

Janpath exchange have been also affected at large;

(e) if so, the steps contemplated by the Government to set right the special services and other affected lines; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to avoid recurrence of such incidents in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two committees have been set up to find the cause of fire and assess the loss suffered.

(c) No, Sir. The services have been restored partially.

(d) Yes, Sir. The exchange level 35 with 2200 working connections was affected partially, which has now been restored.

(e) 50 positions for 197 directory inquiry have been reassured and additional 50 positions are being added. For 199 Assistance Service, 20 positions have been restored and additional 10 positions are being added.

(f) Modern and more reliable fire protection systems are being installed. This is expected to provide better protection against fire accident.

Fleet augmentation of Vayudoot

775. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to augment the fleet of the Vayudoot;

(b) whether there is any proposal to replace the old aircraft also;

(c) if so, the details thereof indicating the phase of their replacements; and

(d) the amount involved and the type of new aircraft proposed to be procured?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d). The question of augmentation or reduction of Vayudoot aircraft will be taken up after the future of Vayudoot is decided, after a performance evaluation is done.

[*Translation*]

Modernisation of Power Station at Akola, Maharashtra

776. SHRI PANDURANG PUNDLIK FUNDKAR: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accorded its approval to the modernisation of Paras power station at Akola in Maharashtra during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for this purpose; and

(c) the details of the proposed modernisation work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal to modernise Paras Power Station units 1 & 2 at Akola in Maharashtra, with an estimated cost of Rs. 998 lakhs has been included under Renovation and Modernisation Programme (Phase-II) during the 8th Five Year Plan.

(c) The proposed modernisation work mainly covers the following works: