

**THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA):** (a) No Sir, in spite of rapid expansion in the telephone network in the country, the quality of service in the telephone systems has been maintained or improved.

(b) Continuous action is being taken to improve the telephone service. Various steps have been taken and are being taken from time to time for further improving functioning of the telephone in the country.

**Planning Boards at Village Level**

1574. **SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY:**

**SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY:**

Will the Minister of **PLANNING** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out any plan for having Planning Boards at village level in the country;

(b) the functions of such Boards; and

(c) the time by which these Boards are likely to be set up and start functioning?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):** (a) to (c). Planning Commission have not chalked out any plan for having Planning Boards at Village level. However, Planning Commission has advised the State Governments to set up Apex Planning Bodies at the State level under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister, with a full-time non-official as a Deputy Chairman, and the Ministers of Finance and Planning, some heads of technical departments and also some non-official economists and experts as members.

The Governments of Bihar, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mysore, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have already set up State Planning Boards/Commissions. In other States, the setting up of Planning Boards is under consideration.

**Take-over of Simpson Co.**

1575. **SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY:**

**SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY:**

Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of taking over the Simpson Companies; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):** (a) and (b). Representations have been received by the Central Government to take over the management of the Simpson Group companies. These are under consideration.

**Industrial Capacity in the Private Sector controlled by Foreign Investors**

1576. **SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:** Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY** be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity in private corporate sector controlled by foreign investor; and

(b) the annual out-flow of foreign exchange on account of profits, dividends and royalties etc?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD):** (a) Companies controlled by foreign investors have been historically operating, amongst other areas, in scheduled as well as non-scheduled industries. The industrial capacities do not lend themselves to aggregation as industrial licences are issued in terms of value, tonnage or numbers depending on the nature of the industry.

(b) Remittances made abroad on account of profits, dividends royalties, etc., during 1968-69 to 1970-71 are shown in the statements laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—3330/72].