

on Human Rights has alleged that India is violating human rights of the people of J&K. The Indian delegation has replied that full exercise of human rights is generated by the Indian political and democratic structures, the constitution, free press and independent judiciary, and terrorism sponsored across the border by Pakistan is responsible for violation of human rights of innocent citizens in the Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir.

[Translation]

### Radio Telephone Stations

\*78. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up radio telephone stations for the far flung and hilly areas in the country;

(b) if so, locations thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether all these stations are functioning properly;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has set up radio telephone stations for far flung and hilly areas in the country;

(b) As per the existing policy, Government is providing telephone to every Panchayat village in the country.

This includes far flung and hilly areas. While policy exists for covering hilly areas, there is no special policy or definition regarding far flung areas. State-wise locations for hilly areas are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House;

(c) Some of the stations are not functioning properly;

(d) The reasons are mainly due to failures of earlier versions of some of the equipments & difficult approachability;

(e) The following steps have been taken:—

- (i) Necessary infrastructural facilities e.g. vehicles staff, spares and testing instruments are being provided regularly.
- (ii) Proper control and monitoring of performance of equipments are being done.
- (iii) More reliable media e.g. Radio equipments of latest technology is being inducted in the rural network.

### Visit of President of Uzbekistan

\*79. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHALIA:

SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the President of Uzbekistan visited India during January, 1994;

(b) if so, the bilateral subjects figured in his talks with Indian leaders;

(c) whether any agreements have been signed with that country in various fields such as information and Broadcasting Surface Transport and Communications; and

(d) if so, the salient features of these agreements?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides reviewing the regional and international situation with Indian leaders, enhanced cooperation in the fields of Science & Technology Culture and, particularly, economy and commerce were some of the bilateral issues that figured in his talks in New Delhi.

(c) Five Agreements/ MOUs/ Protocol on Cooperation in the field of Posts, Telecommunications, Culture, Science & Technology and Comprehensive Economic Cooperation were signed. The instruments of ratification of the Indo-Uzbek Treaty on Principles of Inter-State Relations and Cooperation were exchanged. No separate agreements in the fields of Information & Broadcasting, and Surface Transport were signed.

(d) The agreement on development of economic links and strengthening of comprehensive cooperation aims at wide ranging economic and commercial cooperation, including joint ventures and investment promotion, training of personnel, exchange of information etc. Agreement on cooperation in the field of posts and allied matters envisages promotions of quick and efficient transmission of mail, exchange of experts, training facilities and technology transfer.

The Protocol on the setting up of an Indo-Uzbek Centre for the promotion of scientific and technological cooperation provides for identifying, arranging exchange of scientists, promotion of training, and exchange of information in scientific fields. Agreement on culture provides for cooperation in fields of education, art, science, sports, youth activities, print and electronic media. MOU on telecommunications envisages promotion of efficient means of telecommunication and of technical and scientific cooperation.

[English]

#### Private Participation in Satellite Channels

\*80. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAIS:

SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the new Satellite Television Management Scheme, the Government have recently thrown open a segment of the time slot on the satellite channel to private sector;

(b) if so, the details of the new scheme and the reasons for change in the policy;

(c) whether any guidelines have been laid down for the limited private participation in the five satellite channels; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?