Employment to Persons Displaced by Marankhand Copper Project

5091. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of WELFARE OF MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons displiaced due to the commissioning. of Malanjkhand Copper Project;

(b) whether all the land oustees have been provided employment'; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the time by which the employment is likely to be provided to all of them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) About 720 persons were displaced due to commissioning of Malanjkhand Copper Project.

(b) So far 704 land oustees have been provided employment by the Company.

(c) Employment could not be provided so far to the remaining land oustees due to some pending litigation. Employment such oustees can be provided by the Company after the pending litigation is settled and genuine claimants identified.

[English]

Expansion of Telecom Network

5092. SHRI D. VENKATESWAR RAO: SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS

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be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has worked out a five point stategy for expansion of telecom net-work;

(b) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard; and

(c) the initial requirement of funds during the first year of the Eight Plan?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b). The department has not worked out any five point strategy for expansion of telecom. network, however, approved 8th five year plan proposals (1992-97) Envisage:-

(i) Addition of 75 lakh new telephone lines.

(ii) Addition of 31200 telex lines.

(iii) Provision of Gram Panchayat telephone to all Gram Panchayat villages by 1.4.95.

(iv) Public call offices for every 100 households in urban areas.

(v) Highway telephone on national highways.

(vi) Provision of STD to all exchanges by 1.4.97.

(vii) Value-added services like Collular mobile, Voice-mail, Audio-conferencing & Video-conferencing to the provided mainly on the basis of franchise. Subject to availability of resources.

(c) The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 4500 crores for the telecom services for the annual plan (1992-93) against the projected requirements of Rs. 5200 crores.