

(b) the details of the out-of-turn telephone connections sanctioned on the recommendations of each Member of Parliament and Minister?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The number of telephone connections sanctioned on out of turn priority from January 1991 to June 1991 is as under:—

January 1991 . . . . .	3230
February 1991 . . . . .	3782
March 1991 . . . . .	7096
April 1991 . . . . .	5480
May 1991 . . . . .	704
June 1991 . . . . .	338
Total . . . . .	20630

(b) The information is being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

#### **Agro-Based Industries in Rajasthan**

551. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to depute a study team to explore possibility of setting up of Agro-based industries in Kota, Bundi and Jhalawar (Hadoji region) in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

#### **Operation Sea Angel by American Task Force**

552. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUHDURY:

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that American task force,

engaged in the "Operation Sea Angel" relief mission in Bangladesh is showing undue interest on the Indo-Bangla border:

(b) whether it is also a fact that American troops, alongwith the Bangladesh army officials had visited all sensitive points along the Tripura-Bangladesh border recently;

(c) whether the American troops had surveyed the areas like Ramgarh, Kasla, Chaudagram, Chagalnaya and Narsingarh and had also taken photographs of the Indian security installations along the border;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government to such acts of American troops?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Government have seen recent press reports about the American task force, which was engaged in the "Operation Sea Angel" relief mission in Bangladesh and has since left Bangladesh, showing undue interest on the Indo-Bangladesh border. Government have also noted the denial by the US Embassy in New Delhi, pointing out that the US task force confined itself to the task of providing emergency relief.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise: and

(e) Does not arise.

#### **Withdrawal of Transit Facilities by Pakistan**

553. SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has withdrawn transit facilities at its international airports for Indian passengers;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) whether the Government propose to take up the matter with the Government of Pakistan?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):** (a) The Government of Pakistan has withdrawn transit facilities for Indian nationals who arrive at Pakistani airports without obtaining a transit visa in advance.

(b) Such facilities are not covered under the existing Visa Agreement between India and Pakistan. Government rejected as totally false the allegation that these facilities were being "gravely misused" by Indian nationals, and that a large number of illegal Indian immigrants and stayed back in Pakistan.

(c) The matter was taken up with the Government of Pakistan both in Islamabad and through its High Commission in New Delhi. Pakistan subsequently clarified that only those passengers, who do not have valid transit visas, would be denied permission to leave the airport and that transit visas could continue to be issued to bonafide Indian passengers for a stay valid upto 72 hours.

#### Issue of Commemorative Postal Stamps

**554. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the particulars of the special and commemorative stamps issued during 1990-91, including their date of issue;

(b) the programme for 1991-92; and

(c) the names of the eminent personalities honoured during 1990-91, with the reasons for such honour being extended in that year and for the selection of the date of issue in each case?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):** (a) Commemorative/Special Postage stamps issued during the year 1990 and during the period from January, 1991 to June 1991 including their dates of issue, are listed in Statement-I and Statement-II respectively.

(b) Tentative Programme for the remaining period of 1991 (July to December, 1991) is placed at Statement III. The programme for the year 1992 is yet to be finalised and announced.

(c) The details in this regard are given in Statement-IV.

#### STATEMENT I

##### *Commemorative/Special Postage Stamps issued during the year 1990*

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Date of Issue</i>
1.	Dr. M.G. Ramachandran	17-1-90
2.	Sukhna Shramdan, Chandigarh	29-1-90
3.	The Bombay Sappers Presentation of Colours	21-2-90
4.	Asian Development Bank	02-5-90
5.	150th Anniversary of First Postage Stamp	06-5-90
6.	Ho Chi Minh	17-5-90
7.	Chaudhary Charan Singh	29-5-90
8.	Indian Peace Keeping Force	30-7-90
9.	Indian Council for Agriculture Research	31-7-90