

**Telephones Link of District Hq. with  
Gram Panchayats in Gujarat**

650. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA:  
SHRI RATILAL VARMA:  
SHRIMATI BHAVANA  
CHIKHLIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS  
be pleased to state:

(a) the number of gram panchayats in  
Gujarat where telephones have been installed  
so far;

(b) the number of gram panchayats to  
be provided telephone connections by the  
end of 1992;

(c) whether the Government propose to  
link district headquarters with each gram  
panchayat through telephones in near future;  
and

(d) if so, by when?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI  
P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) 4053 as on  
30.6.1992.

(b) 3,000 Panchayat Villages.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) By 31st March 1997 as per objectives  
of Eighth Five Year Plan subject to availability  
of resources.

[*English*]

**Conversion of Telephone  
Exchanges into Electronics in Gujarat**

651. SHRI GABHAJI MANGAJI  
THAKORE: Will the Minister of

COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat  
has sent any proposal for the conversion of  
telephone exchanges into electronic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be  
taken by the Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI  
P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) to (c). No, Sir.  
However in the meeting held by Minister of  
State. (C) on 10.2.92 at Ahmedabad, the  
representatives of Gujarat Government  
requested to provide electronic telephone  
exchanges at:

- 
1. Unjha
  2. Taloja
  3. Deogadbaria
  4. Bardoli and
  5. Una
- 

Non electronic exchanges working at  
these places have been planned to be  
progressively replaced by electronic ones in  
the Eighth plan period.

**Airlinks to Israel**

652. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:  
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION  
AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any direct air service  
between India and Israel;

(b) if so, the frequency and other details of the service including the benefits likely to be derived as a result thereof;

(c) whether there has been any increase in the number of Israeli tourists coming to India; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir, The tourist arrivals from Israel during the last three years are as given below:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Arrivals</i>
1989	4,634
1990	5,855
1991	6,882

#### **Teesta III Project**

653. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Hydro-electric Power Corporation (NHPC) has gone for global tender for the Rs. 1880 crores Teesta III Project;

(b) whether the contract has been finalised; and

(c) if so, the details and the terms and conditions of the contract thus entered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALPNATH

RAI): (a) NHPC has invited proposals from interested parties for collaboration with it for joint sector execution of Teesta III Hydroelectric Project.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to (b) above.

#### **Meetings on Sharing of River Water Between India and Bangladesh**

654. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:  
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any talks were held about sharing of Ganga river water between India and Bangladesh in New Delhi, recently;

(b) if so, the outcome and the terms of agreement, if any, reached in this regard;

(c) whether the sharing of waters of some other eastern rivers has also been discussed;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) the follow-up action being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Talks were held for sharing of river waters including Ganga between India