

Telephone Exchanges alongwith the working connections and Waiting List as on 31.3.1998 of each Taluqua in Kutch District in Gujarat is given in statement enclosed.

(d) to (f): Yes, Sir. It is proposed to provide net switching capacity of 13708 lines in the Telephone Exchanges of Kutch District during 1998-99. The Waiting List as on 31.3.1998 is likely to be cleared by 31.3.1999. Action is being taken to allot necessary equipment and Material.

Statement

The details of existing capacity of Telephone Exchanges, working connections and waiting list as on 31.3.1998 in each Taluka of Kutch District

S. No.	Taluka	Existing Capacity	Working Connections	Waiting list as on 31.3.98	Total Demand
1.	Anjar	23550	20301	1998	22299
2.	Abdasa	1896	1424	377	1801
3.	Bhachau	2034	1531	804	2335
4.	Bhuj	17610	14017	1952	15969
5.	Lakhpat	928	765	213	978
6.	Mandvi	5472	4260	2035	6295
	(Kutch)				
7.	Mundra	2024	1577	970	2547
8.	Nakhatrana	3000	2593	702	3295
9.	Rahpar	1368	1082	481	1563
	Grand Total	57882	47550	9532	57082

Double Laning of NH-44 in Tripura

4688. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highway No. 44 is not double lane in Tripura;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor especially when other National Highways in the country are being developed into four lanes; and

(c) the time by which the Government propose to convert the said National Highway in the double lane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Out of 198 Km in Tripura, about 28 Km are double-lane.

(b) and (c): Improvement including widening of National Highways is a continuous process, commensurate with traffic volume, *inter-se* priorities and availability of funds. At present, keeping in view the traffic volume, the proposal for widening of NH-44 is at low priority.

Regional Educational Schemes

4689. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have identified the areas in various States for conducting Regional Educational Schemes during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the cooperation sought from State Governments in this regard; and

(c) the amount disbursed or proposed to be disbursed during the current financial year to the each State under such schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Does not arise.

Establishment of National Park in Satpura Ranges

4690. DR. ULHAS VASUDEO PATIL : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish "National Park" & "Abhayaranya" in Satpura ranges in Jalgaon district, Maharashtra; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) As informed by the State Govt. of Maharashtra, presently, there is no such proposal to establish any National Park or Wildlife Sanctuary (Abhayaranya) in Satpura ranges in Jalgaon Distt. of Maharashtra State.

(b) Does not arise.