

**R.E.C. in West Bengal**

2819. SHRIBIR SINGH MAHATO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electrified villages in West Bengal, district-wise;

(b) the time by which the remaining villages are proposed to be electrified;

(c) whether any scheme in this regard has been chalked out; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the fund allocated by Rural Electrification Corporation to State Electricity Board for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) A Statement indicating the districtwise number of electrified villages in West Bengal as on 31.3.1992, as reported by the West Bengal State Electricity Board is given in the statement attached.

(b) to (d). The overall time schedule for electrification of the remaining villages will depend upon the availability of resources and annual plan allocation made for the purpose in the Eight and subsequent plan periods. For the year, 1992-93, and allocation of Rs. 2670 lakhs has been approved for West Bengal to provide electrification to 430 villages.

**STATEMENT**

*Districtwise number of villages electrified in West Bengal as on 31.3.1992.*

S.NO.	District	No. of villages electrified as on 31.3.1992
1.	Bankura	2137
2.	Birbhum	2213
3.	Burdwan	2401
4.	Coochbehar	1118
5.	Darjeeling	499
6.	Howrah	755
7.	Hooghly	1874
8.	Jalpaiguri	725
9.	Malda	1596
10.	Murshidabad	1779

S.NO.	District	No. of villages electrified as on 31.3.1992
11.	Midnapors	4715
12.	Nadia	1254
13.	24 Parganas (N)	1482
14.	24 Parganas (S)	1727
15.	Purulia	1376
16.	West Dinajpur	2369
Total:		28020

[Translation]

**Conversion of Telephone Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh**

2820. SHRI MAHENDRA KUMAR SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the telephone exchanges including the manually operated ones into electronic exchanges in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made so far in this regard; and

(d) the time by which these telephone exchanges are likely to become operational?

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

(b) to (d). 1000 numbers out of total

1566 telephone exchanges are already electronic. 26 manually operated exchanges are planned to be converted into electronic exchanges by March, 1993 and remaining 524 telephone exchanges are planned to be converted into electronic exchanges progressively by March, 1997.

[English]

**Telephone System in Goa**

2821. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABIJU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the telephone system in Goa, particularly in the capital city of Panaji has become non-functional for the past one month with almost fifty percent of the telephones reported dead;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the action taken by the Government to ensure smooth functioning of telephone system in Goa; and