

**Panel to Clear Ship Purchases on the Spot**

244. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a panel to clear ship purchases on the spot; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The Government set up in April, 1987 a Ship Acquisition Licensing Committee Chaired by Secretary (Surface Transport) to consider and recommend ship acquisition proposals by Private Sector shipping companies. This Committee meets every month and normally decision of the Government is communicated to the applicant company within 45 days.

As far as clearance of ship purchases by Public Sector shipping companies is concerned, the procedure prescribed by Government for Public Sector Undertakings is being followed.

**Reservation of Berths at Ports for Maritime Cellular Vessels of International Shipping Lines**

245. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposals for the immediate reservation of berths at the ports for maritime cellular vessels of International Shipping Lines; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The following 24 cities and towns in Karnataka are likely to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1990-91:-

PORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). A proposal has been received from Madras Port Trust requesting for Government's approval for a Scheme for providing reservation to mainline vessels of international as well as Indian Shipping Lines. The salient features of the scheme are:-

- (1) The Shipping Company will have to intimate 90 days in advance the specific date of arrival and will have to pay the reservation fees in advance;
- (2) An agreement will be entered into between the Port and the Shipping Lines in which the latter will have to guarantee an annual throughput;
- (3) Additional gantry cranes will be provided on extra payment;
- (4) Scheme will be on an experimental basis for one year.

**S.T.D. Facility in Karnataka**

246. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cities in Karnataka which are likely to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1990-91; and

(b) the names of those cities?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The following 24 cities and towns in Karnataka are likely to be provided with S.T.D. facility during 1990-91:-

Ankola, Arsikere, Bailhongal, Basavakalyan, Challakere, Chikkodi, Gokak,

Honnagar, Hunsur, Jamkhandi, Kurta, Kushalnagar, Karkala, Kollegal, Mulky, Moodabidri, Maddur, Pavagada, Padubidri, Sira, Srirangapatna, Sankeshwar Shahabad, Yadgiri.

#### **Public Telephone Booths in Delhi**

247. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of public telephone booths in Delhi;

(b) how many of those have STD facility;

(c) the total income from these booths annually;

(d) whether Government propose to increase public telephone booths in the capital; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). The total number of public telephone booths in Delhi as on 30th November, 1989 is 5279. Out of these, 41 have STD facility.

(c) Rs. 2,00,21,815/- for the year 1988-89.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir. It is proposed to improve the position substantially in the coming years.

#### **Linking of Manali with Delhi by STD**

248. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to link Manali with Delhi by STD; and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Manali is proposed to be planned for S.T.D. facility during the Eighth Plan period.

#### **Modernisation of Postal Services**

249. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to expand and modernise the postal services in the country during the Eighth Plan period;

(b) if so, the schemes drawn up, if any, in that regard, State-wise;

(c) the amount earmarked or estimated for implementing those schemes in that plan period; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) *Modernisation*:- The Department of Posts has some proposals to modernise the services through use of technology.

(b) *Expansion*:- Preliminary exercises have been carried at the Departmental level to project the expansion of the postal network during the Eighth Plan. Specific schemes can be formulated only after this preliminary approach of the Eighth Plan is approved by Finance Ministry and Planning