

and dependable telephone facilities with in the country;

(b) is there any programme to modernise the out-dated telephone exchanges as also to replace the worn-out cables;

(c) what will be the cost of this programme and how many years it is expected to take to complete the programme ; and

(d) what are the salient features of the programme to expand telephone facilities within the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Rehabilitation of the existing network, replacement of life expired equipment and introduction of modern technology progressively depending upon the availability of resources and materials.

(b) Yes, Sir, as at (a) above.

(c) This is a continuing process. No separate funds are allocated for this programme. However, the 6th Plan envisages replacement of 72000 lines of life expired equipment and 1.25 lakh of lines for automatisa-tion of manual exchanges.

(d) In the 6th Five Year Plan 1242 crore have been provided for providing about 13.31 lakh local telephones. It is proposed to auto-matise all district headquarters and provide direct dialling to respective State Capitals. Objective is also set to make available the telephone practically on demand by the end of this decade.

SC/ST Quota in Judicial Services

288. SHRI RAM SWARUP RAM : Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in judicial services, the quota of posts reserved for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates has not been realized during the last three years, yearwise in spite of instructions in the matter by the Home Ministry;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same ; and

(c) what action is being proposed by Government to see that the reservations for S.C. and S.T. candidates are fully achieved in judicial services ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Government have been pursuing the question of representation of S.C. and S.T. in the State Judicial Services.

Setting up a Bench of Supreme Court in the South

289. SHRI EBRAHIM SULAIMAN SAIT:
SHRI V. S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN :
SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :

Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to set up a Bench of the Supreme Court in South India;

(b) if so, the name of the city in the South where such a bench will be set up; and

(c) the time by which it will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGAN NATH KAUSHAL) (a) to (c). Article 130 of the Constitution of India provides that "the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places, as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint." No proposal in this connection has been received from the Chief Justice of India.

Delay in Implementation of Fazal Committee Report

290. SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN ; Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the delay in implementing Fazal Committee recommendation on the reorganisation of Coal India Limited; and

(b) whether the Group of Ministers set up to study these recommendations has submitted its report and if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI GARGI SHANKAR MISHRA) (a) and (b). The Fazal Committee's recommendations regarding reorganisation of Coal India Ltd. are under the active consideration of Government.

Appointment of Stenographer in N.F.D.C.

291. SHRI JAGPAL SINGH :
SHRI RAJESH KUMAR SINGH :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in November, 1981 a stenography test was held by the National Film Development Corporation on the

basis of which a merit list was prepared ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that subsequently even the candidates having secured top positions were left out and instead other persons were appointed ; and

(c) if so, the number of persons (with merit ranks) who were left out, stating the reasons therefor and the considerations which weighed with Government to appoint other persons instead of these ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). After the written test and interview, a merit list of 7 persons was prepared and the appointments were made strictly in accordance with seniority in the merit list.

Policy regarding Allocation of time to Members of Opposition over Air and T. V.

292. SHRI HARISH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) how much time has been given over the All India Radio and Television to the Members of the Opposition during the last six months, with details thereof ;

(b) if no time was given, reasons thereof ; and

(c) what is the policy of Government in this behalf ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) There is no system of maintaining a record of exact time given to Members of various political parties in the AIR or Doordarshan. Indeed such a thing is not possible. Hence