

laid on the Table of the House in due course.

**Suggestion by ILO Expert about Minimum Wages and Socio-Economic Conditions of Agricultural Labour**

1490. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mr. Gerald Starr, an ILO expert on minimum wage administration in rural areas, while participating in a national symposium on minimum wages for agricultural labour, organised by the National Labour Institute in New Delhi on 8 February, 1984, suggested the adoption of a simple structure of minimum wage rates for agricultural workers ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the present socio-economic conditions of rural labour ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) While various schemes of rural development and employment generation are directed at improving the socio-economic condition of rural labour, Deptt. of Labour is constantly, reviewing and taking steps to improve the enforcement of various labour laws intended for the welfare and socio-economic betterment of rural labour.

**मध्य प्रदेश के सागर जिले में सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्र**

1491. श्री राम प्रसाद अहिरवार : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के सागर जिले में कुल कितने सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्र काम कर रहे हैं तथा गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान इन सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्रों से कुल कितनी "काल" की गई; और

(ख) इनमें से कितने केन्द्र काम कर रहे हैं और कितने खराब पड़े हैं ?

संचार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री वी०एन० गाडगिल) : (क) मध्य प्रदेश के सागर जिले में काम कर रहे सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्रों की कुल संख्या 52 है तथा इन सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्रों से पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान की गई कालों की संख्या निम्न प्रकार है :—

वर्ष	स्थानीय काल	ट्रंक काल
1980-81	12882	7428
1981-82	12917	5441
1982-83	13488	5559

(ख) सभी सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्र 1-1-1984 को सही हालत में थे तथा कोई भी खराब नहीं था।

**Construction of Residential Accommodation by National Fertilizer Limited, Punjab**

1492. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Fertilizers Ltd., Naya Nangal, District Ropar (Punjab) has taken up the construction of the alternate residential accommodation required for the use of those whose dwelling units would be dismantled consequent upon the construction of Nangal-Talwara Railway line in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which the new construction work would be completed expeditiously in view of the urgency for the construction of the proposed Railway line and whether any high priority would be given to this work on account of this consideration ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Of the 24 dwelling units required as

alternate accommodation, 8 Nos. are likely to be ready for occupation by April-May, 1984 and the balance by June-July, 1984.

#### International Communications Year (1983)

1493. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of conferences were held in the country during the International Communication Year (1983) either by the Posts and Telegraphs Department on its own or in collaboration with leading voluntary associations like FICCI, etc. ;

(b) if so, brief outline of the recommendations made or resolutions adopted at these conferences ; and

(c) whether Government have taken note of the outcome of these conferences and would consider the major recommendations at an early date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Basically, the importance of Communications as an infrastructure for development and the necessity for providing adequate priority in investment, organisation and authority were brought out.

(c) The outcome of the National Conference, held in Delhi in December, 1983 has been taken note of for any necessary considerations.

#### Anti-Pollution Measures taken in some Colliery Development Projects

1495. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether anti-pollution measures have been taken in some colliery development projects ;

(b) if so, the names of the colliery development projects where such anti-pollution measures have been taken ; and

(c) the details of the anti-pollution measures taken in the colliery development projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COAL IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Benefits of Electrification in SC/ST Dominated Villages

1496. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether a study on Rural Electrification Programme conducted by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of Planning Commission has revealed that more effort is needed on the part of the State Governments to provide electricity to villages where Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population dominate and also to give more incentives to the weaker sections so that the benefits of electricity are available to them ;

(b) if so, the main features pointed out in regard to the slow progress of electrification of villages by the States in the report ;

(c) how many States have not fully implemented the rural electrification programme ;

(d) the steps Government propose to take against those States which have not fully implemented the Rural Electrification Programme ; and

(e) to what extent they have been directed to implement the scheme at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the report, the main reasons for slow progress in electrification of villages by the States are organisational inadequacies, non availability of experienced and qualified engineers to work in remote areas and difficult terrains particularly in