

(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
<b>Total</b>	<b>1252</b>

(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
<b>Total</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>267</b>

(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