

[English]

Grant of Autonomy to Certain Units of I.T.I.

6816. SHRI. V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a). whether the Government have any proposal to grant autonomy to the six units of the Indian Telephone Industries;

(b). if so, the details thereof;

(c). if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d). whether any proposal to grant autonomy to the I.T.I. unit at Kaujikode in Palakkad District of Kerala has been received from its employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI. RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to effect any changes in the powers presently delegated to the I.T.I.

(b). Does not arise.

(c). The units have been delegated appropriate powers regarding various subjects whenever necessary.

(d). No, Sir.

Telephone Connections in Erode Telephone Division and Tiruchengode Exchanges in Tamil Nadu.

6817. DR. (SMT.) K.S. SOUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a): the number of applications for new telephone connections pending in Erode Telephone Division and Tiruchengode Exchange in Tamil Nadu as on August 31, 1991;

(b). the reasons for the delay in providing telephone connections and the steps taken to give early connections; and

(c). the time by which the waiting list of telephone connections is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI. RAJESH PILOT): (a). The number of telephone connections pending in Erode telephone division and Tiruchengode telephone exchange as on August 31st, 1991 are 4923 and 1179 respectively.

(b) and (c). Present exchanges have no further capacity to give new telephone connections. New Electronic Exchanges have been planned for Erode and Tiruchengode. With the setting up of above exchanges, the present waiting list is expected to be cleared by March, 1994.

[Translation]

New Telephone Connections

6818. SHRI. HARI KEWAL PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a). whether the orders issued for telephone connections upto March 31, 1991 have been cancelled;

(b). if not, the reasons for not implementing those orders;

(c). the number of subscribers who have since been allotted telephone connections upto the said date out of the telephone connections for which orders have been issued earlier and the number of those which are yet to be allotted; and

(d). the time by which the remaining subscribers are likely to be allotted telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b). It is presumed that Hon'ble member wants to have information regarding out-of turn telephone connections. While action to provide these telephone connections was under way, some cases of fake out-of turn sanctions were brought to notice by Telecom. Field Units. An investigation by Vigilance Branch was ordered into the matter in the month of May 1991. Action to provide telephone connections on out-of-turn sanctions was therefore, withheld pending completion of the investigation.

(c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d). Further action will be taken on completion of the investigations. However, in respect of sanctions made on the recommendations of Hon'ble Members of Parliament, against their quota, Provision of telephone connections has already been ordered. These telephones will be installed progressively on priority subject to technical feasibility.

[English]

Ground Water Study In Uttar Pradesh

6819. SHRIBHUWANCHNDRAKHAN-DURI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have conducted any study to assess the under ground water resources in drought prone areas of Uttar Pradesh during 1991-92;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli Tehri and Nainital districts were included in the said study; and

(d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Based on the hydrogeological surveys conducted upto the year 1990-91, the Central Ground Water Board has estimated the ground water resources of all the 16 identified drought prone districts in the state of UP except the five hilly districts of Chamoli, Pauri Garhwal, Tehri Garhwal, Almora and Pithorgarh. During the year 1991-2, exploratory drilling has been planned in some of these districts, to prove the estimates made as a result of hydrogeological surveys.

(b) Drought prone districts of Allahabad, Banda and Hamirpur have presently been included in the exploratory drilling programme for 1991-92. Assessment of ground water in these areas has been planned through the drilling of 20 exploratory wells and 10 observation wells.

(c) while Nainital district has been included in the exploratory drilling programme, Pauri Garhwal, Chamoli and Tehri have not been included.

(d) To confirm the estimates of ground water based on hydro-geological surveys, it is planned to drill 5 exploratory wells and 3 observation wells in Nainital district to the depth of 300 to 450 metres.

Arrest of an Abu Dhabi National at Sahar Air Port Bombay

6820. SHRI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Abu Dabi national was arrested at the Sahar International Airport for allegedly marrying a 14 year old slum girl