

opening of Long Distance Public Call Offices under Multi-Access Rural Radio System.

The salient features of this scheme are :

- (i) This scheme has been launched to provide Telecom. Facility by opening Long Distance Public Telephones in the remote, tribal, hilly, backward, desert areas, dense forests and coastal regions, which are inaccessible and where conventional open-wire lines cannot be erected easily. It is not cost economic.
- (ii) Radio media is utilized for this system and it provides more reliable Telecom. service for the subscribers as compared to open-wire conventional methods.

(iii) It is useful where induction due to power parallelism makes the open-wire circuit technically unsuitable.

It had been decided to open LDPT's (under MARR scheme) in 12 selected areas of the country in the first phase utilising imported equipment. The LDPT's have been opened in various States as per given in the statement attached.

(d) As per the new hexagonal policy; all 5 Kms. side hexagons in the country, which are without Telecom. facility, are likely to be covered by 1890 subject to availability of funds and equipment from indigenous sources. All possible efforts are being made to procure equipment from indigenous sources and, subject to its availability, it has been planned to have 9000 LDPCOs with MARR System in the 7th Plan period.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State	No. of LDPCO's Installed (under MARR scheme)	No. of LDPCO's commissioned (under MARR scheme)
1.	Gujarat	24	14
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9	9
3.	Tamil Nadu	12	12
4.	Maharashtra	28	12
5.	Uttar Pradesh	19	—
6.	Madhya Pradesh	3	—
Grand Total		95	47

Faulty Working of S. T. D. Service

2239. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inconvenience and heavy financial burden caused to the subscribers by the faulty working of S. T. D. when the dialing results in getting 'wrong' telephone numbers at the other end;

(b) if so, whether any step has been taken to rectify this fault;

(c) if so, the results thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the likely date by which a solution would be found to this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Wrong numbers are likely to be encountered in both local and STD calls. The occurrence of wrong numbers in STD calls is estimated to be less than 2%. In all such cases financial loss is likely to the extent equivalent to one to two local calls as calling subscribers will disconnect such calls immediately on response by the wrong party.

(b) Factors responsible for occurrence of wrong numbers are identified and attended on consistent complaints or by service observations. Continuous efforts are put in as per defined maintenance schedule to keep the occurrence of wrong numbers to the minimum.

(c) Incidence of occurrence of wrong numbers on STD has been, to some extent, controlled but in an expanding network the problem cannot be totally eliminated.

(d) Wrong numbers on STD calls are likely to arise from various causes and at various stages of call progress. The dial of the calling subscriber, incorrect dialling stronger switch response limits, digit storage and repetition in a crossbar local or Trunk Automatic Exchange, signalling channel distortion on a transmission circuit may all cause wrong numbers in the call chain. Subscribers complaints and service quality test observations are the main basis for estimation and analysis of occurrence of wrong numbers. Routine maintenance adjustments are the main method of keeping their occurrence in check besides any special investigations as the occasion may warrant.

[*Translation*]

Device to detect Adulteration in Diesel and Petrol

2240. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have developed any device to detect adulteration in diesel and petrol in trucks, buses, cars, rail-engines and aeroplanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the steps being taken to evolve such a device ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA) : (a) No fool-proof device to detect adulteration in diesel and petrol has yet been developed.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) An experimental study is being made by doping furfural with kerosene at selected locations with a view to devising an effective and feasible method to detect adulteration of petrol and diesel with kerosene.

[*English*]

Printing Industry

2241. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether domestic printing industry has been asked to upgrade the technology;

(b) if so, whether any guidelines in this regard have been issued;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) the extent these have upgraded the technology ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) The need for upgradation of the technology has been impressed on the domestic printing industry.

(b) and (c). No specific guidelines have been issued in this regard. However, in order to facilitate modernisation of the Indian Printing Industry, the following measures have been taken :

(i) A Development Council was constituted to study the various aspects relating to the growth and development of the industry on modern lines.

(ii) Import of several printing machines and allied equipment have been placed under OGL.

(iii) Project import facility has been extended to the printing industry to enable it to avail of concessional rate of import duty on machinery imports.

(d) Technology upgradation is a continuing process. The Indian Printing Industry has been witnessing a steady pace of modernisation to enable it to achieve sustained growth.

Oil and Gas Reserves

2242. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :