

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). A delegation has left this morning for Kathmandu to resume talks on a New Treaty of Trade and Transit. It is the hope that the ensuring talks will result in settlement of the outstanding issues to the mutual satisfaction of India and Nepal.

Boundary disputes between States

6961. SHRI BRIJRAJ SINGH—KOTAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the names and number of, and the time since when, the boundary disputes are going on in the country amongst the States ; and

(b) whether Government propose to settle these disputes by appointing any Boundary Commission on a permanent basis and, if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The existing boundary disputes which relate to the boundaries between Maharashtra and Mysore and Kerala, Assam and Nagaland boundary and boundaries between Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, have arisen after the States Reorganisation in 1956, creation of Nagaland in 1963 and reorganisation of Punjab in 1966 respectively.

(b) Government's view is that these disputes can be solved in the light of their own facts and circumstances and it would be difficult to evolve principles to fit all such cases. Government do not propose to appoint a boundary commission on a permanent basis.

A. I. R. Stations at Madurai and Salem

6962. SHRI BHUVANAHAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration for setting up All India Radio transmitter Stations at Madurai and Salem in Tamil Nadu ;

(b) whether the State Government have written to the Centre in this regard recommending the same ; and

(c) if so, when the work on these Stations will be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) to (c). The State Government who have written to the Government of India on the subject have been informed that since these areas are already covered by the existing medium wave station at Tiruchirasalli, the proposal could not be considered.

In view of the limited resources at the disposal of Government, the current Plan aims at extending radio coverage only to areas not already covered. Proposals for Madurai and Salem are, therefore, not under consideration at present.

Telephones out of order in Sambalpur

6963. SHRI P. GANGADEB : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether majority of Telephones in various Sub-Divisions of the District Sambalpur remained out of order for nearly twenty five days in a month during the last two years ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether no action had been taken by the Department inspite of several complaints by the public ; and

(d) the steps Government now propose to take in the Matter ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) ; (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Complaints are attended to expeditiously as and when received.

(d) Maintenance of telephone system is done from time to time as per standard procedure so as to keep the service in a satisfactory state.