

Cement plants will now have to furnish full information regarding availability, proximity and quality of limestone deposits, source of coal supply and movement facilities available or expected;

(b) whether this change in procedure has been done in view of the coal and raw material constraints; and

(c) if so, the number of entrepreneurs who previously obtained letters of intent but did not pursue it further till todate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. B. RANA): (a) With the setting up of Secretariat for Industrial Approvals, the applications for Industrial Licences are now required to be disposed of within a stipulated time. Having regard to the significance of raw material aspects and transport of coal as well as finished goods in the Cement Industry, applicants seeking letters of intent/licences for the manufacture of cement have been advised to furnish detailed information, alongwith the applications, regarding limestone deposits, source of coal supply, movement facilities etc. These details have been asked with a view to remove avoidable delays involved in sending back references for seeking additional information and in the interest of expeditious disposal of the applications after taking into account all relevant factors. It, however, does not involve any change in the policy.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Since February, 1970, when licensing was re-introduced in the cement industry, letters of intent granted to 6 parties lapsed for failure to take effective steps within the stipulated time-limit.

Applications for Telephone Connections in Capital Cities of India

6388. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL

REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications for new telephone connections pending as on 1st January, 1974 under the OYT scheme in the capital cities of India;

(b) how many of them are more than two years old; and

(c) what steps Government are taking or propose to take to clear them of expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

Achievement of Fourth Five Year Plan Target for setting up Radio Stations and T.V. Centres in the Country

6389. SHRI BANAMALI BABU: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether setting up of A.I.R. stations and Television centres in the country during the Fourth Five Year Plan has reached its target; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA): (a) No Sir. Several of the schemes have spilled over into the Fifth Plan.

(b) The main reasons are delays in acquisition of land sites, procedural delays in administrative and financial approval to estimates, budgetary constraints and non-availability in time of critical studio and transmitter equipment and construction materials like steel, besides delay in the fabrication and installation of T.V. towers.