

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

(c) Non-availability of regular transmission network as well as absence of sufficient traffic are the reasons for not linking Kavratli (Lakshadweep) by Speed Post Service.

Expansion and Modernisation of Exchanges in West Bengal

1855. SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the increasing faults in the telephone system in West Bengal particularly in Purulia district;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to improve the telephone services there;

(c) whether the Government propose to expand and modernise telephone exchanges in the States; and

(d) if so, the district-wise details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) There has been no abnormal increase in the incidence of faults in the telephone exchanges of Purlia Distt.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The districtwise details are being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Diamond Deposits in Bellary District, A. P.

1856. SHRI K. RAMAMURTEE TINDIVANAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pennar basin and the parallel stream of Hagari in Bellary district of Andhra Pradesh are rich in diamonds;

(b) if so, the whether the Government propose to conduct a geological investigation in the said areas; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) Preliminary investigations carried out by Geological Survey of India (GSI) in Hagari basin, Bellary district Karnataka have not indicated any occurrence of diamond. However, Pennar basin in Andhra Pradesh is known for diamond occurrence.

(b) and (c). No investigation for diamond is proposed to be undertaken by GSI in Hagari basin, Bellary district, Kamataka. However, GSI is conducting investigation for diamond in Pennar and Hanngari basin areas in Andhra Pradesh.

Visit India Year 1991

1857. SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the special incentives given to tourists during visit India year 1991;

(b) to what extent th number of tourists inflow increased as a result thereof; and