

(a) whether Government decision of bifurcating the existing N.W. Postal and Telecom. Circles and creating separate Circles for Himachal Pradesh has been implemented in view of the fact that Government had agreed to this in principles as far back as January, 1976 (*vide* reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1453 dated 29th January, 1976) ;

(b) if so, the date with effect from which separate Circles have been created ; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which separate Postal and Telecom. Circles would be created for Himachal Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No date has yet been fixed,

Small Automatic Telephone Exchanges in North Western Circle

160. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the following Small Automatic telephone Exchanges in North Western Telecommunication Circle have been sanctioned :

- (i) Bharoli Kalan, Namhol and Swarghat in Bilaspur District of Himachal Pradesh ;
- (ii) Nehriani in Una District of Himachal Pradesh ;
- (iii) Bhumpal in Hamirpur District of Himachal Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the dates on which each one of these has been sanctioned ; and

(c) if not, the likely dates by which these would be sanctioned and reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Exchanges at 3 stations have been sanctioned as indicated in (b).

- (b)
1. Swarghat sanctioned on 13.12.84
 2. Nehriani sanctioned on 21.12.1984.
 3. Bhumpal sanctioned on 7.1.1985.

- (c)
1. Sanction of the exchange at Bharoli Kalan is under examination and is likely to be in current Financial Year.
 2. For sanction of exchange at Namhol the matter is under discussion with Power and Telecom. Coordination Committee to get the required clearance,

Corruption In sending Indian Labourers to Foreign Countries

161. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of cases of corruption in regard to sending of Indian labourers to foreign countries is increasing day by day ;

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected during the years 1983 and 1984 and the number of persons arrested in this connection ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to eradicate such corruption ?