

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) As on 31.3.1994, the number of Post offices with SB facility in the country was 1,49,705.

(b) The outstanding balance in Savings Bank accounts as on 31st December, 1995 was Rs.53,51,23,09,000.

(c) and (d). Computerisation of savings bank operations has been initiated as a part of the ongoing programme of modernisation and computerisation of counter services in post offices. So far computerisation of savings bank operations has been initiated in four postal circles, viz., Delhi, Maharashtra, Punjab and Karnataka. During the current year, the target is to computerise savings bank operations along with counter services in 100 post offices in different circles. Computers are also being introduced in SBCO operations in six circles for greater productivity and efficiency.

Telephone Connections in Kerala

914. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH :

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the latest figure relating to pending applications for telephone connections in Kerala, district-wise; and

(b) by what time the backlog is expected to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Details of pending applications for telephone connections district-wise including for U.T. of Mahe and Lakshadweep and Minicoy group of islands in Kerala are given in the enclosed statement.

(b) The National Telecom Policy, 1994 envisages the provision of Telephone Connections on demand by 1997 all over the country including Kerala. Expansion Plans are being drawn accordingly. Help of private sector is also being taken to supplement the efforts of DOT for meeting the above objective.

STATEMENT

Number of Pending Applications for Telephone Connections in Kerala, District-wise.

S.No	Name of District	Waiting list
1	2	3
1.	Alleppey	21289
2.	Calicut	38389

1	2	3
3.	Cannanore	35071
4.	Ernakulam	43419
5.	Idukki	10653
6.	Kasaragod	19165
7.	Kottayam	30927
8.	Malappuram	38895
9.	Palghat	16362
10.	Pathanamthitta	23092
11.	Quilon	22868
12.	Trichur	37540
13.	Trivandrum	34859
14.	Wynad	6325
15.	Union Territory of Mahe (Pondicherry) and Lakshadweep & Minicoy Islands.	1432
Total		380286

N.F.D.C.

915. SHRI LAETA UMBREY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Films Development Corporation (N.F.D.C.) has been functioning without its Chairman for a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the Chairman is likely to be appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Coal Production

916. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA VARMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the monthly coal production of the Coal India Limited and the Singareni Collieries Company Limited during 1994-95 and 1995-96, separately;

(b) the monthly requirement of coal of the Power Houses during the above period;

(c) whether there is a short supply of coal to the Power Houses by the above coal companies; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the adequate coal supply to the Power Houses by the above companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The monthly coal production of Coal India Limited (CIL) during 1994-95 and 1995-96 (till Feb.1996), on an average, had been 18.60 million tonnes and 19.05 million tonnes respectively. Average monthly coal production of Singareni Collieries Company Ltd. (SCCL) during the corresponding period had been 2.14 million tonnes and 2.05 million tonnes respectively.

(b) Monthly coal requirement for the power sector during 1994-95 and 1995-96 (till Feb. 96). on an average, had been 14.17 million tonnes and 15.35 million tonnes respectively

(c) The sectorwise demand is assessed by the Planning Commission in consultation with representatives of the user Ministries. Ministry of Coal and Railways. Based upon the annual requirements so determined, the power stationwise linkages are accorded by the Standing Linkage Committee. There has been no shortfall in the overall supplies for the power sector during the current year as compared to the above demand.

(d) Supplies to power stations are monitored on a regular basis and corrective steps taken as required.

New Industrial Schemes

917. SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI :

SHRI RAJESH KUMAR :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the new industrial schemes submitted by the Government of Bihar which have been included in the current Five Year Plan;

(b) whether any such scheme is pending with the Union Government for approval;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BAL RAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) to (d) The State of Bihar has been allocated six Growth Centres to be established one each at Begusarai, Hazaribagh, Bhagalpur, Dharbhanga, Chhapra and Muzaffarpur during the Eighth Plan period under the new Centrally Sponsored Grow Centre scheme. The Growth Centre projects at Hazaribagh and Begusarai

have been approved in May, 1995 and an amount of Rs. 50 lakh each has been released towards first instalment of Central assistance. Besides, under another new Centrally Sponsored scheme of Export Promotion Industrial Park (EPIP), it has been decided to establish one EPIP at Hajipur in Bihar during the Eighth Plan.

[*Translation*]

Financial Assistance For Imparting Vocational Training

918. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under which the financial assistance is being provided to the private sector and voluntary Organisations for imparting vocational training to women, down-trodden and backward sections;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether there is any provision or action is being taken to make such provision under which newly formed Voluntary Organisations have the right to run such training centres; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are various schemes, viz (i) Aid to Voluntary Organisations for SCs and STs (ii) Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP), (iii) Income Generation-cum-Production (NCRAD), (iv) Condensed Courses of Education and Vocational Training (CSWB) by which financial assistance is provided to voluntary organisations for imparting vocational training to women, down trodden and backward sections.

(c) Newly formed Voluntary Organisations may start training centres on their own and also request the Government of India to support these centres, subject to fulfilment of the norms and conditions under each scheme.

(d) Does not arise.

[*English*]

International Film Festival

919. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) was not provided any space at the Film Bazar at Siri Fort venue of the recently held international Film Festival in January 1996; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such a decision by the concerned authorities?