

(c) whether the State Government have assured that other infra-structural facilities are also available at this location and the second plant can go into construction speedily without much difficulty; and

(d) if so, whether government have considered the proposal in detail and their reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Shortage of Wireless Telegraphists in the Country

3386. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of wireless telegraphists in the country and the N.W. Telecom Circle in particular,

(b) if so, the nature and extent thereof and the names of the wireless offices which are lying closed on account of this shortage alongwith the dates with effect from which they have been closed, State-wise for the constituent States of this Circle ;

(c) whether any concrete steps have been taken for overcoming this shortage ; and

(d) whether Government would refund the amount of rent and guarantee for the period for which they have remained closed to the parties concerned ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL) : (a) There is no cadre of Wireless Telegraphists in the Department. There are only wireless operators and there is a general shortage but not acute including NW Circle.

(b) The shortage of wireless operators on the whole is to the extent of 25% only. But some wireless offices are lying closed only in NW Circle on account of shortage of wireless operators. The names of the stations closed in NW Circle are :—

Name of Station	State	Date from which closed
Dharamsala	Himachal Pradesh	24-5-83
Bilaspur	-do-	13.12.81
Bharoli Kalan	-do-	29.12.81

(c) The new wireless operators have been recruited and are under training. The position is likely to improve by December, 1984.

(d) No, Sir. There is no provision for refund in the Rent and Guarantee terms.

Setting up of T.V. Transmitters/Relay Centres in Hilly Areas

3387. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether hilly States/areas are being given any preference regarding the setting up of New T.V. transmitters/Relay Centres in the programme of expansion of T.V. in the country ;

(b) if so, the nature thereof and the details of such new transmitters/Relay Centres which have been set up in North Western and North Eastern Hill States ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE