

have already been opened during the current year.

#### Telephone Exchanges:

For rural areas, new exchanges can be opened in a village if a minimum of 10 demands are registered with the necessary advance deposit of Rs. 100/- provided the anticipated revenue will cover at least 40 per cent of the anticipated annual recurring expenditure.

A scheme for opening one 25 lines small automatic exchange at Vav has been sanctioned. Exchange is expected to be commissioned in 1981.

Other exchanges will be sanctioned as necessary demands are registered. It is expected that about 6 more exchanges may be opened during the 1980-85 period in Surat District under this policy.

In Surat City itself, it is planned to instal a 1,200 lines MAX-II type of exchange at Katargam during 1981, and 10,000 lines MAX-I type exchange in Surat Textile Market area in 1985.

#### Role of Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar in Flood Relief Work

5775. SHRI RASA BEHARI BEHRA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology Bhubaneswar has played any role in the flood relief work;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether it also undertook any work to prevent increase of pest attack;

(d) whether it has helped farmers to save their crops damaged due to drought or other natural calamities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The flood relief works in the following places were undertaken during years 1977-78 and 1978-79.

Year 1977-78	Work undertaken
1. Pattamundai Block, Cuttack August 1977	Distribution of flood packets treatment of animals Help in constructing of houses and advice on post-flood agricultural operations.
2. Aul Block, Cuttack August 1977	Do.
3. Athagarh Block Cuttack August 1977	Do.
4. Suando, Puri, September 1977	Do.
Year 1978-79	
Athagarh, Cuttack September 1978	Flood relief work, distribution of food packets, treatment and vaccination of animals and post-flood Agricultural operations. O.U.A.T. keeps seed stock of different varieties of rice and ragi for distribution to farmers in the flood affected areas and keeps seedlings of rice and ragi ready in the various regional research stations and farms for distribution in flood affected areas at the time of need.

(c) The Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology plays important role for prevention and control of

pest both directly and indirectly. The organisational pattern of the University is such that it cannot directly help

in controlling insect pests in the farmers' fields. Through Radio broadcasts and issue of leaflets, the farmers are cautioned about likely attack of pests and the preventive measures are suggested. The University operates a Pest Surveillance Scheme to monitor the incidence of insect problems. Further, the University expertise is used by the Directorate of Agriculture in identification of the pest problems and suggesting the measures of control. In seasons of heavy pest attack, the teachers and students go to the affected villages and demonstrate the methods of insect control. Cutworm menace in rice during the year 1977-78 in the districts of Kalahandi and Koraput was tackled through the advice of the University experts. During the year 1979-80 the problem of brown plant hopper in rice was handled successfully in Puri, Cuttack and Dhenkanal districts.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) *Cyclone affected Purunabandh-guda and Ramachandrapur in Keonjhar April, 1978.* The staff and students undertook the emergency relief work of clearing the area, extracted dead bodies of human beings and animals from the heaps of debris, treated injured cattle, saved food grains from the collapsed houses and distributed food packets.

*Drought.* Whenever the crop was completely damaged due to drought, nothing could be done to save it. However, to save the partially damaged crops, the scientists and students were sent to the affected area to advise the farmers to save the crop and grow crops as per contingency plans.

#### **Expansion of I.T.I. Unit at Srinagar, Kashmir**

5776. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries Unit at Srinagar is employing less than 125 workers at present

after having been in existence for more than ten years;

(b) whether I.T.I. units subsequently established at Naini and Rae Bareilly have been rapidly expanded and are now employing 6,000 and 4,000 workers respectively;

(c) the reasons for allowing the Srinagar unit to stagnate despite the excellent quality of its production and its profitability; and

(d) whether there is any plan to expand the Srinagar unit, as recommended also by the J & K Government since 1977?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) The Srinagar unit of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., was set up as an ancillary unit in 1970 and was upgraded as a regular unit in 1971. There are 120 employees in the unit at present.

(b) Only Rae Bareilly unit of Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. was set up subsequent to the Srinagar unit. Naini and Rae Bareilly units were initially set-up as major manufacturing units under Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. These units have been expanded on the basis of the projected capacity and are employing 4413 and 2685 workers respectively.

(c) The Srinagar unit was set up as an ancillary to manufacture components of telephone instruments. However, it was upgraded as a regular unit in 1971. Subsequently the assembly of telephone instruments was also introduced in the product line. The yearly turn-over of the unit has progressively gone up from Rs. 3.7 lakhs in 1970-71 to Rs. 57.7 lakhs in 1979-80.

(d) Indian Telephone Industries Ltd. have planned to increase the capacity for assembly of telephone instruments upto one lakh per annum at the capital cost of approximately Rupees fifty lakhs.