

Revamping of Statistical System

6324. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to seek financial assistance from World Bank to support its programme to revamp the statistical system in the country;

(b) if so, the broad features of the programme entailing major computerisation and training of statistical personnel envisaged; and

(c) the amount of the financial assistance likely to be sought from the World Bank?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG) : (a) to (c). The Department of Statistics is formulating a proposal to modernise the statistical system in India. It will incorporate items like supply of hardware, supply of software, training in production of software, training on modern statistical techniques, establishment of training facilities and study-visits. The proposal is in a very preliminary stage of formulation. It will be too early to identify funding arrangements.

In the meanwhile, in the backdrop of the sustained economic development over the years and the major economic reforms introduced recently, changes required in the System of National Accounting are being examined separately. The World Bank was requested to advise on what help, including financial support, was possible from their side in this connection. The Bank had deputed two of its officers to understand the requirements and formulate proposals for further course of action to arrange for training courses, study-visits, expert advice, etc. The Government was not required to make any payment towards this exercise. The exercise is still in progress.

[Translation]

Telephone Exchanges in Maharashtra

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6325. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up telephone exchanges in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details with locations thereof and the type of exchanges to be set-up;

(c) the time by which these are likely to be set up; and

(d) the estimated cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). 20,36,556 lines of Net Switching capacity are planned to be added during the 8th Five

Year Plan in Maharashtra including MTNL, Bombay, 9,79,298 lines have been added so far. 10,57,258 lines are proposed to be added during the remaining period of 8th Five Year Plan. The number of exchanges to be expanded or type of exchanges to be set up depends upon the availability of different types of equipments and total demand in particular location and is decided on year to year basis.

(d) As estimated expenditure of about Rs. 4900 crores is to be incurred for additional lines in Maharashtra including MTNL Bombay during the remaining 8th Plan Period.

[English]

India Reserve Battalion

6326. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU :
SHRI R. SURENDER REDDY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to raise a new force called India Reserve Battalion;

(b) if so, the composition of this new forces;

(c) the mode of recruitment to the force; and

(d) the time by which the force is likely to be raised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (d). India Reserve Bns. are raised with Central assistance, by the State Governments as their Armed Police Bns., with similar composition, recruitment etc. The Bns. sanctioned for various States are in different stages of raising.

Telecom Training Centres

6327. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of telecom training centres of various levels in the country;

(b) whether the Government propose to increase the number of such centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of Telecom. Training Centres of various levels in the country is 40. The details of various levels are as below:

(i) Apex Level	2
(ii) Regional Level	11
(iii) Circle/District Level	27
Total	40