

such as availability of coal, have been tied up. State authorities are competent to permit installation of captive plants of upto 25 MW; consultation with the Central Electricity Authority is necessary where the capacity exceeds 25 MW.

[*Translation*]

Setting up of Electronic Telephone Exchange at Biharsharif

1288. SHRI VIJOY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up an electronic telephone exchange in place of automatic exchange at Biharsharif in Bihar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a).

[*English*]

Expansion and Development of Attirgal Telephone Exchange in Kerala

1989. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has taken any steps for the expansion and development of Attirgal Telephone Exchange in Kerala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Exchange equipment for expansion of the exchange from 300 to 600 lines has been allotted. The work will be taken up on receipt of equipment, during 7th plan.

Upgradation of B.P.Os/E.D.S.Os to the Status of Sub-Post Offices

1290. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of

COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any branch post offices/extra departmental sub-offices were upgraded to the status of departmental sub-post offices during the year 1984-85, after seeking relaxation of the ban imposed or the recruitment of new posts and any departmental sub-office upgraded to Head Office;

(b) if so, the number of such cases, and their names circle-wise (State-wise in the case of Multi-State Circles);

(c) whether any such cases have also been taken up for upgradation in the year 1985-86, especially where the State Government or other bodies have offered to bear the non-refundable contribution, so as not to impose any burden on the Department of Posts;

(d) if so, the number and names thereof, State-wise;

(e) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) One Chaniani in Uttar Pradesh and one Karhal in Madhya Pradesh.

(c) No sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) In NRC cases also, a certain amount of loss is absorbed by the Department. In view of the difficult resource position of the Department it is not considered appropriate to seek relaxation of the ban in such cases.

Hexagon Scheme of Connecting Villages By Telecommunication Services

1291. SHRI UTTAM RATHOD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telecommunication Department had contemplated hexagon