

INDIAN TELEPHONE INDUSTRIES,
BANGALORE

167. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of shares taken by the Centre in the Indian Telephone Industries, Bangalore; and

(b) the percentage of shares of the Mysore Government?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 84.3 per cent.

(b) 12.5 per cent.

HORTICULTURE

168. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what steps are being taken by Government to improve horticulture in India?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): The improvement of horticulture is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is, however, financing research schemes on important all India problems. State schemes for development of horticulture are also eligible for assistance from 'Grow More Food' funds.

TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS

169. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state in what way priorities are determined to give new telephone connections?

(b) Is any list of applications for new connections in each Divisional or local office maintained in the order of their date of receipt?

(c) Is the priority list deviated from under any circumstances or conditions?

(d) If so, what are those circumstances or conditions?

(e) Have any complaints been received that the order in the priority lists has not been adhered to?

(f) Are these priority lists published monthly or at other intervals at the local offices?

(g) Are these lists open for inspection to the public?

(h) If not, what are the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House indicating priorities in allotment of telephone connections. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 16.]

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). Yes, on the advice of Telephone Advisory Committees to the extent indicated in the statement placed on the Table of the House in reply to part (a).

(e) Some complaints have been received and they are due to ignorance of the recommendatory powers of the Telephone Advisory Committees.

(f) No.

(g) Yes.

(h) Does not arise.

JAPANESE METHOD OF RICE CULTIVATION

170. **Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the average cost of cultivating paddy per acre by the Japanese method in India in 1953?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwal): An all-India average has not been worked out so far. Experiments have been laid out in States with a view to studying the economics of cultivation and the data for the 1953 paddy crop will be available in the year 1954.

TRAINING CENTRE AT BARODA

171. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to establish a Training Centre at Baroda to give training