

may not necessarily lead to the reduction in the price of the end product in every case.

[English]

#### Supply of Arms To Ultras

990. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Hindustan Times" dated February 28, 1995 regarding supply of arms to ultras in Kashmir from Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) Pakistan is continuing to provide sanctuaries and training and is extending material, financial and logistical support to the militants in J&K. This is well-documented and widely recognised by the international community, and is the core issue in J&K as well the root cause of tensions in the bilateral relations with Pakistan.

#### Privatisation of Ports

991. SHRI HARISH NARAYAN PRABHU ZANTYE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any report on privatisation and commercialisation of Ports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of action taken/proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) A report reforms in Indian Ports & Shipping sector under the technical assistance from ADB has been received. The thrust of the report is on effective decentralisation of decision making process and transfer of regulatory control to the Port Trust through greater delegation of powers and privatisation of port operations. The report has recommended amendment of Acts/rules and streamlining of Procedural matters etc.

(c) This report has been referred to the major ports for taking necessary action at their level.

#### Telephone Revenue

992. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rupees 1284 crore remain to be collected as telephone revenue;

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

(c) the details of the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) At the end of March, 94, the Telephone Revenue amount that remained to be collected was Rs. 1157.95 Crores.

(b) State-wise amount of telephone bills outstanding as on 31-3-94 is furnished in the Statement.

(c) The issue of bills and recovery thereof is a continuous process and there are well laid procedures for recovery of outstanding telephone bills. Efforts are being made to settle the billing disputes/court cases quickly. For other cases recovery is being pursued by correspondence/personal visits and legal action.

#### STATEMENT

Total Telephone Revenue Arrears as on 31-3-1994-  
State-wise.

States	Amount in Crore of Rs.
1. Andhra Pradesh	36.46
2. Assam	38.93
3. Bihar	85.07
4. Gujarat (Including Dadra & Nagar Haveli)	31.33
5. Haryana	23.3
6. Himachal Pradesh	1.83
7. Jammu & Kashmir	22.85
8. Karnataka	32.71
9. Kerala (Including Lakshadweep)	29.45
10. Madhya Pradesh	30.42
11. Maharashtra (Including Bombay)	239.54
12. Goa	1.35
13. Meghalaya	2.05
14. Manipur	1.71
15. Mizoram	0.98
16. Nagaland	4.27
17. Arunachal Pradesh	1.53
18. Tripura	0.87
19. Orissa	25.63
20. Punjab	31.47
21. Rajasthan	8.68
22. Tamilnadu (Including Madras)	42.31
23. West Bengal (Including Calcutta)	118.85
24. Sikkim	1.35
25. Uttar Pradesh	135.65
26. Delhi	208.77
Union Territory	
1. A&N Island	1.92
2. Chandigarh	0.31
3. Pondicherry.	0.78
TOTAL—	1157.95

#### Road Network in Backward Areas

993. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the Government policy regarding development of road network in backward areas; and

(b) the road network per thousand square kms. at the end of the Fifth Plan and Seventh Five Year Plan period, State-wise?