

TARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) to (d) 20 low-power T.V. relay transmitters were established on an experimental basis in connection with T.V. coverage of 9th Asian Games 1982. These transmitters also provide coverage to rural areas. Future expansion of T.V. services through low power transmitters will depend on the availability of resources.

Micro Hydel Schemes by D.V.C.

9857. **SHRI B.V. DESAI :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Damodar Valley Corporation has formulated schemes for setting up 11 micro-hydel projects within the command area to create a total capacity of 2470 KW;

(b) if so, what will be the total expenditure involved in implementing these schemes;

(c) whether any study was undertaken by the Corporation in this regard; and

(d) whether these projects will be set up and when the work on these projects will be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) to (d) An identification report on the development of 11 micro/small hydel schemes, with total installed capacity of 3470 KW, prepared by Damodar Valley Corporation has been received in the Central Electricity Authority. As, this report is very preliminary in nature and it does not contain the essential details like estimates of cost, hydrological data, plan of development, energy output calculations, detailed drawings etc., the Corporation have been advised to carry out the detailed studies/investigations in this regard and submit the detailed project reports to the Central Electricity Authority for examination.

These schemes could be considered for implementation after their techno-economic feasibility is established.

S.T.D. facility in Orissa State

9858. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the names of the towns to be linked by STD facility in the State of Orissa during the current financial year;

(b) whether Government propose to extent facilities in tribal areas of Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and the scheme or efforts being made to improve telephone services in the rural areas as well as in remote areas in the State of Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL) : (a) Paradeep.

(b) and (c) There are no plans to extent STD facilities to tribal areas during 1983-84. However, subject to availability of finance and materials, about 10 telephone exchanges and about 50 long distance public telephones are proposed to be opened during 1983-84 in rural and remote areas of Orissa.

As regards efforts being made to improve telephone services in rural areas as well as remote areas in the State of Orissa, the recommendations of the Committee on Telecommunications are being implemented progressively *i.e.* all rural telephone exchanges brought under group maintenance scheme.

Publicity to Developmental Activities in Rural, Backward and Remote Areas

9859. **SHRI ARJUN SETHI :** Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government regarding the information and publicity to programmes of developmental activities specially in rural, backward and remote areas; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the scheme to be implemented in such areas ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Government consider dissemination of information and publicity relating to developmental activities as an essential input for educating and motivating the people for greater participation in the developmental process. This is an on-going activity. Multi-media publicity campaigns on various developmental schemes involving various media organisations under this Government are evolved and implemented all over the country, including rural, remote and backward areas, using imaginative and informative formats designed to suit the diverse conditions obtaining in the country.

Officers sent abroad

9860. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) how many engineers and other officers of Department of Power have been sent abroad on foreign assignment since January, 1981 ;

(b) criteria being adopted for the purpose ;

(c) is it a fact that foreign assignment of officers is being dealt by a particular administrative section/Desk of the Department of Power ;

(d) is it also a fact that some of the officers at the helm of affairs are allowed to continue for years together irrespective of Government policy to replace them every three years ;

(e) if so, how many such persons are available in the Department of Power who have been on a particular seat for years together ; and

(f) action taken to minimise the complaints against the present administrative

set up by replacing the persons who are on such work for years together ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) One Officer of the Central Power Engineering (Group A) Service has been deputed abroad for foreign assignment since January, 1981. A few other Officers were also deputed abroad for training, providing short-term consultancy services, etc.

(b) The criteria for different types of assignments are laid down by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms/Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) and these are strictly followed.

(c) No, Sir. Matters relating to foreign assignments, providing consultancy services abroad and training abroad etc. are dealt with in Difference Desks/ Sections of Department of Power.

(d) to (f) Officers and staff are deployed according to the requirements of public service from time to time.

Overlapping grades in E.P.F. Organisation

9861. SHRI R.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are several grades in Regional Provident Fund Commissions in the E.P.F. Organisation and the grades are overlapping and are not in conformity with the grades in the sister organisation of E.S.I. Corporation ;

(b) whether the Officers are required to wait for as long as five years even to get promotion of only Rs. 50/-; and

(c) whether Government have accepted the recommendation of Faqir Chand Committee only to increase the pay scales of Central Commissioner and F.A. and C.A.O., leaving others to fend for themselves ?