

Recently it had come to the notice of the University Grants Commission that the University had not followed the guidelines prescribed by it for revision of pay scales of Professional Assistants and Proof Reader. The Commission has already taken up the matter with the University and will take further action on receipt of the University's reply.

Setting up of Marine Parks

7625. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to set up marine parks off the coast of India; and

(b) if so, the present position of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI B. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). The following three proposals for setting up marine parks have been received:

(a) Gulf of Mannar.

(b) Pirotin Islands in the Gulf of Kutch.

(c) The oceanic area around Lakshadweep Islands.

These proposals are under examination particularly with reference to the provisions of the Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972. It is necessary to survey the concerned areas and work out specific administrative arrangements as well as financial implications.

Linking of All District Towns with State Capital in Rajasthan by Telephones

7626. SHRI BHEEKHA BHAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the District towns in Rajasthan have been linked with State Capitals with telephone services;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that out of 365 days, only on an average 200 days the District towns remain cut-off from State Capital; and

(c) whether it is a fact that a person in Delhi desirous of telephone contact with Dungarpur district, has to remain deprived for about a fortnight?

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

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Delhi has direct circuits to Jaipur and Udaipur. Dungarpur and Banswara are connected to Jaipur and Udaipur respectively. The calls are, however, to be transitted at Jaipur and Udaipur respectively. Transitting entails some delay. The Telephone circuits on all the above routes have shown an efficiency of over 90 per cent in the last quarter and calls are passing on all the sections satisfactorily.

Maintenance organisations exist under the control of senior officers to monitor constantly, repair and maintain telephone circuits in these areas.

Effect of Excessive use of D.D.T. in Agriculture

7627. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of DDT made available for agricultural purposes at present in the country;

(b) whether excessive use of DDT in agriculture is harmful for health;

(c) whether scientists have warned the developing countries particularly India for its excessive use in Agriculture; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) In 1980-81, about 6000 MT of technical grade DDT is likely to be made available for agricultural purposes in the country.

(b) and (c). Conflicting views on hazards to human health because of excessive use of DDT in agriculture have been expressed by scientists on circumstantial evidence of the effect of DDT on other forms of life including birds. Scientists in the field of ecology and wild life conservation have warned against the continuous accumulation of DDT in the environment, especially in birds and fishes. However, there is yet no well substantiated evidence of the effects on human health.

(d) The present level of consumption of pesticides in India is very low. The consumption of all pesticides taken together is only about 60,000 M.T. per year. Of this, DDT technical grade accounts for about 10 per cent in agriculture. The Registration Committee after considering all connected issues has allowed the use of DDT in agriculture in India.

Release of Telephone connection under O.Y.T./Non-O.Y.T. Registered later in point of time

7628. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Telephones have allotted telephone connections in O.Y.T./Non-O.Y.T. categories to persons who registered later in point of time in various telephone exchanges of Delhi than the persons whose names are still on the waiting list;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is proposed to allot telephone connections to persons who have registered earlier in point of time than the persons to whom the connections have been given; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAN): (a) & (b). Telephones are normally sanctioned in various categories as per turn on the waiting list. However, certain telephones have been sanctioned on out of turn under O.Y.T. and Special categories. In this connection please see our reply to Unstarred Question No. 6784 dated 4-8-80.

(c) Telephones to the remaining applicants will be allotted as soon as exchange capacity becomes available.

(d) The question does not arise.

Functioning of telephone lines from Delhi to Doongarpur and Banswara telephone lines, Rajasthan

7629. **SHRI BEEKHABHAI:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone lines from Delhi to Doongarpur and Banswara the District headquarters remain out of order and contact cannot be established even once in a month;

(b) whether Government have appointed any officer to keep a constant watch over the proper functioning of these telephones lines; and

(c) if not, whether Government will appoint any officer for this job or create a cell therefor in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAN): (a) No, Sir. Delhi has direct circuits to Jaipur and Udaipur. Dunderpur and Banswara are connected to Jaipur and Udaipur respectively. The calls are, however, to be transitted at Jaipur and Udaipur respectively. Transitting entails some delay. The Telephone circuits on all the above routes have shown an efficiency of over 90 per cent in the last quarter and calls are passing on all the sections satisfactorily.