

| S.No. Taluka | Total No. of villages. | Villages provided with telephone/telegraph facility |
|--------------|------------------------|---|
| 1. Mahad     | 163                    | 1. Mahad<br>2. Dasgaon<br>3. Birwadi                |
| 2. Poladpur  | 79                     | 1. Poladpur.  |

(b) and (c). Need for expansion of telephone/telegraph facility is examined from time to time and as a result four more villages in Mahad and three more villages in Poladpur Taluka have been found to justify PCO/Telegraph facility under the present policy. These have been approved and will be progressively provided on receipt of stores.

#### Indian workers working in Libya

807. SHRI M. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian workers working in Libya and Gulf countries under the NBCC;

(b) the terms and conditions of their assignment;

(c) whether complaints of non-observance of terms and conditions of the contract have been received from Indian workers in Libya and Gulf countries;

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to safeguard the rights of Indian workers in Libya; and

(e) the number of workers who have been sent back from Libya to India even before they had completed the contract period?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI BHISHMA NARAIN SINGH): (a) The NBCC is at present executing projects in Libya and Iraq only. The number of Indian workers directly employed by NBCC in Libya is 1514 and in Iraq 150 only.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d) There were some allegations about non-observance of terms and conditions of the contract from Indian workers. The workers employed by the NBCC at their Ghat Housing and Hospital Project in Libya went on strike from 13th April, 1980 to 23rd May, 1980 to demand revision of some of the terms and conditions of employment. Immediately on receipt of the news the matter was examined and a high level negotiating team was sent to Libya and the strike was called off as a result of these negotiations on the 24th May, 1980.

(e) Forty workers have been repatriated for breach of contract.

#### Telephone services in Ghazipur, U.P.

808. SHRI ZAINUL BASHER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the unsatisfactory telephone services at the district headquarter of Ghazipur in U.P. and other places in the district;

(b) whether Government are aware that telephone exchanges in the city and other towns remain out of order for days together and Ghazipur exchange remains out of order for several months;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what action is being taken to improve the telephone services in the city and district of Ghazipur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) No Sir. The telephone services in District headquarters of Ghazipur and other places in the district can be considered as generally satisfactory. The ser-