

Loan from Japan for MRTS

1877. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI TARA SINGH:
SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI:
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE:
SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to set up metro railway in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Japan has offered a soft loan to meet 50 per cent cost for the Phase I of the Mass Rapid Transit Scheme in Delhi;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) by when the work on the project is likely to commence;

(f) whether any hurdle exists in commissioning the project; and

(g) if so, the steps taken to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The MRTS System for Delhi which is based on a feasibility study carried out by M/s Rail India Technical & Economic Services Ltd. (RITES) in 1991-92 includes one Underground East-West Metro-rail Corridor of 12 kms and a North-South Metro-rail Corridor of 15 kms, Surface Rail of 140 kms and a Dedicated Busway of 17.5 kms. The total system was proposed to be introduced in two phases and was estimated to cost about Rs. 7,469 crores at 1992-93 prices. Phase-I was to cost about Rs. 3,401 crores at 1992-93 prices. However, based on the Detailed Project Report under finalisation, route alignments, phasing and costs are being firmed up.

(c) to (d). A Delegation from Overseas Economic Corporation Fund of Japan which visited the Ministry of Urban Affairs & Employment on 16.2.95 had considered the project as a high priority area and agreed to process the Governments request for funding of at least 50% of the cost of the first phase. However, no formal intimation in this behalf has been received by the Ministry so far.

(e) to (g) Tying up of the needed resources for Phase-I of the project is in progress. While the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has agreed to participate in the funding of the project, investment decision of the Central Government has to await the completion of the detailed Project Report for Phase-I. The Detailed Project Report is likely to become available by mid-1995. In the absence of financial tie-up, it is not possible to comment when the work on the project is likely to commence.

[Translation]

Telephone in Delhi

1878. DR. MUMTAZ ANSARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any target has been fixed by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, Delhi for providing telephones during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the target achieved so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A target for providing 2,60,000 new telephone connections during 1994-95 has been fixed for Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, Delhi.

(c) 105512 New connections have been provided upto 28.2.1995.

[English]

New Post Offices

1879. SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE:
SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any requests from the States for opening new post offices during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of proposals received from each State, State-wise to open new post offices, pending with the Government;

(c) whether the Government have taken any steps to accede to the requests from the States to open new post offices;

(d) if so, the details thereof?

(e) whether the Government have taken formal decision to introduce special postcards for Quiz competitions;

(f) if so, the time by which these are likely to be introduced; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) to (g) No, Sir. The matter is under consideration as part of the proposal for changes in the Indian Post Office Act.