

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Telephone Exchange and Sub-Post Office at Devtalab, M.P.

36. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residents of famous tourist spot and pilgrim centre Devtalab in Rewa District of Madhya Pradesh had deposited the requisite amount for telephone connections many years ago;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing a telephone exchange and a sub-post office in Devtalab so far; and

(c) whether the Government propose to provide a telephone exchange and sub-post office in Devtalab by 1991?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) 14 residents of Devtalab deposited the requisite amount in March, 90.

(b) (i) The project for a telephone exchange at Devtalab has been taken up.

(ii) Opening of a sub-post office is under examination.

(c) (i) *Yes Sir. Telephone exchange is planned to be provided in 1991.*

(ii) The case for opening of a sub-post office is under examination.

Air Service for Ranakpur Temple

37. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will

the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is the policy of the Government to introduce charter flights and air-taxis to places of tourist interest;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to introduce charter flights/air taxis for Ranakpur Temple which is renowned in the world for its sculpture;

(c) if so, the time by which the said air service is likely to be introduced; and

(d) if not, whether the Government propose to take any decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA): (a) International air charter flights are allowed in accordance with a policy by which chartered planes can bring tourists into India with prior approval by a Committee under the chairmanship of Director General Tourism. Air taxi services are allowed with the prior clearance of a Committee set up by Ministry of Civil Aviation.

(b) *There is no proposal under consideration to introduce charter flights/air taxis for Ranakpur Temple.*

(c) and (d). *Question does not arise.*

New Telephone Exchange at Almora

38. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the capacity for providing new telephone connections at Almora Telephone Exchange has been exhausted;

(b) if so, whether the import of the equipments required for the expansion of the said exchange is being delayed due to