

(b) the places where such exchanges are proposed to be set-up during 1995-96;

(c) the exchange-wise waiting list for telephone connections in the State; and

(d) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

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

[English]

Poverty Alleviation Schemes in Assam

2854. SHRI PROBIN DEKA : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Assam have submitted any poverty alleviation scheme to the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details including the assistance sought in this regard; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAVA) : (a) No, Sir. The Government of Assam has not submitted any fresh scheme for poverty alleviation. However, On-going poverty alleviation programmes like Integrated Rural Development Programme, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana, employment Assurance Scheme, Nehru Rozgar Yojana and Prime Minister's Intergrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme are being implemented in the State.

(b) and (c). Dose not arise.

Combation with Terrorism

2855. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :
SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Home Secretary and Canadian High Commissioner discussed recently about ratification treaty to combat terrorism in both the countries;

(b) if so, the main issues discussed;

(c) whether the treaty signed by the Home Minister in October last year in Canada has been fully implemented;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTEY RAZI) : (a) and (b). Union Home Secretary and Canadian High Commissioner met on 19-10-1995 and exchanged the Instrument of Ratification of Mutual Legal Assistance signed earlier between Government of India and Government of Canada.

(c) and (d). It has become operational from the time of exchange of Ratification between both the countries. The MLAT provides for cooperation between the concerned agencies in India and Canada to work jointly in the investigation, prosecution and suppression of crime, including crime related to terrorism and tracing, restraint, forfeiture or confiscation of the proceeds of crime.

(e) Question does not arise.

[Translation]

Post Offices in Maharashtra

2856. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of post offices and branch post offices functioning in the State of Maharashtra at present; district-wise;

(b) the number of post offices and branch post offices opened during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the number of such post offices proposed to be opened this year district-wise and the criteria laid down for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) The number of post offices and branch post offices functioning in the State of Maharashtra at present, district-wise is given in the attached Statement-I.

(b) The number of post offices and branch post offices actually opened during the last three years, year-wise and district-wise is given in the attached Statement-II.

(c) Annual Plan 1995-96 envisages opening of 8 extra departmental branch post offices and 11 departmental sub post offices in Maharashtra, District-wise details of which is given in the attached Statement-III. Actual opening of post offices would depend on availability of resources. Criteria for opening of post offices are given in the attached Statement-IV.