

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA) : (a) the Asian Regional Plan Committee of CCITT which recommend international telephone and telegraph links between different countries has not given any recommendation regarding a sub-marine cable connection between Madras and Ceylon in its last meeting in 1970. There are recommendations, however, for establishment of satellite earth stations in India as well as in Ceylon. The recommendation for interconnection between India and Ceylon is for establishment of a M/W link between the two countries.

(b) A satellite earth station has already been established in India. Establishment of a satellite earth station in Ceylon is understood to be under examination by Ceylon Government. Establishment of an IndoCeylon M/W link is also under examination.

मंत्रियों द्वारा कारों की खरीद

6147. श्री कमल मिश्र मधुकर : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनकी मंत्री परिषद के कुछ मंत्रीमंडलीय मंत्रियों, राज्य मंत्रियों और उप मंत्रियों ने मंत्रिमंडल में शामिल होने के बाद बहुत मूल्यवान कारें खरीदी हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त प्रत्येक मंत्री के पास कितनी कारें हैं तथा उनका मूल्य क्या है ?

प्रधान मंत्री, परमाणु ऊर्जा मंत्री, गृह मंत्री तथा सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी) : (क) और (ख). वर्तमान सरकार के गठन के बाद मंत्रिपरिषद के किसी भी सदस्य के सरकारी उपयोग के लिए कोई विदेश-निर्मित कार नहीं खरीदी गई है सिवाय रक्षा-मंत्री के उपयोग के लिए एक शेवरलेट इम्पाला के, जो कि उसी मेक की किसी पुराने मॉडल की कार के बदले में खरीदी गई क्योंकि वह संतोषप्रद रूप में नहीं चल रही थी। उक्त कार के लिए 44,743 रुपये 92 पैसे शुद्ध कीमत चुकाई गई।

Supply of Televisions to village Panchayats in Western Uttar Pradesh

6148. SHRI HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had decided to Supply a television set to every village Panchayat in Western Uttar Pradesh for community recreation and education purposes ; and

(b) if so, how many sets have been given so far and the names of those village Panchayats to which they have been given ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Central aid for Rubber Cultivation in Kerala

6149. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the assistance from the Central Government undertaking of cultivation of rubber by the Plantation Corporation of Kerala Ltd., has been finalised ; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Central Assistance of Rs. 4.5 crores to the State Government of Kerala for taking up rubber plantation of 15,000 acres during the Third Plan period has already been released. While transferring this Centrally sponsored scheme to the State Sector it was agreed that for the maintenance of this area till the plantation came up to the tapping stage, assistance should be forthcoming from the Centre. The amounts required for the maintenance of this area is being worked out on yearly basis and it is expected that it should be possible to release this assistance as well shortly.

Introduction of Automation in S. T. C., New Delhi

6150. SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :