

Sl. No.	Name of District	Total Number of Village Panchayats (VPs)	No. of VPs with telephone facility as on 28.2.95	No. of VPs without telephone facility as on 28.2.95
17.	Valsad & Dang	758	594	164
18.	Union Territory	22	17	5
<b>Total</b>		<b>13510</b>	<b>11197</b>	<b>2313</b>

[Translation]

**Construction of CPWD flats in Uttar Pradesh**

974. DR. SAKSHIJI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government quarters constructed by the Central Public Works Department in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of quarters out of them allotted to the Union Government employees till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) The number of Government quarters constructed in Uttar Pradesh during the last three years in the General Pool is as under:—

1992	— 390 Nos.
1993	— 147 Nos.
1994	— 114 Nos.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>651 Nos.</b>

(b) All the above quarters have been allotted except 6 quarters which are being used as Sub-Divisional and Enquiry Offices.

**PCO Advisory Committees**

975. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the procedure for constitution of Telecom Advisory Committees and P.C.O. Advisory Committees at various levels;

(b) whether the Members of Parliament are nominated to these Committees;

(c) whether the P.C.O. Advisory Committee of District Bareilly (U.P.) has since been formed; and

(d) if not, the time by which it is likely to be formed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Telephone Advisory Committees are constituted one for each Metro/Telecom. circles headed by CGM and one for each Secondary Switching Area headed by GM/Telecom. District Manager for a tenure of two years. Nominations to these committees are made by the Minister of State for Communications after considering the recommendations made by Heads of Circles, MPs and MLAs and representations received from various local bodies, publicemen and individuals.

As per the revised STD/ISD PCO policy effective from 24.7.93, STD PCO Allotment Committees, which are authorised to allot new STD/ISD PCOs and decide their locations, are constituted for each SSA. While the Head of the SSA and CAO/AO of the SSA are the two official members of the Committee, the three non-official

members are nominated by the Minister of State for Communications.

(b) Nominations for Members of Parliament for Telecom. Advisory Committees are obtained from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs. For the STD/ISD PCO Allotment Committees, no Members of Parliament have been nominated so far.

(c) and (d) The STD/ISD PCO Allotment Committee for Bareilly SSA has been formed with the official members. Non-official members will be nominated shortly.

[English]

**Safety Aiding Gadgets in Vehicles**

976. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether this Ministry has held any discussion with vehicle manufacturers to improve safety aiding gadgets in vehicles at the manufacturing stage; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) No, Sir. It may however be mentioned that the Central Motor Vehicles Act/Rules provide for safety standards in respect of a number of components such as breaks, headlights, indicators, reflectors, seat belt for passenger cards, auto dippers, glass of the wind screen, automotive bulbs, accelerator control system, door locks and door retention components, fuel tanks wheel rims etc. The manufacturers are required to conform to the laid down standards in the manufacture of vehicles.

**Dabhol Power Company**

977. SHRI SUDHIR SAWANT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a power project had been finalised with a U.S. Firm (Dabhol Power Company);

(b) if so, the terms and conditions thereof and other details about the project;

(c) the Central and State allocation for the project and the total investment involved therein;

(d) whether any public movement is hindering the implementation of the project vis-a-vis environment issue; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the current status of the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILA BEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) and (b) Dabhol Power Company is an Indian company which is promoted by three US companies viz. ENRON Development Corporation, Bechtel Enterprises Inc. and General Electric Company.

The Power Purchase Agreement was signed between Dabhol Power Company and Maharashtra State Electricity Board on 8.12.1993 for setting up the combined cycle power plant at Dabhol, district Ratnagiri (Maharashtra). Total installed capacity of the project is 2015 MW and the project is split in following two phases:—

1. Phase-I — 695 MW
2. Phase-II — 1320 MW

The financial closure of the project was achieved on 1.3.1995 and the first phase is expected to be commissioned by December, 1997.

(c) This being a private project, no central and state allocation is involved.

(d) and (e) No, Sir. At present, work is in progress.

#### **Renewal of Contract to Lobbying Firm**

978. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the renewal of the contract of the law firm hired by the Indian Embassy in Washington to lobby New Delhi's interests in Congress is being renewed;

(b) if so, on what terms and conditions; and

(c) whether any assessment of the achievement of this firm had been made before formalising the agreement for another term; if so, in what manner and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PARANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contract with the law firm of M/s Raffaelli, Spees, Springer and Smith in association with the Public Relations firm of Daniel J. Edelman Inc. has been renewed for one year from 15 February, 1995 under similar terms and conditions at an all inclusive rate of US \$57,500 per month.

(c) Yes, Sir. A detailed assessment was made of the performance of the Law Firm and the associated Public Relations firm during the past one year. Government found the performance of the Firm to be satisfactory.

#### **Telephone Directory by Private Companies**

979. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:  
SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone directories are more than one year old in some States;

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

(c) whether some private companies have offered for providing and distributing telephone directory to consumers free of cost in some important cities of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Out of 320 SSAs, telephone directories in respect of 74 SSAs

are more than one year old. The details are given in the statement attached.

(c) to (e) As per existing instructions, telephone directories of Telephone Districts under Telecom District Manager and above are printed with yellow pages by entering into a comprehensive contract with a firm for five years in respect of metro and major districts and three years in respect of minor districts. Under the terms of the contract, the contractors supply the requisite number of telephone directories free of cost every year and pay a pre-fixed royalty to the Department.

#### **STATEMENT**

Name of the Circle	No. of SSAs in which the telephone directory is more than one year old.
Andhra Pradesh	3
Bihar	6
Assam	5
Gujarat	12
Haryana	3
Kerala	9
Madhya Pradesh	6
N.E.	6
Orissa	1
Tamil Nadu	15
West Bengal	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>74</b>

#### **Visit of Prime Minister of Russia**

980. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Russia visited India recently; and

(b) if so, the issues of bilateral interests discussed during the visit and the outcome of the visit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Russian Prime Minister, Mr. V.S. Chernomyrdin, accompanied by a high-powered delegation, visited India on December 23 and 24, 1994.

Prime Minister Chernomyrdin's visit was the first by a Russian Prime Minister to India. It provided an opportunity to review the progress which had been made in bilateral relations with Russia particularly since Prime Minister's visit to Moscow in June-July, 1994.

Prime Minister Chernomyrdin reiterated Russia's support for India's candidature for a permanent seat on the UN Security Council. He stated that Russia was against the internationalisation of the Jammu & Kashmir issue and would like to see it resolved through bilateral dialogue on the basis of the Simla Agreement. At a press conference he stated that Russia was not supplying arms to Pakistan and would not do so in future. A decision was taken to establish a hot-line between Delhi and Moscow.

A Joint Statement was issued summarising the outcome of the visit. A copy of the Statement is attached.

In addition, 8 Documents were signed in the fields of