

	1	2	3	4	5
9.	Arunachal Pradesh	Bye election	22-Roing A.C.	April, 1983	25
10.	Bihar	—do—	199-Chandi A.C.	June, 1983	159
11.	Tripura	—do—	18-Charilam A.C.	Nov., 1983	19

A.C. = Assembly Constituency, M.C. = Metropolitan Council
 * One common machine was used in two polling station located in the same premises.

Security Arrangements on National Highways

4623. SHRI TH. CHAOBA SINGH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that a number of vehicles have been ambushed, goods looted and many lives lost on National Highways in Manipur due to lack of proper security arrangements;

(b) if so, the Government propose to constitute a National Highway Protection Force on the lines similar to that of Railway Protection Force in Manipur area as Manipur is not connected with any rail-link to ensure the safe movement of goods/passengers in the State; and

(c) if not, the other measures proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the lives and goods of commuters in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Maintenance of law order is a State subject.

(b) There is no such proposal with Ministry of Surface Transport.

(c) This is a state subject.

Cooperation on Navigation between India & Nepal

4624. SHRIMATI RANI CHITRALEKHA BHONSLE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India and Nepal have any proposal to establish co-operation on the navigation aspects of river system of both the countries;

(b) if so, whether the Government have any proposal to set up a Joint Committee to look into the matter; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Terms of Reference and constitution of the joint study team to study navigational possibilities in Gandak and Kamali rivers are being finalised by both countries jointly.

[Translation]

Cyclone Forecast

4625. SHRI BIKRAM KESHARI DEO :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY :

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

(a) whether there is any scheme to extend the range of existing radars on the Western Coast in view of the heavy loss caused recently by the cyclone in Saurashtra and the Kutch areas so that weather related information and forecast could be made effectively;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (c): The range of the existing cyclone detection radars on the western coast is 500 kms. However, the detection of meteorological targets by such radars is limited to 400

kms. range because of the earth's effective curvature. This is a physical limitation which cannot be overcome by technical upgradation. The India Meteorological Department makes full use of Weather Satellite imagery for detection & tracking of cyclonic storms in the Indian seas beyond the radar range for providing warnings and forecasts.

[English]

Agra Bench of Income Tax Appellate Tribunal

4626. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of LAW JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Agra Bench of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has been constituted to hear and determine appeals w.e.f 1.10.1997;

(b) if so, whether it has become functional;

(c) if not, whether its entire work is stand-still; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to make Agra Bench functional?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI) : (a) to (d): The Agra bench of the Tribunal, which is recently constituted has not become functional so far for want of suitable office accommodation. Under the standing instructions of the Tribunal the appeals and applications pertaining to the Agra Bench which have become due for hearing and also other urgent matters like stay petition etc. can be heard and disposed of by the Delhi Benches of the Tribunal. Therefore, there is no stand-still in the work of the Bench. The Agra bench will become fully functional as soon as necessary office accommodation is finalised.

[Translation]

Direct Local Call Facility

4627. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the direct telephone service between Unnao-Kanpur-Suklaganj has been converted into S.T.D. service over looking the interest of the subscribers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) No, Sir. Only change in access code has been made from 8 to 910 for Kanpur and 918 for Unnao & Suklaganj for both STD/Non-STD subscribers. However, there is no change in the pulse rate of 90 seconds for calls between Kanpur—Unnao & Kanpur—Suklaganj.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) above. However, as per the revised policy for defining local area to be effective from 15.8.99, calls between Unnao & Suklaganj to Kanpur and vice versa will be charged at basic pulse rate of 180 seconds instead of existing pulse rate of 90 seconds.

Power Projects in Rajasthan

[English]

4628. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajasthan Government has submitted some new power projects to the Union Government for approval;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of power projects cleared during the current year and the time by which the remaining Power Projects are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b): Details of new power projects in Rajasthan which are under examination in CEA are given below:

Project	Capacity	Est. Cost (Rs. Crs.)	Date of Receipt in CEA
Ramgarh COGT (RSFB)	71	341.9	5/98
Mathiana Integrated Solar CCP (Rajasthan Energy Development agency)	140	958.6	6/98

(c) Two projects namely Barsingsar lignite based scheme of 500 MW and Dholpur CCGT of 702.7 MW have been cleared by CEA during the current year. The two schemes referred to in part (a) & (b) of the question