

STATEMENT

District-wise details of new Electronic Telephone Exchanges proposed to be commissioned during 1994-95

1. Alleppey	2
2. Calicut	5
3. Malappuram	5
4. Wynad	1
5. Cannanore	10
6. Kasargod	3
7. Kottayam	2
8. Ernakulam	7
9. Idukki	2
10. Palghat	2
11. Pathanamthitta	4
12. Quilon	3
13. Trichur	4
14. Trivandrum	6

Regional Language Films on Doordarshan

6730. SHRI PROBIN DEKA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for telecast of regional language films on Doordarshan;

(b) whether some regional language films are given preferential treatment for telecast on Doordarshan;

(c) whether the Government propose to increase the number of Assamese films for telecast; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Doordarshan telecasts regional language films offered to it in its national network by rotation in alphabetical order.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. Since February, 1994, in addition to the primary channel, Assamese films are also now being telecast on one (DD-5) of the three satellite channels earmarked exclusively for regional language programmes.

Purchase of Port RAX

6731. SHRI SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the basic objective of the procurement policy for purchase of 128 Port RAX, and other C-DOT switching equipments meant for providing communication facilities in rural areas;

(b) whether DOT had indicated purchase of 1500 Nos. of 128 Port RAX when the procurement policy was announced;

(c) if so, the reasons for placing order for 500 Nos. only;

(d) whether the above-mentioned order of 500 Nos. which was placed from DOT Headquarters is not being honoured by the Chief General Managers of various regions;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the details of the plans of DOT to procure RAX during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Basic objective of procurement policy, for purchase of 12 Port RAX and other C-DOT switching equipments is to induct reliable switching equipments in telecom. network; while RAX is normally used in rural areas, higher capacity C-DOT exchanges are usually used in towns.

(b) Yes, Sir. A tender was floated for 1500 Nos. of RAXs for commissioning 1,32,000 lines during 1993-94.

(c) Only 500 Nos. were actually ordered to be procured since at the time of ordering, after processing of the tender the requirement of the Circles was again reviewed and it was found that in view of the availability of switch of 256 Port capacity having additional facility of digital trunking, the requirement of 128 Port had come down. The ordered quantity was, therefore, distributed as 500 Nos. of 128 Port C-DOT RAX and 500 Nos. of 256 Port C-DOT RAX, keeping the total number of lines more or less at 1,32,000.

(d) and (e). A few of the Circles had not initially placed purchase orders on the firms allotted to them. This was mainly due to paucity of funds. However, after instruction from the Headquarters most of the Chief General Managers have placed Purchase Orders.

(f) Tentative plan for procurement of RAXs (128 Port and 256 Port RAX) during 1994-95 is about 1380 Nos. as shown below:

128 P – 216 Nos.

256 P – 1164 Nos.

[Translation]

Allocation for Strategic Roads

6732. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government allocate special funds to those States for the maintenance of the roads where Defence work is undertaken by Army;

(b) if so, the details of the funds allocated for his purpose, State-wise;

(c) the year-wise funds allocated to Rajasthan for the maintenance of roads falling in the Western Areas of the State from 1989-90 till date;

(d) whether an amount of Rupees 1.25 lakhs has been provided to Rajasthan State so far this purpose;

(e) the time by which the remaining amount is likely to be provided; and

(f) whether the Union Government propose to enhance this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (f). The Ministry of Defence projects its development requirements for strategic roads to Ministry of Surface Transport which gets the work executed through concerned States or B.R.D.B.

No funds are provided by the Central Government to the concerned States for the maintenance of such roads.