

past. However, on occasions, system has shown failure due to propagation conditions.

(b) Low noise front-end amplifiers have been ordered for improving the performance of the system during adverse propagation conditions.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Foundation stone was laid by Shri Rajiv Gandhi for building for local exchange (and not trunk automatic exchange).

(e) No, Sir. The building construction is expected to start shortly. The installation of exchange equipment is likely to commence in 1986-87.

#### Lowering of Voting Age for Elections

3168. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the States have lowered the voting age to 18 years for the purpose of local bodies elections;

(b) if so, which are these States;

(c) whether Government propose to lower the voting age to 18 years; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARADWAJ) : (a) and (b). According to information obtained from all the State Governments, in connection with fulfilment of an assurance in respect of Lok Sabha Un-Starred Question No. 3863 dated 20th March, 1984 only eleven State Governments have reduced the voting age to 18 years for election to Local Bodies/Panchayat/Municipalities etc. A Statement showing the names of these State is attached.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

#### Statement

*Statement showing the names of the States which have reduced the age of voting for elections to Local Bodies Panchayat/Municipalities etc.*

Name of the State.	Age reduced for elections to Panchayat and Municipal Bodies.
1. Andhra Pradesh.	Local Bodies.
2. Madhya Pradesh.	Local Bodies.
3. Tamil Nadu.	Local Bodies.
4. Karnataka.	Local Bodies.
5. Himachal Pradesh.	Local Bodies.
6. Tripura.	Municipality.
7. West Bengal.	Municipalities and Calcutta Corporation.
8. Uttar Pradesh.	Urban Local Bodies.
9. Gujarat.	Panchayats.
10. Bihar.	Panchayats.
11. Kerala.	(Municipalities/Corporations). Local Bodies.