

via satellite and on Terrestrial medium with Bhutan and Nepal. It is also proposed to provide telex service on Terrestrial route also to Bangladesh.

Telephone system in Bihar

2910. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the telephone system in northern part of Bihar is absolutely unsatisfactory;

(b) if so, the reasons as to why telephone remain out of order; and

(c) the arrangements made to improve the system keeping in view the public complaints ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) No Sir; telephone system in Northern part of Bihar is generally working satisfactorily.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply as at (a) above.

(c) List of steps being taken to improve further the functioning of telephone systems, is given in the statement below.

Statement

List of steps being taken to improve the telephone systems in Northern parts of Bihar

1. Prompt attention to public complaints are being given.
2. Frequent inspections of outdoor and indoor plants are being carried out.
3. Efforts are being made to replace some of the manual telephone systems by automatic telephone systems during 7th Five Year Plan period.
4. Electronic exchanges are being introduced in some areas.

5. Upgradation of external plants are being done.

6. Heavy overhead alignments are proposed to be replaced by underground cables.

[English]

Import of diesel generating sets from Japan

2911. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether clearance has been given to Karnataka for import of sixteen diesel generating sets from Japan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by what time it will be cleared ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter will be re-examined and when a representation from the party is received.

Clearance of power house at Srisaillam

2912. SHRI E. AYYAPU REDDY : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :-

(a) whether the Planning Commission has cleared the scheme to 'set up a rupees 423 crores left' flank power house at Srisaillam by using reversible turbine;

(b) if so, the details of the said scheme;

(c) the amount of aid from the Government of Saudi Arabia for the project; and

(d) the approximate time for completing Stage I and Stage II of the said project ?