

causing health hazard to a certain extent.

(c) The factory was asked to instal the dust collection equipment to contain air pollutants emitted by it. The machinery installed by the factory was found defective and so the Bombay Municipal Corporation has issued a notice for revocation of permit of the factory under Section 390 of the Bombay Municipal Corporation Act.

Kharif Production

909. SHRI DAULAT SINHJI JADEJA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of kharif foodgrains during 1979-80; and

(b) the final estimate of kharif foodgrains production for the year 1980-81?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) and (b). The production of kharif foodgrains for 1979-80 is estimated at 63.1 million tonnes. For 1980-81, final estimates have not yet become available. However, according to the preliminary assessment, the production of kharif foodgrains during 1980-81 might be about 79.1 million tonnes.

Extension of operation Flood-I Programme to Karnataka

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

(a) whether the programme of Operation Flood-I has been or is proposed to be extended to the State of Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the number of outlets to be opened and in which of these cities these will be located?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Revamping of Telephone Exchange in Delhi

911. SHRI S. M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to revamp the functioning and staffing of telephone exchanges in the Capital especially those catering to the commercial areas as a part of the scheme to overhaul the working of the Telephone Department; and

(b) the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):

(a) A task-force consisting of senior officers has examined the problems of Delhi Telephones and has recommended certain short-term and long-term measures. The important ones are:—

(i) Gas pressurisation of junction and primary cables;

(ii) Extensive maintenance of all telephone lines and instruments;

(iii) Protecting the cables with half-ducts and laying of cables in ducts;

(iv) Special testing of exchange equipments, particularly the inter-exchange junctions;

(v) Keeping continuous watch over the working of fault repair service.

The staffing of exchanges particularly the trunks and special services is kept under constant watch. It has been decided to maintain a reserve of telephone operators fully trained and time-scale-clerks to avoid delays in recruitment procedures. In the mean time, the shortage of operators is being made good by employing short-duty operators on short-term basis.

(b) Implementation of the various measures is being done under a time-bound programme and it is too early to quantify the improvements achieved.