

Exchanges at Bandipore, Kupwara and Tangmarg Gulmarg are not working properly and the services are very poor: and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to improve the services?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The telephone exchanges at Bandipore and Kupwara are working satisfactorily. However, at Gulmarg frequent interruptions do take place due to prolonged electric failures. Tangmarg is served from Gulmarg exchange. The cable serving these telephones has been damaged due to militant activities.

(b) There is a 100 lines Electro-mechanical exchange at Gulmarg and its working is affected due to prolonged failure of power supply. This exchange is likely to be replaced by electronic exchange with adequate standby power supply by the end of March 97. The cable to Tangmarg is being replaced. Bandipore exchange is also likely to be connected with Sopore exchange with adequate circuits on reliable media.

Medium Capacity Long Range Aircrafts

1827. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of medium capacity long range aircrafts proposed to be purchased by the Air India during the next five years;

(b) whether the recommendations have been made to the Government in this regard

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Air India has not submitted the project report for acquisition of medium capacity long range aircraft to the Government, so far

(c) and (d) Do not arise

[Translation]

Advertisements

1828. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the amount earned by the Government from advertisements during each of the last two years;

(b) whether some advertisement charges are outstanding against some advertisers; and

(c) if so, the time by which the same is likely to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) The details of revenue earned by Doordarshan and AIR are as under :-

| Year | All India Radio (Rs. in crores) | Doordarshan (Rs. in crores) |
|---------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1994-95 | 64.37 | 398.02 |
| 1995-96 | 80.97 | 430.13 |

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Both All India Radio and Doordarshan take recourse to the contractual provisions including encashment of bank guarantee, deaccreditation of errant agencies, arbitration and legal action for recovering the dues. It is a continuous process and therefore difficult to indicate any definite period.

[English]

Telephone Connections From MPs Quota

1829. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the telephone connections recommended by the Members of Parliament from their quota for installation in Delhi are not installed for months together even after the same are sanctioned by the concerned GMT offices of the States to which the MP belongs and communicated to Delhi Telecom Circle

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of such cases received by Delhi Telecom Circle from GMT offices of various States in January-June, 1996, month-wise

(d) the number of telephone connections installed in Delhi and the number out of these pending during the above period, month-wise; and

(e) the time by which the pending list likely to be cleared

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Telephone connections recommended by the Honble Members of Parliament are installed expeditiously on priority. However, in few cases, there may be some delay in the installation of telephone for such reasons as the Registration particulars have neither been indicated by the Honble MPs, nor these same have been furnished by the customer despite correspondence, the customer was not available at the premises indicated, the location where telephone required is technically not feasible, due to non availability of spare cable pairs etc. In some cases where the sanctions-registration particulars have been recently received, the work is in progress.

(c) Number of such cases received during the period January-June, 1996 are as given below :-

| Month | Sanctions recd. |
|--------------|-----------------|
| January '96 | 225 |
| February '96 | 228 |
| March '96 | 291 |
| April '96 | 272 |
| May '96 | 150 |
| June '96 | 86 |
| Total | 1252 |

(d) Out of the sanctions given in part (c) above, the telephones installed and pending are :-

| Month | Telephones Installed | Pending cases |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Jan '96 | 191 | 34 |
| Feb '96 | 193 | 35 |
| March '96 | 220 | 71 |
| April '96 | 190 | 82 |
| May '96 | 115 | 35 |
| June '96 | 76 | 10 |
| Total | 985 | 267 |

(e) Out of the total 267 pending cases, as many as 185 are pending on account of non-receipt of registration particulars from the customers. All the pending telephones will be installed within one month subject to receipt of the registration particulars and technically non-feasible areas becoming feasible.

Irregularities in Contracts for Laying Cables in Mandi, H.P.

1830 SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV :
PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it is come to the notice of the Government that gross irregularities were made in awarding the contracts for laying telephone cables in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the amount of contract involved;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry in this regard; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Some irregularities have been

alleged in laying of optical fibre cables on Mandi-Jogindernagar route in Mandi (H.P.)

(b) CBI have registered a case against two Deptt. officers and five contractors for investigation. The total cost of the above work is Rs.77.98 lacs (approx.)

(c) The case is under investigation by CBI.

(d) Outcome of investigation by CBI shall be examined by Government for appropriate action.

Waiting List for Telephone Connections

1831. SHRI VISHVESHWAR BHAGAT :
SHRI LALIT ORAON :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :-

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that there is a long waiting list for getting new telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise, upto June, 1996;

(c) the number of persons sanctioned telephone connection from the quota of Members of Parliament but have not been provided the connection;

(d) the reasons for delay and the action taken against the officers responsible in this regard;

(e) the action being taken to reduce the waiting list and also to improve the functioning of telephone exchanges there;

(f) the number of telephone exchanges/Electronic Exchanges set up in the above States, location-wise, upto June, 1996; and

(g) the number of new telephone exchanges likely to be set up and old exchanges converted into Electronic Exchanges during 1996-97, State-wise, location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The waiting list as on 30.6.96 in these three states is as under :-

| | | |
|----------------|---|-------|
| Madhya Pradesh | - | 47229 |
| Orissa | - | 22427 |
| Bihar | - | 48856 |

(b) The district-wise information is given in statement-I enclosed.

(c) Number of telephone connections sanctioned on the recommendations which are still pending are as follows :-

| | | |
|----------------|---|----|
| Madhya Pradesh | - | 12 |
| Orissa | - | 54 |
| Bihar | - | 12 |