

(b) whether there is a demand to include the expansion scheme in the supply programme of 1976-77 instead of the year 1977-78;

(c) whether there is also demand for or a scheme of interlinking Sangli, Miraj and Jaysingpur Exchanges at Sangli with the commissioning of the new automatic exchange there; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and when these are likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) and (b). Waiting list at Sangli as on 1-4-1976 was OYT—1, Non-OYT—406—Total 407. Expansion of the exchange by 300 lines from 2100 to 2700 was approved in May, 75 and the equipment has been ordered. It is likely to be supplied during 1977-78.

(c) and (d). Equipment for interworking between Sangli and Miraj is under installation and the work is likely to be completed in about 2 months' time.

राज्य सरकारों के सड़क परिवहन निगमों के पास धन की कमी

3428. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय : क्या नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विभिन्न राज्य सरकारों के पास उन के सड़क परिवहन नियमों के कुशलता से काम करने हेतु धन की कमी है; और

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इन निगमों का कुशलता से काम करना सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उन्हें वित्तीय सहायता देने का प्रस्ताव है ?

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नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में उपर्युक्त (श्री लक्ष्मी सिंह) : (क) 18 राज्यों में से केवल 6 राज्य जिन्होंने उत्तर भेजे हैं, यह सूचित किया है, कि संसाधनों का अभाव उनके विकास कार्यक्रमों में रुकावट बन रहा है और उनके उपक्रमों के कुशल संचालन में है हस्तक्षेप कर रहा है।

(ख) सहमति वाले फार्मले के अनुसार केन्द्रीय सरकार के प्राग के रूप में राज्य सड़क परिवहन निगमों की पूंजी में अंशदान हेतु 1976-77 के रेलवे बजट में 10 करोड़ रुपयों की व्यवस्था की गई है।

Plans for Telephone System in Assam

3429. SHRI NOORUL HUDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have plans to introduce auto telephone system in important towns like Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, Jorhat, Nowgong, Tezpur, Dhubi and Silchar in the State of Assam; and

(b) if so, how long it will take to complete the conversion?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dhubri is already an automatic exchange of 600 lines

Dibrugarh Equipment would be allotted for supply during 1979-80. Exchange is expected to be commissioned in 1981-82.

Tinsukia, Jorhat and Silchar Equipment at these places would be allotted during the 6th Plan.

Nowing and Tezpur: Equipment at these places will be allotted in future plan.

The commissioning of these projects is subject to their being financially viable. Due to acute shortage of auto-exchange equipment and other stations having bigger manual system, automation of manual exchanges is being carried out gradually.

Depth of Channels of Cochin, Tuticorin and Mangalore Ports

3430 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state the depth of the channels of the ports of Cochin, Tuticorin and Mangalore and which kind of ships can berth in these ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H M TRIVEDI). The channels leading to the Ports of Cochin, New Mangalore and New Tuticorin are designed for providing 9.15 metres draught. At present vessels and tankers upto 85 m and 88 m draught are berthed in New Mangalore and New Tuticorin. Cochin is handling vessels and tankers upto 9.15 m draught.

Marine Export

3431 SHRI VAYALAR RAVI Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the marine export is suffering due to non-availability of ships and they have to rely more on the foreign shipping lines; and

(b) if so, steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI). (a) and (b). It is not correct to say that marine export is suffering due to

non-availability of ships. As a matter of fact, the export of marine products during 1975-76 touched an all time high. Further, roughly 60 per cent of the ships in the Indian liner fleet have freezer space. However, there is scope to increase the share of Indian vessels in this trade and for this purpose, several measures like cargo aggregation and pooling to ensure economic loads, rationalisation of the frequency and availability of ships, acquisition of fully refrigerated vessels, etc are under consideration.

देश में परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम के अंतर्गत लाये जाने वाले प्रजनन क्षमता रखने वाले दम्पतियों की संख्या

3432. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पंडेय : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि -

(र) देश में प्रजनन क्षमता रखने वाले दम्पतियों की संख्या कितनी है और कुल जनसंख्या की तुलना में उनकी प्रतिशतता क्या है ;

(ख) अभी तक इस क्षमता वाले कितने प्रतिशत दम्पतियों को परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रमों के अंतर्गत लाया जा चुका है ; और

(ग) जनसंख्या में शून्य वृद्धि की दिशा में सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की गई है या करने का विचार है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उपर्युक्त (बी ए० के० एन० इच्छाक) :

(क) मार्च, 1976 के प्रांकों के अनुसार प्रजननशील आयु-वर्ग के दम्पतियों (पत्नी की आयु 15-44 वर्ष) की अनुमानित संख्या 1040 लाख है ।