

In the light of this basic approach it has made various recommendations concerning the development of the telecom sector in India.

(c) Appropriate inputs from the Report will be kept in view while formulating the future telecom policies of the Department.

Allocation of Gas to Power Stations

*330. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have allocated gas to power stations in Delhi and Gujarat after the Anta Stage-II was conceived;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the Anta Stage-II gas based thermal station of NTPC is likely to get gas allocations;

(d) whether the gas allocation for the existing Anta GTPS is adequate to operate it as base load station as per policy of Department of Power; and

(e) if not, the time by which the additional allocation of gas is likely to be made for stage-I and also for stage-II ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The gas allocations for the Bawana projects of Delhi Vidyut Board and the Gandhar project of Gujarat Electricity Board and the Gandhar project of NTPC were made simultaneously with the allocation of gas for the Anta Stage II project of NTPC, which was given an allocation of 0.25 MMSCMD of gas.

(c) to (e) The gas projected to be available along the HBJ pipeline is fully allocated and the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas is not in a position to make further allocations immediately for Anta I or Anta II projects.

Science and Technology Parks

*331. SHRI MADHUKAR SARPOTDAR :
SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE :

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

(a) whether the Government propose to develop "Science and Technology" Parks to promote applied research by pooling scientific talent in universities and technological institutes/ research laboratories; and

(b) If so, the details of the action plan drawn up therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K.

ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Department of Science and Technology has a scheme known as "Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park (STEP)". Under the scheme, the knowledge capital available in technical institutions/universities are made use of for developing entrepreneurs among S & T persons. The STEPs are jointly supported by the Department of Science and Technology, the all-India Financial Institutions, State Governments and the host institutions. STEPs provide infrastructural and technical support for innovation and entrepreneurship. Eleven STEPs have been established and the scheme is proposed to be continued in the 9th Five Year Plan.

Train Accidents

*332. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :

DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of accidents which took place due to the collision of trains and buses at railway level crossings during each of the last three years;

(b) the number of people killed in these accidents;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any enquiry into such cases;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(e) the scheme formulated by the Government to prevent such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Information is as under :

	94-95	95-96	96-97
Number of accidents	6	10	12
Number of persons killed	1	31	100

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Out of 28 accidents, 7 were due to failure of railway staff and 21 due to the negligence of bus drivers.

(e) Some of the steps being taken to improve safety at level crossings are as under :

(1) Provision of road signs, speed breakers/rumble strips on approaches of level crossings to alert the road users for reducing the speed of their vehicles.

(2) Provision of whistle boards along the tracks on approaches to level crossings to remind the train driver about cautioning the road users by blowing the whistles.

(3) Level crossing gates having very high traffic density are being progressively interlocked with signals on a