

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :

(a) Shortage of staff quarters is there in both hilly and plain areas. This is due to paucity of funds for construction as well as non-availability of land at some places.

(b) and (c). Guidelines have already been issued under which staff quarters can be constructed to achieve satisfaction upto 60% at a station in the hilly areas. Construction of state quarters, however, depends on the operational requirements, availability of funds and sites for construction.

Assistance from World Bank Etc. for Construction of Power Projects in U. P.

4440. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government have submitted proposals to get financial assistance from some International Organisations including World Bank or from various countries for construction of some power projects; and

(b) if so, the names and the details of these power projects and the steps being taken by his Ministry to materialise these proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Uttar Pradesh have, from time to time, suggested external financing of power projects in the State. These include Srinagar HEP (4 × 50 MW), Lohar-nagpala HEP (3 × 49 MW), Vishnu Prayag HEP (4 × 120 MW) and Unchahar Thermal Extension Project (2 × 210 MW). Anpara B Thermal Project (2 × 500 MW) is under implementation with Japanese assistance. Tehri and Srinagar Projects have been identified for bilateral assistance.

Trunk Calls from Dahod Telephone Exchange (Gujarat)

4441. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that trunk calls made from Dahod district Telephone Exchange in Gujarat do not materialise;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether P.C.Os have been installed in every village but those are not in working order and even when those function sometimes, one listens to the same conversation on each telephone ?

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

(b) In view of reply at (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) Public Telephones (PTs) have not been installed in every village of Dahod District. As in many villages there are very few calls from the PTs, a number of PTs are given on the same pair of wires. These are called tandem PTs. Each is in charge of a Post-master who is required to ensure that there is only one call in progress at a time. If some times they fail to do that, there would be overhearing which the users should avoid.

PTs in villages are given over long overhead-wires. These may be broken down in gales or by falling trees or over-laden carts and lorries. These are repaired at the earliest.

Acquisition of Land for Dahod Telephone Exchange in Gujarat

4442. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that no attempts have been made to acquire land for Dahod Telephone Exchange in Gujarat for the last 6-7 years;

(b) whether the officers concerned of this Telephone Exchange have never applied to Union Government for acquiring land for the purpose;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and