

(b) if so, the details thereof: and

(c) the action taken/ proposed to be taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) to (c) A new site for locating the High Power Transmitter at Dwarka has taken over. The project is expected to be completed in about 3 years subject to availability of funds, infrastructure facilities and inter -se priorities.

[*Translation*]

#### Telephone Connections in Uttar Pradesh Villages

842. DR. P.R. GANGWAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the government are aware of the fact that in many villages of Uttar Pradesh telephone connections have not been provided:

(b) if so, the reasons therefor: and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) No, Sir. Cases of such abnormal delays have not been reported from Uttar Pradesh.

(b) and (c). Question do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

[*English*]

#### Interception of Postal Articles

843. DR. K.D. JESWANI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any guidelines have been prepared for delegation of powers and use of the authority to intercept any postal article in view of security and the privacy of the individual;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the time by which the same is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) to (c). Section 26 of the Indian Post Officer Act, 1898 empowers the Central Government or State Government or any officer specially authorised in this behalf to intercept postal article on the occurrence of public emergency or in the interest of public

safety or tranquillity. As provided in Section 26 of the Indian Post Office Act, we have suggested to State Governments/ UT Administration that the lowest level at which order under Section 26 could be passed and to whom the necessary authorisation should be given, should be the Secretary to the State Government concerned with the subject matter of security and to issue suitable instruction in the matter. As far as the Government of India is concerned, Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs has been delegated this authority.

#### Buildings of Telephone Exchanges in Kerala.

844. SHRI P.C. THOMAS : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether construction works with regard to departmental building for telephone exchanges have since been taken up in Kerala, particularly in the districts of Kottayam and Ernakulam;

(b) if so, the details of progress, exchange wise ; and

(c) the details of cost, time completion of each exchange and equipments to be provided in such buildings?

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

(b) and (c). As per the enclosed Statement-I and II.

#### Statement- I

##### 1. Name of District : KOTTAYAM

| Name of Exchange | Estimated Cost (in lakhs) | Type of Eqpt. | Expected to be completed in financial year |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------------|--|
| 1                | 2                         | 3             | 4  |
| Kanjirapally     | 60.00                     | MBM           | Completed                                  |
| Kuruppanthara    | 25.00                     | SBM           | 1996-97                                    |
| Kumarakom        | 15.00                     | SBM           | 1996-97                                    |
| Pampady          | 18.76                     | RLU VE        | 1996-97                                    |
| Erattupetta      | 16.44                     | RLU           | 1996-97                                    |
|                  |                           | (SRM 1+1)     |  |
| Ettumanoor       | 20.97                     | RLU           | 1996-97                                    |
| Ayarkunnam       | 21.07                     | SBM           | 1996-97                                    |
| Thalayolaparamba | 20.67                     | SBM           | 1996-97                                    |
| Pinnakkanadu     | 21.07                     | SBM           | 1996-97                                    |
| Vazhoor          | 20.67                     | SBM           | 1996-97                                    |