

## SWITZERLAND

(a) The Swiss Vice President and Federal Councillor for Economic Affairs Mr. Jean-Pascal Delamuraz paid an official visit to India from 4th to 8th February 1995 on the invitation of the Finance Minister. He was accompanied by 16 senior executives including a number of Chief Executive Officers from leading Swiss Companies representing a wide range of sectors and a high level official delegation with senior officials from both the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Economy.

(b) Mr. Delamuraz held talks with Finance Minister and Commerce Minister and called on the Vice President. During the meeting with the Finance Minister, various bilateral and international issues of common concern were discussed by the two sides.

(c) and (d) No agreements were signed during the visit.

## GERMANY

(a) The following German Ministers visited India recently:

(i) Bavarian Minister for Economy, Transport and Technology, Dr. Otto Wiesheu, visited India from 22—29 January, 1995.

(ii) Minister-President of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Mr. Erwin Teufel, visited India from February 16—26, 1995.

(b) The Bavarian Minister met the following:

(i) Finance Minister

(ii) Commerce Minister

(iii) Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of State for External Affairs

The Minister-President of Baden-Wuerttemberg met:

(i) Minister of Communications

(ii) Minister of Power

(iii) Finance Minister

(iv) Shri Salman Khurshid, Minister of State for External Affairs.

The discussion focused on India's economic reforms programme and the opportunities available for foreign investment particularly in the key-infrastructure areas, such as power and telecommunications.

(c) and (d) No official/government agreements were signed during the visits.

[Translation]

**Power shortage in Madhya Pradesh**

843. SHRI SURAJBHANU SOLANKI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to set up new power plants in Madhya Pradesh to increase generation of Power; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and names of the places where these plants are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL):

16—470 LSS/95.

(a) and (b) The following power projects are envisaged to yield benefits in the State of Madhya Pradesh during the Eighth Plan Period:

S.No.	Name of the Project	Capacity(M'V)	District
<b>HYDRO</b>			
1.	Tawa LBC	4×3	Hoshangabad
2.	Hasdeo Bango	3×40	Bilaspur
3.	Bansagar Tons	2×15+3×20	Rewa
4.	Rajghat (Joint Sector)	22.5	Lalitpur & Guna
5.	Bansagar Tons-IV	20	Rewa
<b>THERMAL</b>			
6.	Sanjay Gandhi Unit 1 & 2	2×210	Shahdol
7.	Sanjay Gandhi Unit 3 & 4	2×210	Birsinghpur
8.	Pench TPS	2×210	Chhindwara

[English]

**Foreign Power Companies in India**

844. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce competitive bidding in sanctioning permits for foreign-built and foreign managed power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) to (c) The Government of India vide letter dated 18.1.1995 has informed all the State Governments that in future private power projects should come through the process of competitive bidding instead of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) route.

[Translation]

**Tehri Dam Project**

845. SHRI DEVI BUX SINGH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the under-construction Dam Project in Tehri Garhwal, district of Uttar Pradesh is lying at present.

(b) the time schedule to complete the above project and the total cost thereof;

(c) keeping in view the progress of work at present the time likely to be taken to complete the same; and

(d) the cost over-run likely to be incurred thereon till then?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI): (a) Presently, Stage I of Tehri Hydro Power Complex, viz. Tehri Dam and HPP (1000 MW) is under construction. Considerable physical progress has been made on State I works.

All the four diversion tunnels have been completed and the river diverted through the two Right Bank Tunnels. The foundation of the main dam over the entire length of 1.1 km has been laid and the Coffer dam as well as main

dam have been raised upto 15 mtr. above the river bed level. Various infrastructural works have been completed at the project site. Excavation of four (two each for Hydro Power Project Stage I and Pumped Storage Project) Head Race Tunnels have been completed. Approach adits to underground power station cavern are also complete. Construction of coffer dam has been taken up during the current working season.

(b) to (d) The project has been sanctioned in March, 1994 for completion by March, 1999 at an estimated cost of Rs.2963.66 crores (at March, 1993 prices).

#### Telephones out of order in Delhi

846. SHRI GOVINDA CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of complaints of telephones out of order received in Delhi, particularly, in eastern region during each of the last three years; and

(b) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Number of complaints booked on 198 during the last three years is as under:—

1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95 (upto Feb. 95)
2088790	2414575	2828596	317323

#### STATEMENT

Year	Area	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1992	Delhi				22.5	24.1	25.2	29.6	28.8	27.0	26.9	26.2	26
	East				24.3	23.7	24.1	29.6	28.1	28.1	29.3	29.2	27
1993	Delhi	25.3	24.3	25.7	22.5	27.3	29.9	38.3	32.3	33.7	27.4	23.5	24.1
	East	29.1	26.2	28.5	24.1	28.8	31.9	40.3	35.3	35.1	29.7	26.9	30.0
1994	Delhi	28.0	24.35	25.7	24.76	28.96	37.96	36.35	35.36	37.32	30.7	27.4	28
	East	38.8	33.8	35.1	30.4	31.2	32.43	42.2	32.15	40.38	38.14	36.64	34.2
1995	Delhi	29.2	24.25										
	East	32.6	23.27										

#### Entry by road to Myanmar

847. SHRI MANJAY LAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether most of the persons among lakhs of Indians repatriated from Myanmar have been separated from their relations in that country;

(b) whether it is unaffordable to most of these persons to meet their relations due to exorbitant air fares;

(c) whether these persons have been demanding permission to travel through Manipur-More trade route; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI

Pranab Mukherjee): In addition complaint/100 Stns./month booked for Delhi and Area East are indicated in the enclosed statement.

MTNL is taking various steps to contain the number of complaints. These include—

#### (a) External Plant.

1. Revamping and rehabilitation of external plant.
2. Locking and dressing up of DPs, cabinets and pillars.
3. Pressurisation of junction, primary and secondary cables.
4. Laying of underground cables in ducts.
5. Replacement of old fault prone underground cables.

#### (b) Telephone exchange Equipment.

- (1) Phasing out of old and out moded exchanges in the network.
- (2) Introduction of large number of digital electronic exchanges.

#### (c) Inter-connecting medium.

Introduction of PCM system, optical fibre and digital microways as media.

#### (d) Computerisation.

Computerisation of all FRs and other important services is being done progressively.

PRANAB MUKHERJEE: (a) to (d) Government have received a petition from the Burma Displaced Persons Association requesting the facility of travel to Myanmar by road to meet relatives as travel by air is expensive. This suggestion is under the consideration of the concerned authorities.

[English]

#### Deposits in Bailadila Complex

848. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to handover the high grade iron ore mine of 11/B deposit in the Bailadila complex of Bastar district to a private party;