

(c) and (d) The long range forecast is that the monsoon over the country as a whole is likely to be within the range of normal but on the lower side of the normal side. Being on the lower side of the normal (90-98%) the monsoon season this year is not likely to be good as that during the last 3 years. Based on the climatological analysis it is anticipated that about 75% of the meteorological subdivisions would receive normal to excess rainfall.

Telephone Exchanges in Bihar

1302. SHRI RAM VILAS

PASWAN:

SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI

ASHRAF FATMI:

SHRI RAM LAKHAN

SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the equipments in the various telephone exchanges in Bihar old and worn out requiring replacement;

(b) whether the Government propose to convert these exchanges into electronic exchanges and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the names of cities where old exchanges are functioning;

(d) the details of progress made by the Government for improving telephone service during the last three years in Bihar; and

(e) the further steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Old/worn out exchanges are being replaced by the electronic exchanges in phased manner, by the end of 8th Five Year Plan. List of the exchanges is given in the attached Statement.

(c) As listed against item (b) (Statement).

(d) For improving the Telephone Services in Bihar following steps have been taken by the Department during the last 3 years;

(i) 101 Electronic exchanges are commissioned (replacing the old/worn out exchanges as well as the new exchanges).

(ii) replacement of the worn out Telephone instruments.

(iii) replacement of fault prone cables.

(iv) replacement of heavy overhead alignment by the underground cables/Drop wire.

(v) Opening of more Public Telephones.

(e) During the year 91-92 it is proposed to replace Chapra, Katihar, Monghyr, Deoghar, Motihari, Arrah (Sasaram), Dalmianagar Telephone exchanges by Electronic Exchanges.

There is a proposal for installation of Electronic Exchanges at Darbhanga, Muzaffarpur, Gaya, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Jamshedpur and Daltonganj during 1992-93.

STATEMENT

List of Exchanges which are due for replacement as on date

<i>Name of City</i>	<i>Type of Exchange</i>	<i>Existing Capacity</i>
1. Chapra	MAX I	1000 L
2. Muzaffarpur	MAX I	5100 L
3. Motihari	MAX II	800 L
4. Darbhanga/Leheriasarai	MAX II	900 L/800 L
5. Samastipur	MAX II	600 L
6. Katihar	MAX II	800 L
7. Kishanganj	MAX II	400 L
8. Mongyr	MAX II	900 L
9. Deoghar	MAX II	900 L
10. Rajendranagar (Patna)	X-bar	10000 L
11. Arrah	MAX II	600 L
12. Buxar	CBM	360 L
13. Sasaram	MAX II	500 L
14. Dalmianagar	MAX II	400 L
15. Dhanbad	MAX I	4200 L
16. Bokaro	MAX II	2000 L
17. Daltonganj	MAX II	1100 L
18. Hazaribagh	MAX II	1400 L
19. Giridih	MAX II	1000 L
20. Ranchi	X-Bar	9000 L

NOTE: MAX-I—Strowger big exchanges.

MAX-II—Strowger small exchanges.

X-bar—Cross Bar Exchanges.

L—Lines

Digital Telephone Apparatus

1303. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaint about the poor quality of the digital telephone apparatus being provided to the subscribers; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to improve the quality thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. A few complaints have been received.

(b) Stricter quality control has been enforced. Where deficiencies were found the modifications of the design have been indicated to the manufacturer. They have been carried out. The quality of telephones is continuously monitored.