STD facility in Vazhoor, Kerala

2282. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-TIONS be pleased to state :

Whether Government propose to connect the telephone exchange at Vazhoor with the proposed microwave station at Ponkunnam and provide STD facility in Vazhoor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : There is no plan to have a Microwave Station at Ponkunnam and Vazhoor in Kerala. STD facility at Vazhoor has also not been proposed during the 7th Five Year Plan.

Installation of 200 Max exchanges at Vazhoor telephone exchange Kerala

2283. SHRI SURESH KURUP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICAT-IONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to instal a 200 Max exchange at Vazhoor telephone exchange, Kerala;

(b) whether any property has been acquired for this purpose;

(c) whether any estimate has been prepared for the construction of the new building; and

(d) if not, whether adequate measures will bo taken to prepare the estimate and start the construction of the new exchange building soon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir, 200 line automatic switching equipment has been allotted for Vazhoor under 1983-84 supply programme.

(b) Yes, Sir, 40 cents of land has been purchased.

(d) Yes, Sir, the construction of building is likely to be started in 1986-87 after call of tenders and award of work.

> Microwave station of Ponkunnam, Kottayam, Kerala

2284. SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposol to start a microwave station at Ponkunnam, Kottayam District, Kerala; and

(b) if so, when will the station start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Postal Service in Manipur

2285. SHRI N. TOMBI SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICAT-IONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that essential items of stationery have been running short in the main and branch post offices of Manipur for the last few months causing grave inconvenience to the people;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the remedial action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) to (c). No Sir. No shortage of items of stationery has been reported. There may have been some isolated cases of temporary shortage of some items or the other. These are being attended to under the arrangements of Post Master General, North East Circle who has been directed to take suitable measures to ensure satisfactory supply of various items of stationery.

(c) No, Sir,