

6. Cooperation of national institutes for journalism and mass communication of the two countries.
7. Exchange of experts in the field of information and information related technology.
8. Holding of workshop and a colloquium on the new international order in the field of information and Communication.
9. To prepare specific programmes of cooperation and review the results of their implementation.
10. Encourage on a reciprocal basis the setting up of exhibitions and holding of lectures as agreed between concerned organisations of the two countries.
11. Holding consultation with a view to coordinating their joint actions in the specialised institutions and coordinating bodies of the non-aligned countries as well as in international organisations.

[*Translation*]

Outstanding amount of D.E.S.U. against consumers

1915. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crores of rupees of Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking are outstanding against consumers;

(b) if so, whether a list of defaulters against whom an amount of more than ten thousand rupees is outstanding will be laid on the Table;

(c) the action taken since January, 1986 so far to recover the outstanding amount and the details of the progress of recovery of the amount; and

(d) the number of organisations against whom an amount of more than fifty thousand rupees of the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking is outstanding for the last two years or more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Electrification of Villages in Kerala

1916. SHRI K. MOHANDAS: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether all villages in Kerala have been electrified;

(b) the number of applications pending in Kerala for electric connections;

(c) how much time is needed to extend electric connection to all the applicants in Kerala villages; and

(d) the percentage of work completed by the Rural Electrification Corporation in Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) All the inhabited villages in Kerala have been electrified.

(b) According to information furnished by Kerala State Electricity Board, 1,60,872 applications were pending in Kerala for electric connections upto June, 1988.

(c) According to REC, connections to all the pending applications for agricultural load are expected to be released during 1988-89. Kerala State Electricity Board has reported that during 1988-89, 1,15,500 electric connections to categories, other than agricultural, are likely to be released. The remaining pending

applications are likely to be disposed of by the Board during the subsequent years subject to the availability of funds.

(d) The percentage of works completed under REC financed programmes, as on 31.3.1988, is as under:--

	Sanctioned Coverage	Achievement	% age
1. Pumpsets (Nos.)	1,00,196	78,067	78.
2. Other category of connections (Nos.)	4,79,632	2,87,482	60

Setting up of information centres in border areas

1917. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up information centres in border areas of the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Press Information Bureau already has information centres in the border states of Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Sikkim, Nagaland, Manipur, and Mizoram. Further expansion is dependent upon availability of financial resources.

Telephone complaints

1918. DR. G. VIJAYA RAMA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether after two days of the telephone complaints, the Area Managers and after three days, Additional General Manager can be approached;

(b) if so, the number of complaints received and action taken thereon from 1-1-1988;

(c) whether it is correct that 198 and other such phones for receiving complaints have been checked and kept off the hook by telephone authorities;

(d) whether 198 would be made a 24 hour service and its operations checked by senior authorities and users representatives; and

(e) whether a rebate is given if the telephones do not operate for more than 12 hours?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Fault Repair Service is already a 24 hour service. Its operations are regularly checked by supervisory staff and by higher officers and those are considered adequate.

(e) The Department allows rebate in cases of telephones remaining faulty for more than 15 days.

[Translation]

Merger of loss incurring public sector undertakings

1919. SHRI ASHKARAN SANKHAWAR: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state: