

(a) whether any decision has been taken by the Government regarding transmission of money orders through FAX, if so, the details;

(b) the names of districts headquarters in each State covered upto March 31, 1993; and

(c) the names of district headquarters likely to be covered under the scheme in the current and next financial years?

THE MINISTER STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKHAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

#### Metaring of Canal—Ways, U.P

158. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of and the details of canal—ways proposed to be made metalled in Uttar Pradesh during 1992—93;

(b) the number of works started in this regard;

(c) the details of amount allocated and yet to be allocated for this purpose; and

(d) the details of the scheme for completing these works?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGADISH TYTLER): (a) The Central Government is responsible for development of National Waterways in the country. There are no canal—ways in Uttar Pradesh which are National waterways. Therefore, there was no proposal to develop the canal—ways in Uttar Pradesh for navigation during 1992—93.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Cost of Power Generation

159. SHRI TEJNARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the per unit cost of generating hydro—electric as well as thermal power at present in the country; and

(b) the percentage of power consumed in agricultural, industrial and domestic sectors separately, out of the total quantity of power generated in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Based on 1991—92 accounts of the State Electricity Boards, the average per unit cost of generation of hydroelectric and thermal (coal based) power was 17.99 paise/kwh and 82.34 paise/kwh respectively.

(b) The percentage of power consumed in agricultural, industrial and domestic sectors during 1991—92 was as under:—

	(Mkhw)
Agricultural Sector	26.57%
Industrial Sector	39.37%
Domestic Sector	15.07%

#### Purchasing of Machinery for Telecom Network

160. SHRI K. D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the countries from which machinery has been purchased during the last one year for strengthening the telecommunication network in order to expand it with new technology; and

(b) the total amount incurred in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Equipment worth Rs. 12.89 crore has been purchased by DOT from USA, UK, Japan, Sweden, Switzerland, Germany, Netherlands and France during the Financial year 1992—95.

[English]

### Foreign Participation in Food Processing Sector.

161. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether response of foreign countries for investment in Food Processing Sector is satisfactory;

(b) if so, the countries which have shown interest;

(c) the present position of foreign equity in food processing industry; and

(d) the conditions laid down for foreign participation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Since the announcement of the New Industrial Policy in July, 1991, Foreign Companies have shown considerable interest to invest in food processing industries in India. Approval has been accorded to many companies of U.K., U.S.A., Denmark, France, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Germany, Korea, Thailand, Belgium, Philippines, Israel, etc. for such participation in different sectors.

(c) Approval has been accorded for foreign equity participation to the extent of about Rs. 980 crores in the food processing industry.

(d) Besides, the usual conditions laid down

by the Government as per the existing policies, certain special conditions such as foreign exchange neutrality, non—repatriation of dividends, restrictions in operations capacity in certain areas are also stipulated by Government on case to case basis.

[Translation]

### Teral Relations with China

162. SHRI SHIBU SOREN:  
SHRI SIMON MARANDI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen further the diplomatic, political, economic and commercial relations with China since January 1, 1993;

(b) whether some Indian Ministers visited that country during this period;

(c) if so, the achievements of their visits; and

(d) the expenditure incurred on their visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (c) Statement 'A' and 'B' are attached.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### STATEMENT—'A'

The momentum of the high—level political dialogue with China in matters of mutual concern has continued, as witnessed by the recent exchange of visits between the two countries. The Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Shivraj Patil, led a delegation of Indian Parliamentarians to China in January, 1993. Chinese Minister for Radio, Film and TV Mr. Ai Zhisheng and State Councilor and Chairman of the State Science