Colaba District of Maharashtra, where there are no medical aid available in area of about 5 to 10 square miles of those villages and which are inaccessible; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to extend these facilities?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BRIJ LAL VERMA):

(a) No proposals are under consideration for provision of telephone and telegraph facilities in the villages of Mahad and Poladpur Talukas in Colaba District, for the present.

(b) Question does not arise.

BALCO Board of Directors

6174. SHRI BAPUSAHEB PARULEKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether representative of Maharashtra Government was at any time included in the Board of Director of BALCO;