

(b) if so, the total loss suffered by P. & T. Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) and (b). On 11-2-1974, two unsuccessful attempts were made to set Mandvi Sub Post Office (Baroda) on fire which was put off before it could cause any damage or loss.

Atomic Power Plant at Haldia in West Bengal

2881. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of West Bengal have made a request for the setting up of an Atomic Power Plant at Haldia in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the outlines of the text of the representation; and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government thereto?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND MINISTER OF SPACE (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation emphasises the substantial shortfall in power generation in the State which is likely to arise during the next decade and urges the setting up of an atomic power station either at Dantan or at Haldia in view of the rising cost of coal, the growing demands from coal-based industries and the transportation costs from pot-heads and on the assumption that nuclear power is a viable alternative to thermal power even in the Eastern Region

(c) It would not be economically feasible to erect a nuclear power station in the Eastern Region till bigger units of 500/1000 MW capacity become technologically feasible in India. Till that time, it is in the country's interest to maximise the investment of available resources for power generation by siting nuclear stations in areas remote from coal fields.

Letter written by late Prof. S. N. Bose to Government on 'Project of Helium Collection'

2882. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prof. S. N. Bose wrote a letter to the Government before he passed away regarding the 'Project of Helium Collection' about which a band of scientists with Indian Association for Cultivation of Science Calcutta, are working;

(b) if so, the text of the letter; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to continue the scientific work on the 'Project of Helium Collection'?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The text of the letter is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-6407/74.]

(c) The Project 'Helium Collection' was approved in April, 1972 as a 5-year scheme.

References in Lord Wavell's Diary about Reported Plane Crash involving Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

2883. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to Lord Wavell's Diary published recently in which references have been made about the former Viceroy's reaction about the reported plane crash involving Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose;

(b) if so, the facts thereabout, and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) whether these facts were not available with the Government earlier?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): (a) Government have seen the following entry under the date August 24 (1945) on page 164 of the book "Wavell—The Viceroy's Journal":—

"I wonder if the Japanese announcement of Subhas Chandra Bose's death in an air-crash is true, I suspect it very much, it is just what would be given out if he meant to go underground. My first reaction when I heard it was to tell P.S.V. to ask S.E.A.C. to make most careful enquiries into the story as soon as they could. If it is true, it will be great relief. His disposal would have presented a most difficult problem."

(b) and (c). This book was published in 1973. The passage quoted above would appear to represent Lord Wavell's personal views in the matter. Government had no information about this passage earlier.

Alignment of Bilaspur District of H.P. with Hamirpur Postal Division

2884. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation for the alignment of Bilaspur District of Himachal Pradesh with Hamirpur Postal Division has been considered by the Government;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken by the Government on this representation; and

(c) if so, the nature of the decision; if not, the likely date by which the decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The representation is under consideration and a decision is expected to be taken shortly.

Waiting List of Telephone Connections in Delhi

2885. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have been on the waiting list in Delhi for telephone connections as on 1st January, 1974 for the last—

- (i) over 10 years,
- (ii) over 7 years,
- (iii) over 5 years,
- (iv) over 3 years; and

(b) the likely date by which those in category (i) would be provided telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (PROF. SHER SINGH): (a) Number of persons who have been on waiting lists under different categories in Delhi as on 1st January 1974 was as follows:—

	OYT	Special	Genl.
(i) Over 10 years	nil	nil	8485
(ii) over 7 years	nil	351	16383
(ii) Over 5 years	nil	1601	21002
(iv) over 3 years	99	5008	27465