

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of ISD/STD/Public Call Offices allotted during 1993-94 and 1994-95 is 14605 and 26281 respectively.

(b) The number of STD/ISD/PCOs allotted to unemployed persons under the revised STD/ISD/PCO policy w.e.f. 24.7.93 to 31.3.95 Circle-wise is given in the Statement-I attached. No separate records have been maintained in respect of the No. of STD/ISD/PCOs allotted to unemployed persons for the period 1.4.93 to 23.7.93 and in respect of Handicapped persons etc. during the last two years.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Circle-wise target fixed for provision of STD/ISD/PCOs during 1995-96 is given in the Statement-II attached.

STATEMENT-I

S. No.	Name of Circles/ Districts	STD/ISD/PCOs Allotted to Unemployed Persons	
		From 24.7.93 to 31.3.94	during 1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	379	1550
2.	A & N Islands	-	-
3.	Assam	177	476
4.	Bihar	72	272
5.	Gujarat	749	2719
6.	Haryana	237	866
7.	Himachal Pradesh	44	93
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	72
9.	Karnataka	626	2154
10.	Kerala	660	1600
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1348	2417
12.	Maharashtra	1769	2028
13.	North Eastern	43	118
14.	Orissa	167	447
15.	Punjab	385	1471
16.	Rajasthan	584	2163
17.	Tamil Nadu	208	1125
18.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	532	2836
19.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	-	-
20.	West Bengal	-	264
21.	Bombay	515	1492
22.	Calcutta	345	1297
23.	Delhi	62	511
24.	Madras	47	310
		8963	26281

STATEMENT-II

Targets for 1995-96

S.No.	Name of the Unit	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4700
2.	Assam	350
3.	Bihar	1300
4.	Gujarat	5250
5.	Haryana	1500
6.	Himachal Pradesh	350
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	150
8.	Karnataka	5100
9.	Kerala	6750
10.	Madhya Pradesh	3200
11.	Maharashtra	6750
12.	North Eastern	350
13.	Orissa	900
14.	Punjab	5250
15.	Rajasthan	3950
16.	Tamil Nadu	3750
17.	Uttar Pradesh (W) & Uttar Pradesh (E)	3950
18.	West Bengal & A & N Islands	550
19.	Bombay	4500
20.	Calcutta	3400
21.	Delhi	8300
22.	Madras	4700

15-Point Programme for Minorities

*263. SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the name of the States lagging behind in implementing the 15-Point Programme for Minorities welfare; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for effective implementation of the said programme in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI ASLAM SHER KHAN): (a) The 15-Point Programme for the welfare of minorities is being implemented since May, 1983 in all States/UTs.

Point No. 1 to 7 deal with protection and security to life and property and manner in which communal situation should be dealt with. The nodal agency for monitoring implementation of these points at the Central level is the MHA. As the subject Matter of law and order falls in the jurisdiction of State Governments, responsibility for the actual implementation lie with them. Most of the States are sending nil reports in this regard. However, some States namely Haryana, Karnataka and U.P. have reported actions like the transfer of DMs/SPs in the context of communal violence, setting up of Special Courts for trial of communal violence cases, arrest of persons inciting communal violence etc.

The Points 8 to 11 deal with matters relating to recruitment in services. Information is collected from States by MHA on the representation of minorities in police forces and nomination of minority members on the Recruitment/Selection Boards. The States of Haryana, H.P., M.P., Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tripura, U.P., West Bengal, Delhi, D & N Haveli are having representation ranging from 2% to 8% in State Police Services. This information from the States of Punjab and Nagaland is not being received. Information about representation of minorities in other services is not collected. A scheme of pre-examination coaching is being implemented by the Ministry of Welfare since 1992-93 for training members of weaker sections among the minority communities in order to increase their intake in public employment and professional courses.

Regarding Point No. 12 to 15 there is no regular flow of information from States/UTs. The National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation has been set up for assisting backward sections among the minorities in setting up self-employment ventures. Project proposals in this regard have been received from 13 States/UTs. Among the major States lagging in this regard are Rajasthan, Assam, Gujarat etc.

(b) Besides the system of obtaining quarterly reports, the following steps have been taken for monitoring the implementation of the 15-Point Programme :

- (1) Prime Minister has reviewed the implementation of 15-Point Programme for Minorities recently.
- (2) The Prime Minister has written letters to all Chief Ministers in connection with the setting up of National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation.
- (3) D.O. letters from Welfare Minister were sent to all concerned States/UTs for the effective implementation of 15-Point Programme.
- (4) The review of the implementation of 15-Point Programme at the State level are being held.

- (5) MOS (PMO & W) has also taken review meetings with various Central Ministries/ Departments/State Governments regarding implementation of 15-Point Programme.
- (6) D.O letters were sent to the Chief Ministers by MOS (PMO & W) for the effective implementation of educational programme like intensive areas development programme and modernisation of Madarasa Education.
- (7) The need for giving publicity for awareness building of the 15-Point Programme and other minority welfare schemes is being emphasized at various levels.

Contract of VSNL

*264. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited has signed a contract with foreign company Ericson to upgrade international telephone link centres based in Delhi, Madras and Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure involved therein?

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

(b) Global tenders were invited for upgradation of international Gateways Exchanges at Delhi, Madras and Calcutta. After comprehensive techno-economic evaluation of bids received from internationally reputed vendors of telecommunication equipment, M/s. Ericson whose offer was the lowest and technically acceptable, was awarded the contract. The contract has been awarded at a CIF cost of Rs. 26.58 crores.

Independent TV Channels

*265. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Indian and foreign companies operating independent T.V. channels with the permission of the Government;

(b) whether the Union Government have put conditions while allowing T.V. channels to these companies;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Doordarshan has been successfully telecasting its programmes through independent channels from satellite network; and

(e) if so, views of the Government towards competition of Doordarshan with other T.V. channels?