

(b) and (c). Under this scheme, so far about 245 Km. of embankments have been constructed in Bihar. Expenditure incurred upto March, 1994 on this scheme is about Rs. 2,170 lakh. No provision was made against this scheme by the Government of Bihar during 1994-95. Government of Bihar finalised schemes for raising and strengthening of existing embankments and anti-erosion at an estimated cost of Rs. 334.29 lakh for implementation during 1995-96.

[Translation]

Conversion of LPTs into HPTs

1900. SHRI MAHESH KANODIA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to convert low power transmitters into high power transmitters;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted therefor; and

(c) the places where LPTs have been converted into HPTs during the last two years and the current year, so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The broad criteria for setting up of High Power Transmitters (HPTs) in place of the existing Low Power Transmitters (LPTs) include various factors such as extent of resultant coverage, service to hilly, backward, tribal, remote, sensitive and border areas; availability of basic infrastructural facilities; and necessary clearance from statutory bodies etc.

(c) The requisite details are given in the enclosed Statement.

STATEMENT

List showing the locations where HPTs have been set up in replacement of LPTs during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 (till date) in various States/Union Territories in the country :

State/Union Territory	HPT
Gujarat	Bhuj (Int. Set up) Ahmedabad (DD.II)
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
Jammu and Kashmir	Leh
Kerala	Calicut (Int. set up)
Madhya Pradesh	Jabalpur
Mozoram	Lunglei
Rajasthan	Bundi
Sikkim	Gangtok
Tamil Nadu	Rameshwaram (Int. set up)
Uttar Pradesh	Mau

[English]

New Coal Fields

1901. DR. (SHRIMATI) K.S. SOUNDARAM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the number of coalfields in the country at present State-wise;

(b) whether the Government propose to develop new coalfields;

(c) if so, the details thereof; State-wise

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the extent to which coal production is likely to be increased by 2000 A.D. State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) The State-wise break up of number of Coalfields as per Geological Survey of India (GSI) is as under :

West Bengal	5
Bihar	11
Madhya Pradesh	18
Maharashtra	7
Orissa	2
Andhra Pradesh	1
NE Region	17
Gujarat	1
<hr/>	
Total number of Coalfields in the country	62

(b) to (d). Central Mines Planning and Design Institute Ltd. (CMPDIL) a subsidiary of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) is conducting exploration for identifying New coalfields. During the year 1995-96, exploration is going on in 94 Blocks spread over different State as shown below :

State	No. of Blocks
West Bengal	17
Bihar	27
Maharashtra	10
Madhya Pradesh	29
Orissa	8
Assam	3
<hr/>	
Total number of blocks	94

(e) The expected coal production by 2001-02 is given below State-wise :

State	Production by 2001-02 (Projected) (In Million Tonnes)
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	36.00
West Bengal	23.33

1	2
Bihar	90.07
Uttar Pradesh	11.30
Madhya Pradesh	110.29
Maharashtra	24.01
Orissa	43.00
Assam	1.00
Total	339.00

Plot to Assassinate P.M.

1902. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press report captioned "Lanka uncovers plot to kill Rao, Chandrika" appearing in the *Asian Age* dated September 12, 1995;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have since gone into the reported plot;

(d) if so, the findings of the investigations made; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). As per reports received from Intelligence Agencies, a LTTE activist Sinnadorai Muhundan was arrested by Sri Lankan police in Colombo in Sept. 95 opposite the house of the President of Sri Lanka. Muhundan on interrogation is reported to have revealed a plan to eliminate important VIP's in India. He also disclosed that a team of LTTE activists, including a lady have been sent to India to work out the plan.

(e) As there is a standing threat to the security of VVIP's and certain VIPs in India from LTTE, all the Security Agencies have been sensitised and necessary measures to counter the threat have been evolved.

[Translation]

S.T.D./I.S.D. Public Call Offices

1903. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of S.T.D./I.S.D., Public Call Offices operating at present in various States, particularly in the Junagarh district of Gujarat;

(b) whether all Public Call Offices are functioning satisfactorily;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) the number of applications pending for the allotment of such new booths in the country, particularly in Junagarh; and

(f) the time by which these likely to be allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) to (f). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House, as soon as available.

B.P.O. in U.P./Bihar

1904. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV :

SHRI LALL BABU RAI :

SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any representations have been received by the Government for opening of Branch Post Offices in U.P. particularly in Jaunpur, Balia, Deoria and Mau Districts and Chhapra in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details with reasons for their pendency; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

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

(b) The details of representations received by the Government for opening of Branch Post Offices in Jaunpur, Balia, Deoria and Mau districts of U.P. and Chhapra in Bihar with reasons for their pendency are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) if those locations fulfil norms of distance, population and income, opening of post offices will depend on the laid-down priorities and availability of resources.

STATEMENT

Details of representations received by the Government for opening of branch post offices in U.P. and Bihar.

S. No.	Name of District	Name of locations
1	2	3

UTTAR PRADESH

1. Jaunpur	Hardwari,	Hardipur,
	Puralal,	Salamatpur,
	Madras	Riyaz-UI- Ullom,