

the criteria or rules are not followed; if so, the percentage of such exceptions made ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Telephone Operators is a Divisional cadre and is therefore transferable within the division. Normally a Telephone Operator has to work for a period of 4 years before he can be transferred. However he can be continued at the same station at the discretion of the Department for longer period. Transfer of the official from one Division to another on his own request is also permitted, wherein he will lose his seniority. He can also be transferred, in the interest of service, anywhere in India.

(b) Telephone Operators rendered surplus, due to manual exchanges becoming automatic, are liable to be transferred to other divisions, wherever vacancies are available. These cases are however, only occasional in nature and no fixed limits can be indicated for them.

Money given to sick public enterprises from central exchequer

2101. SHRI Y. S. MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state the amount of money given from the Central exchequer to the sick public enterprises during the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to working capital loans given to continuously cash-loss making Central Public Enterprises. As per the available information, the amount of working capital loans outstanding against the enterprises which were making cash losses for the last five years continuously was Rs. 876.82, Rs. 815.03 and Rs. 1030.71 crores as on 31.3.1984, 31.3.1985 and 31.3.1986 respectively.

[Translation]

Allotment of telephone connections in Delhi

2102. SHRI JAGANNATH CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any review on the state of telephone system in Delhi has been done by the Ministry and if so the details thereof;

(b) whether any time limit has been fixed to allot telephone connections under O.Y.T., S. S. and General categories and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any complaints have been received regarding harassment of subscribers by the officers and employees of Delhi Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. at the time of allotments; and

(d) if so, steps proposed in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Required information is given in the Statement below.

(b) The telephone connections are released as and when capacity is available in the exchange either on commissioning of new exchange or expansion of the existing exchanges. This release is given in the following ratio :

OYT & OYT-S	40%
Non-OYT SS & S	20%
Non-OYT-General	40%

(c) and (d) Normally new telephones are installed within 15 days of the release of connection but in case of bulk release this period may be extended depending upon the number of connections released. The subscribers are informed about the

release and the time likely to be taken for provision of connection. In case telephone cannot be provided within 15 days the subscriber is informed by the S.D.O. according intimating the reason of delay and the likely date when the connection can be provided.

Statement

Review of the Delhi Telephone system is done every month.

Since the formation of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam on 1.4.1986, Delhi Telephones has made the following impressive improvement :

- (a) 41765 net connections have been provided in the last 11 months (since 1.4.1986) against the target of 34000 connections for the full year ending 31.3.1987.
- (b) The capacity in the network has been added by 63800 exchange lines during the year upto February, 1987. All the planned projects have been completed ahead of the scheduled time targets.
- (c) To increase public access to telephones 480 PCOs (including 24 new STD PCOs) have been added in the network.
- (d) In order to reduce fault rates in the subscribers telephones all cabinets/pillors and DPs numbering 1165 and 29575 respectively have been dressed up and locked. The fault rate is showing visible reduction since April, 1986.
- (e) A main frame computer has been installed in October, 1986 and telephone billing work has already been implemented in the in-house computer with effect from 1st February, 1987. On-line directory enquiry service is being planned to be introduced by the middle of 1987. Work is on for other applications of the computer

like on-line billing enquiries, new registrations for Telephones, and fault repair service etc.

- (f) Interface with computers has received utmost attention in Delhi telephones. Subscribers now have an opportunity to meet the officers on fixed date and time without any prior appointment.
- (g) Instead of Post Offices, the Subscribers are now in a position to pay bills through 78 branches of banks spread all over Delhi. This has proved to be very convenient to the subscribers.

[English]

Production, requirement and import of foodgrains

2103. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated requirement of foodgrains in the country upto July, 1987 taking in view the present food situation;

(b) the quantity of foodgrains likely to be produced in the country and the quantity to be imported from abroad, country-wise; and

(c) whether any quantity has been received in the form of free aid ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : (a) As the demand for foodgrains in the country depends on various factors, such as population growth extent of urbanisation, levels of income, prices of substitutable foodgrains, etc., precise estimates of requirement of foodgrains in the country are not available.

(b) The anticipated production of foodgrains in 1986-87 is estimated at 149 to 151 million tonnes. There is no proposal to import any cereals during the current year,