

**Indo-Rumanian agreement in the Field of Science and Technology**

*Express* of the 13th January, 1973 under the caption "Bad communication due to coaxial cables" stating that the communication system in the country is extremely faulty due to out-dated equipment, and

3356 SHRI P K DEO Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state

(a) whether India and Rumania have decided to cooperate in the field of science and technology, and

(b) whether an agreement in this regard has been signed, if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C SUBRAMANIAM) (a) and (b) In accordance with the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania, concluded on October 15, 1969, in New Delhi, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research of the Republic of India and the National Council for Science and Technology of the Socialist Republic of Romania have agreed on a programme of scientific and technical co-operation for 1973-74

The areas in which both sides would cooperate include petroleum technology, chemical technology, metallurgy machine building, refractories, agriculture forestry, leather industry and health engineering. The two sides will also exchange scientific literature of use and interest to each other. There will also be exchange of scientists between the two countries in the specific fields in which they will cooperate.

**Faulty Communication System in the country due to out-dated equipment**

3357 SHRI P K DEO Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of Government has been invited to report in the *Indian*

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA) Yes, Sir. The Department is aware of the said Newspaper Report

(b) Coaxial systems are also one of the modern types of communications systems like the microwave. The department has started the installation of microwave systems linking various cities in a large way in the Fourth Plan and this process will be continued in the Fifth Plan. It has also been planned to have alternate media on the backbone routes so that the reliability of the service can be improved.

**Proposal to evolve Communication Policy**

3358 SHRI P K DEO Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is proposed to evolve a communication policy,

(b) whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard, and

(c) if so, the reaction of State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H N BAHUGUNA) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) Though formal consultations with the various State Governments have not taken place the policies and plans of the Posts and Telegraphs are framed taking into consideration the requirements of various areas and the views and suggestions given by the representatives of State Governments and M. Ps. from various States