reconciled to the finality of the accession of the State of Jammu and Kashmir with the Indian Union, have been trying to create trouble and indulging in subversive activities.

(b) and (c). According to information available a number of persons have received training and supply of arms, ammunitions, explosives, funds etc. in Pakistan/Pak Occupied Kashmir for creating disorder and destablisation in the State. The State Administration has been taking action against such persons and keeping a close watch on the situation. Central Government have been assisting the State Government as and when necessary.

[Translation]

Growth in Agriculture Sector

- 832. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRI-PATHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the Planning Commission has prepared any programme for rapid growth in Agriculture Sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan;
- (b) whether the programme has been finalised;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) If not, the steps proposed to be taken for rapid growth in Agriculture Sector during the Eighth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI):

(a) No, Sir. The Eighth Five Year Plan has not been formulated.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

(d) The strategy and programmes for development of the Agriculture Sector during the Eighth Five Year Plan period will be indicated in the Plan document.

[English]

Facility of Leave Encashment to Karnataka Government Employees

- 833. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:
- (a) whether the encashment of leave salary is paid only to Class IV employees of Karnataka Government; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for not extending this benefit to other categories of employees of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The facility of encashment of leave is available to all employees of Karnataka Government.

Thefts in Running Trains

834. SHRI HET RAM: SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the incidents of thefts in the running trains have been on the increase:
- (b) if so, the percentage of rise in the theft cases in running trains during the last six months as compared to the previous six months;
- (c) the percentage of rise in the amount of compensation, if any, paid by Govern-

ment on this account during the last one year; and

(d) what measures have been taken by Government to tackle this growing menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). There is no report available with the Government to indicate that the incidents of thefts in running trains are on the increase. Information regarding the number of cases of thefts in running trains is not compiled by the Central agencies.

- (c) The Indian Railways Act, 1890 provides for compensation in the case of death of injury caused or loss sustained by the passengers on account of accident to a train. It does not provide for any compensation to Railway passengers whose goods are stolen in transit.
- (d) Prevention of crime is the responsibility of the State Governments. The Government Railway Police, which functions under the control of State Governments provides escorts on super fast/mail/express trains according to the local conditions and requirements. Railways Protection also assists Government Railway Police in this task and when necessary.

Implement in Telephone Services in Delhi

835. SHRI V. SREENIVASA
PRASAD:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRA
SEKHARA MURTHY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone

Nigam Limited, Delhi has recently undertaken measures to improve the telephone services in Delhi:

- (b) if so, the details of the measures taken in this regard; and
- (c) to what extent the consumers will get improved telephone services in the Capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Improvement in telephone services has been achieved by introduction of electronic exchanges in the network, push button telephones, PCM junctions, use of jelly filled cables and ducting in external plant, computerisation of several services and special attention to customer interface.

[Translation]

Linking of Districts in Uttar Pradesh with Metropolitan cities by STD

836. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made in regard to linking districts Azamgarh, Mau, Ballia in Uttar Pradesh with metropolitan cities in the country by S.T.D. facility;
- (b) whether this work was scheduled to be completed by March, 1989;
- (c) if so, the reasons for not providing S.T.D. facility so far; and
- (d) the time by which districts Azamgarh, Mau and Ballia will be linked with metropolitan cities by S.T.D. facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE