

Bilateral Relationship with Bangladesh

5859. SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to take any new measures to strengthen the bilateral relationship with Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Government accords high priority to enhancing our relations with Bangladesh. At the invitation of the External Affairs Minister the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh visited India from 26-29 August, 1991. In-depth discussions were held on matters of mutual interest and on the steps to be taken for the further strengthening of Indo-Bangladesh relations. Two economic agreements, one on the Avoidance of double Taxation and the other on the extension of a Rs. 30 crore credit to Bangladesh, were also signed during the visit.

63 *Telecommunication*
Nomenclature of Extra Departmental Agents

5860. PROF. PREMDHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to change the nomenclature of the Extra Department Agents was considered on April 4, 1991 in a meeting between the representatives of the Ministry, Bhartiya Postal Employees Union Postmen and Class IV and Bhartiya ED Employees Union; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken thereon?

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

(b) No decision has been taken in the matter.

264 *Telecommunication*
Compensation to E.D. Employees

5861. PROF. PREMDHUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to compensate the E.D. Mail carriers and E.D. packers who perform duty beyond their prescribed duty hours;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The terms of service of ED Agents and the nature of duties entrusted to them as also the manner in which they are performed do not call for payment of O.T.A.

264 *Wildlife*
Yak Population

5862. SHRIMATI DIL KUMARI BHANDARI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether yak population in the country is dwindling;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any census of yaks population in Sikkim and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to increase the yak population?