

Development of North Bihar

1002. Shrimati Ramdulari Sinha: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during his recent visit to North Bihar, he laid emphasis on greater development of that part of the country from the defence and other point of view; and

(b) if so, to what extent, in what manner and by what time North Bihar is proposed to be developed?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) and (b). The Defence Minister during his recent visit to Bihar stated that roads and Communications in border districts of North Bihar should be developed in a manner which would be useful for defence purposes if and when required. It was suggested during that visit that the Border Roads Development Board should take up the construction of roads in North Bihar. The suggestion is being examined.

Indian P.O.Ws. in Pakistan

1003. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian P.O.Ws. in Pakistan custody captured during the Jammu and Kashmir border skirmishes during the last five years and how many Pakistanis are in Indian custody;

(b) how many Indian P.O.Ws. have been repatriated and how many are still with them and how many Pakistani P.O.Ws. are still in Indian custody; and

(c) when the lists of P.O.Ws. captured on this border were exchanged last?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Y. B. Chavan): (a) and (b). Information is not immediately available and is being collected.

(c) The last exchange of Indian and Pakistani personnel captured in J. & K. took place on the 30th April 1965 (Ai) LSD—3.

1964. Since then, there has been no exchange of lists of personnel.

महाराष्ट्र में तारघर और टेलीफोन केन्द्र

1004. { श्री दे० शि० पाटिल :
श्री तुलशीदास जाधव :

क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1965-66 में महाराष्ट्र में कितने तारघर, टेलीफोन केन्द्र तथा पब्लिक काल घर खोले जायेंगे और वे कहाँ खोले जायेंगे ; और

(ख) क्या वर्तमान टेलीफोन केन्द्रों की क्षमता में वृद्धि की जायेगी ?

संचार विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री भगवती):

(क) लोक-सभा के पटल पर एक विवरण पत्र रखा जाता है। [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया देखिये संख्या एल०टी०—4670/65]

(ख) जी हाँ।

Generation of Electricity

1005. Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether a detailed analysis of the relative costs of generating electricity in thermal, hydro and nuclear stations in Indian conditions has been made; and

(b) if so, whether nuclear energy is likely to become increasingly competitive when locations are at a distance from cheap coal supplies and hydro-electricity is not available?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b). Yes. The relative costs of generating electricity in thermal, hydro and nuclear stations have been analysed in detail independently by the Department of

Atomic Energy and more recently by the Energy Survey Committee appointed by the Government. These studies have established that in certain locations remote from cheap coal supplies and where hydro energy is not available, nuclear energy is already competitive. During the 1970's when the technology of using thorium has been satisfactorily resolved, nuclear energy will be increasingly competitive, that is, it will be competitive even in areas near the coal fields.

Survey of Minerals Division

1006. Shri Narendra Singh Mahida: Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Atomic Minerals Division has surveyed the country in search of uranium and thorium deposits and other materials of potential interest for atomic energy work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Prime Minister and Minister of Atomic Energy (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Yes.

(b) Surveys carried out in the country have yielded the most favourable results in the Singhbhum Trust Belt in Bihar where the main deposits of uranium are located at Jaduguda, Narwa Pahar, Bhatin and Keruadungri. The Uranium Mines at Jaduguda, which are at present the major proved sources of uranium ore in the country, are being developed to produce 1,000 tonnes of uranium ore per day. The other three deposits are also being developed.

Significant uranium occurrences have also been found in Kulu, Panjab and in the range of Himalayas bordering U.P. These deposits are currently under investigation.

Investigations have also shown huge deposits of monazite, which is the principal source of Thorium, in beach placers, coastal dune sands and in the sea beds along both the West and East coasts of India. Rich inland

placer deposits of monazite have also been found in Eastern India.

Detailed information regarding these investigations including their results is furnished in the annual reports of the Department of Atomic Energy, which are circulated to the Members of Parliament.

Telephone Exchange, Faridabad

1007. Dr. B. N. Singh: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the installation of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Faridabad (Punjab) stands at present;

(b) when the Exchange will open to public traffic;

(c) the number of industrialists at present on the waiting list for the grant of telephone connections at this Exchange; and

(d) how long it will take to accommodate them after the opening of the new Exchange?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Final stage.

(b) A 1,000 lines auto exchange will be opened in September, 1965.

(c) No separate waiting list is maintained for the industrialists. However the number of waiting applicants at present is:

OYT—43.

Non OYT—600

(d) By March 1966, nearly 500 connections are expected to be given. To meet the increasing demand the auto exchange is further proposed to be expanded to 1,500 lines.

Telephone Exchange, Sundernagar Tatanagar

1008. Dr. B. N. Singh: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to