

(e) whether the percentage of irrigated land in Madhya Pradesh is lower than that of other States?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No new major irrigation project proposal has been received in the Central Water Commission from the Government of Madhya Pradesh since October, 1992 till date.

(b) Does not arise

(c) Yes, Sir. As at the end of 91-92, the irrigation potential created is 44.5 % of the ultimate irrigation potential in Madhya Pradesh against an all India average of 71.6%.

[English]

Loans for Communication Projects

*459. DR. RAJAGOPALAN SRIDHARAN. Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the loans have been secured from the Asian Development Bank for communication projects for payments under contract for 64-Kbps- TDM-TDMA (VSTA) Data work;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the total amount allocated/proposed to be allocated for payments of these contracts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A Satellite based 64 Kbps TDM/TDMA VSAT Network with the Hub station collocated in existing satellite earth

station at Bombay has been planned to work with 200 VASTs at users' premises.

The total amount proposed to be allocated for the above project is of the order of Rs. 24.40 crores. The foreign exchange component of the project will be met with the funds to be provided by Asian Development Bank loan amounting to US \$ 5.5 million.

Bilateral Relations with South Korea

*460 SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH: DR. D. VENKATESWARAO:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to strengthen further the bilateral relations with South Korea after the assumption of office by the new President of that country;

(b) the areas identified for bilateral cooperation between the two countries;

(c) whether any agreement/pact has been signed between the two countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether both the Government have drawn up any plan of action to be undertaken during 1993-94; and

(f) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Congratulatory messages were sent by our President and Prime Minister to the new ROK President on his assumption of charge as the President on February 25, 1993.

(b) Areas identified for increase bilateral cooperation are trade and commerce, investment, science and technology, tourism and cultural and academic exchanges.