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|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| WEST BENGAL | | Kharagpur |
| | | Malda |
| | Assansol | Bardhaman |
| | Calcutta* | Balurghat |
| | Murshidabad | Shantinikatan |
| | | Kulu |
| HIMACHAL PRADESH | Kasauli | Simla |
| JAMMU & KASHMIR | Srinagar | Leh |
| | | Kargil |
| | | Jammu |
| MEGHALAYA — | | Tura |
| | | Shillong |
| PONDICHERRY (UT) — | | Pondicherry |
| NAGALAND — | | Kohima |
| MIZORAM — | | Aizawal |
| SIKKIM — | | Gangtok |
| TRIPURA — | | Agartala |
| ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS — | | Port Blair |
| ARUNACHAL PRADESH | | Itannagar |
| GOA, DAMAN & DIU | Panaji | — |
| | 38 | 130 |

Note:-* TV Centres existing in the country at the beginning of VD Plan—18 Nos.

Arrangements for Prompt Telecommunication Services During Lok Sabha Election

133. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether P&T Department had made and special arrangement to ensure prompt and undisturbed telecom.

services in the country during the period of Lok Sabha Elections, 1984 and issued any guidelines to the Telecommunication officers at Sub Divisional, Area/district and Circle levels to ensure prompt and satisfactory telecommunication services;

(b) an outline of special arrangements made during the campaign period for the polling dates and the declaration

of results with particular reference to the provision of additional telephone connections, channels, hotlines and maintenance of trunk services, and also the detailed guidelines issued to Telecom officers;

(c) whether any complaints have been received regarding the deterioration in services and dereliction of duty by any Telecommunication officials; and

(d) if so, the break-up of the complaints, Circle-wise (State-wise in respect of multi-State Circles) indicating action taken against the concerned officials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA);
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The desired information has been summarised in the attached statement which is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (c).

Statement

Brief Outline of telecommunication arrangements made in connection with the Lok Sabha Elections, 1984

Arrangements were made by the P&T Department to meet telecommunication requirements for the contesting candidates, political parties, and the election machinery during the campaign period, for polling dates and for declaration of results of Lok Sabha elections held in December, 1984. Telephone connections for periods upto three months were arranged to be provided on high priority. Every effort was made to meet the demands from various users to the fullest extent.

2. More than 6000 telephone connections, 130 telex/teleprinter lines

and 300 telephone 'hot lines' were provided. Telegraph offices at the Headquarters of the Returning officers were ordered to remain open for longer hours where necessary in order to handle telegrams during this period. Public telecommunication services were augmented to meet the extra traffic. The staff was exhorted to ensure punctuality; due courtesy to be shown to all concerned and expeditious attention to work.

3. A Liaison Officer was nominated in the office of each General Manager Telecommunications to exercise overall control on matters relating to the elections which included provision of new telecommunication facilities, the coaxial, microwave and satellite communication systems, their maintenance and operation. A Monitoring Cell was set up in the Headquarters of the Posts & Telegraphs Board at Delhi and the performance of telephones, the trunk channels and the channels on which long-distance teleprinter and telephone 'hot lines' were provided, was reviewed every day at the headquarters. Adequate staff for trunk telephone exchanges and telegraph offices was arranged. Election Information Service provided information on phone at more than 80 large stations where there was likelihood of public demand for such a service for knowing election results.

Production of Crude Oil

134. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM be pleased to state :

(a) the total production of crude in the country at present ;

(b) how far it fulfills our needs ;

(c) the steps taken to increase the production ;

(d) whether there is any proposal to reduce the price of petrol and petroleum products for the benefit of poor consumers; and