

(c) whether Government propose to provide electronic exchange as per the long standing public demand; and

(d) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The electronic exchange at Nasik city and Ambad are likely to be provided in the year 1992-93.

S.T.D. Facility from Nasik

4780. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJI AHER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware that the people from Lasolgaon, Deola from Nasik District (Maharashtra) have demanded S.T.D. facility.

(b) if so, whether Government propose to concede to their demands; and

(c) if so, by what time these are likely to materialise?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) it is planned to provide STD to Lasolgaon in 1991-92 and to Deola in 1994-95 subject to availability of equipment.

Floods in Hoshiarpur District of Punjab

4781. SHRI RAJVEER SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons affected by floods in Hoshiarpur district of Punjab, particularly in village Badla-Harta and other surrounding villages during the last one year;

(b) the details of financial or other assistance sought and provided; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to check floods in these areas?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) There were no floods in Hoshiarpur district during the year 1989-90.

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

[*Translation*]

Telephone Facility in Tehsil Headquarters in Kanpur

4782. SHRI KESHARI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tehsil headquarters in Kanpur rural area where telephone facilities are available at present;

(b) whether Government propose to provide these facilities at the remaining tehsil headquarters there;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRIISHNAN): (a) to

(d). There are six Tehsil Headquarters in Kanpur rural areas and all of them are provided with telephone facilities.

[English]

Research Work to Increase Rice Production

4783. SHRI Y.S. RAJA SEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the area under paddy cultivation in Rabi and Kharif seasons during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether any new research work has been undertaken to increase paddy production;

(c) if so, the impact of this research work on paddy cultivation; and

(d) the response of the farmers thereto?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) Sir, The State-wise area under paddy cultivation in Rabi and Kharif seasons during 1986-87, 1987-88 and 1988-89 is given in attached Statement.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The production of rice during 1989-90 is estimated to be seventy two million tonnes, which is an all time record and it reflects the direct impact of the technology evolved through research on production and productivity.

(d) The response of the farmers has been excellent towards the adoption of new rice technology both in the traditional and non-traditional areas.