

[English]

Fire in Uphar Cinema in South Delhi

2788. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a major fire broke out in the basement of Uphar Cinema in Green Park area of South Delhi on 6 July, 1989;

(b) if so, the causes of the fire;

(c) the estimated loss of property;

(d) the number of persons injured in the incident;

(e) whether any inquiry has since been conducted in this regard; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (f). A serious fire incident occurred on 6.7.89 on the ground-floor of Uphar Cinema building, Delhi. Police enquiries reveal that the fire was due to electrical short-circuit. Estimated loss of property was about Rs. 2 lacks. No one was injured in the incident.

[Translation]

Schemes for Tribal Districts of Maharashtra

2790. SHRI KESHORAOPARDHI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether her Ministry has received any proposal from the Department of Tribal Development, Government of Maharashtra for fifty per cent contribution for the scheme

being launched for the development of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes in Gadchiroli and Chandrapur districts of Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The State Government has proposed an investment of Rs. 195.34 crores phased over a period of four years, under the on-going schemes in different sectors of development such as Roads, Rural Electrification, Public Health, Agriculture and Irrigation etc. Ministry is of the view that the State Government should approach the Planning Commission for enhanced allocation of funds during 8th Plan under these sectors in view of the investments specially proposed for these areas. The State Government has been informed accordingly.

[English]

Expansion of Calcutta Telephones

2791. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no substantial expansion of Calcutta Telephones or replacement of existing age-old telephone exchanges by electronic equipment have been proposed by the department for VIII Plan period; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir. The Plan proposals include replacement of all life expired and workout exchanges as on 1.4.90 and to expand the network by electronic exchanges so as to contain the waiting period to practically one year.