

Warangal during the financial years 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97.

STEP Scheme from Tripura

5644. SHRI SAMAR CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a scheme proposal for Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) has been received from the Government of Tripura;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto and the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (Dr. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The Sericulture Project under the Scheme of Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women (STEP) submitted by Tripura Apex Weavers Cooperative Society, Agartala was approved by the Project Sanctioning Committee for the scheme of STEP in its Meeting held on 25.6.1998. Under this project, 4200 women beneficiaries will be covered in a period of 4 years at a total cost of Rs. 335.96 lakhs for training and employment in mulberry cultivation, cocoon rearing, silk reeling and weaving.

Excess Telephone Bills

5645. SHRI VITHAL TUPE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints regarding excess telephone bills during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of complaints pending before the telephone authorities as on April, 1998 particularly in case of Nasik, Pune and Khed districts;

(d) the amount involved in these complaints; and

(e) the time by which these bills are likely to be settled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have received complaints regarding excess telephone bills during the last two years as under:—

Year	No. of complaints
1996-97	155563
1997-98	166088

(c) and (d) Number of complaints pending and amount involved as on April, 1998 are as under:—

	No. of Complaints	Amount involved
Nasik	229	4.59 lakhs
Pune	243	30.24 lakhs
Khed (Ratangiri)	8	0.46 lakhs

(e) Complaints related to Nasik have already been settled. Complaints of Pune and Khed districts are being attended to for prompt settlement.

Abolishing of Court Fees

5646. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have any proposal of abolishing the payment of court fee for the purpose of instituting cases/appeals in various courts in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the revenue earned by the Government from court fee annually during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) the question of abolition of court fees has been considered even by the High Courts and the Supreme