

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecommunications Department has drawn up a programme to extend telephone facilities to every village so as to make telephone connections available on demand in all the cities and towns by the year 2000; and

(b) if so, the details of this programme and the total likely to expenses for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The draft perspective Plan 2000 AD envisages:

- (i) provision of telephone practically on demand by 2000 AD and
- (ii) A telephone in every village by 2000 AD.

The estimated investment at 1987-88 prices is about Rs. 48,000 crore.

TV Relay Centre for Osmanabad, Maharashtra

864. SHRI ARVIND TULSHI KAMBLE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the date by which the proposed Low Power TV Relay Centre for Osmanabad is scheduled for commissioning;

(b) whether the work has since been completed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN- FORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT) : (a) As per the pres-

ent indication, the proposed TV relay centre for Osmanabad in Maharashtra is expected to be ready for commissioning into service before the expiry of the current financial year.

(b) and (c). A building for the purpose has been acquired and orders for the required equipment placed on the manufactur- ers. The completion of the project is depend- ent on the time needed by the manufacturers to supply the required equipment.

[*Translation*]

Explosion in TV Tower at Kodaikanal

865. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRI- PATHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a bomb explosion in a TV Tower at Kodaikanal in April 1987;

(b) if so, whether an inquiry has since been made in this case; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the guilty persons?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF IN- FORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L.BHAGAT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Necessary investigations are under progress.

[*English*]

Licences for manufacture of Polyester Filament Yarn

866. SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued