

proposal to expand the existing telephone exchanges in Palakkad district of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) i) Out of total 62 existing telephone exchanges in Palakkad (Palghat) District of Kerala, expansion of 57 telephone exchanges have been planned, during current plan period.

(ii) The remaining 5 telephone exchanges have been expanded recently.

Construction of Building for Post Offices

6892. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of post offices are functioning in small houses in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to construct building for such post offices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) A large number of post offices are functioning in private rented premises, some of which are in small houses.

(b) No, Sir. The department does not propose to construct buildings for post offices solely on the ground that they are functioning in small houses.

(c) Does not arise.

Speed Post Services in Karnataka

6893. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the cities in Karnataka where Speed Post service facilities is available as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Speed Post Service is available in following cities in Karnataka:

1. Under National Net Work: Bangalore, Mysore, Mangalore.
2. Under point to point to service: Hubli, Belgaum, Manipal, Dharwad and Ranabennur.

Telephone Facility in Post Offices of Karnataka

6894. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in Belgaum, Dharwad and Bijapur districts of Karnataka where telephone facility is not available at present; and

(b) the time by which telephone facility is likely to be provided in all the above post offices of these districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of Post Offices in these districts where telephone facility is not available at present is as follows:-

	<i>Name of Districts</i>	<i>Sub Post Offices</i>	<i>Branch Post Office</i>
(a)	Belgaum	10	306
(b)	Dharwad	1	389
(c)	Bijapur	2	354

(b) The Department has planned to provide telephone facilities in all village Panchayats during 1991-95. These telephones will be located at post offices, Panchayat Offices, Grocer's shops or other suitable places with public access.

S.T.D. Booths and PCOS in Karnataka

6895. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD telephone booths and Public Call Offices proposed to be opened in Karnataka during 1991-92;

(b) the number of applications pending for allotment of STD booths and PCOs in Karnataka as on June 30, 1991;

(c) the number of blind persons allotted PCOs in Bangalore during last two years;

(d) the number of blind persons on the waiting list for allotment of PCOs till date; and

(e) the time by which the waiting list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) 350 STD Public Telephone (PTs) and 1150 local PTs are proposed to be provided during 1991-92.

(b) 273 applications are pending for STD PTs and 292 for local PTs.

(c) 14.

(d) There are no pending applications from blind persons.

(e) Though no waiting lists as such are maintained in this regard all pending applications at present are likely to be cleared during 1991-92 subject to technical feasibility and completion of departmental formalities by the applicants.

Waiting List for New Telephone Connections in Bangalore

6896. SHRI S.B. SIDNAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Bangalore as on June 30, 1991, category-wise;

(b) the number of telephone connections released during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91, category-wise; and

(c) the time by which the waiting list if likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The number of persons on waiting list in Bangalore category-wise for telephone connections as on 30.6.91 is as under:-

OYT	-	4384
Special	-	2873
General	-	55661
Total:-		62918

(b) The number of telephone connections released category-wise is as under:-