

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Telephone Connections at Punalur Telephone Exchange**

4723. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants on the waiting list for new telephone connections in Punalur Telephone Exchange in Quilon District of Kerala;

(b) the reasons for delay in giving new connections; and

(c) the time by which the telephone connections will be given to all applicants in Punalur Exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) There are 457 applicants for new telephone connections in Punalur as on 1.8.90.

(b) and (c). An expansion by 200 lines or existing electro mechanical exchange is planned for 1990-91. This will be carried out when equipment is received. A 1500 line Main C-DOT Electronic Exchange with a further 1000 lines expansion has been planned during the 8th Plan. This equipment has also not been received. A new building is to be constructed in the same compound where present exchange is located. It is therefore, expected that telephone connections to the pending applicants shall be provided in the second half of the 8th five year plan.

**Released of commemorative Postal Stamp of A.K. Gopalan**

4724. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the proposed date for releasing the commemorative stamp on A.K. Gopalan; and

(b) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) The Stamp on Shri A.K. Gopalan is proposed to be released on 1.10.1990.

(b) As per the usual practice, the stamps are proposed to be released for sale through all philatelic Bureau and counters in the country on 1st October, 1990.

**Telephone Service in Western Suburbs of Bombay**

4725. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephones in the western suburbs of Bombay which were out of order as on 8 July, 1990 and how many of them have been set-right,

(b) how many are still out of order at present;

(c) the reasons for their being in disorder on a large scale; and

(d) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). 12675 telephones in Western suburbs were out of