

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) to (c). Upto 15.2.1996 one case of death in police custody has been reported in Delhi in 1996.

On 2.1.1996 one Shri Indal was caught stealing a car stereo and cassettes by the car owner and his friends in the area of Police Station Mehrauli. The accomplice with Indal managed to escape with the stolen goods whereas Indal was caught and beaten up by the public. A case under section 379 IPC was registered at P.S. Mehrauli. After medical examination, when the medical officer certified Indal to be under the influence of alcohol, the accused was sent inside the lock-up in Police Station Mehrauli. After he omitted he was removed to AIIMS where he was declared brought dead on 3.1.1996.

Sub Divisional Magistrate (South) conducted the In quest Proceedings and in her interim report found the circumstantial evidence and deposition of witnesses, including that of medical officer, indicating towards a suspected death in police custody and recommended necessary legal action against four police officials and two public men.

A case FIR No. 9/96 under section 304 IPC P.S. Mehrauli. Departmental enquiry has been ordered.

#### **Post Offices in Kanpur Dehat**

414. SHRI KESRI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to open Post Offices in all the Villages of Kanpur Dehat is under consideration of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) Post Offices are opened under Annual Plan Scheme progressively, subject to fulfilment of norms and availability of resources.

[English]

#### **Coal Pilferage**

415. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his ministry has evolved any viable mechanism to curb pilferage of Coal in transit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (b). The ownership of Coal Companies ceases with the loading of coal into the railway wagons. It is the statutory responsibility of the carrier/law and order enforcing authorities to curb enroute pilferage of coal. Therefore the responsibility of preventing enroute pilferage/ theft of coal should really be discharged by those to whom it rightly belongs. However, Coal Companies extend necessary cooperation to the Railways and law enforcing agencies in curbing theft/ pilferage of coal in transit.

[Translation]

#### **Telephone Connections**

416. SHRI MOHAN SINGH (DEORIA): Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants for telephone connections in the country during 1995 and the number of persons out of them provided with telephone connection; and

(b) the number of persons on the waiting list as on December 31, 1995 and the time by which telephone connection will be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) A total of 19,21,306 applicants register for Telephone Connections from 1.1.1995 to 31.12.1995. A total of 19,94,718 Telephone Connections have been provided during the above period.

(b) The waiting list as on 31.12.1995 is 25,09,790 Telephones to these wait listed persons are likely to be provided by 31.3.1997. National Telecom Policy, 1994 envisages telephone on demand throughout the Country by 1997. For meeting this objective, private sector is also being permitted in the basic telephone service field to supplement the efforts of DOT.

#### **Supply of sub-standard coal**

417. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA:  
DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received complaints from some States regarding the supply of sub-standard coal to Thermal Power Stations during the last two years;