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Two Months

Forest Policy & Preparation	1. Shri D.D. Sharma	MOEF	UK
	2. Shri A. Badhwa	MOEF	UK
	3. Shri R.K. Sinha	MOEF	UK
	4. Shri V.N. Pandey	MOEF	UK
	5. Shri Balbir Chand	MOEF	UK
	6. Ms Archana Singh	MOEF	UK

Twelve Months Training

Research System Support	1. Shri Raj Kumar Verma	TFRI, Jabalpur	USA	Same post from where sent for training
	2. Shri H.B. Vasishtha	FRI, D.Dun	USA	

Total Expenditure During 1997-98 = US \$ 770412.00

Sale of Power to Kerala by SEBs

5655. SHRI A.C. JOS: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States Electricity Boards who are selling power to Kerala; and

(b) the details of the dues of Kerala to Power Finance Corporation till date?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Kerala State Electricity Board had entered into power Purchase Agreement with National Thermal Power Corporation for supply of 100 MW of power from NTPC's power stations in Eastern Region. As per this agreement Kerala State Electricity Board has purchased power from National Thermal Power Corporation from 1-2-1998 to 15-7-1998.

(b) Presently there are no dues of Power Finance Corporation against Kerala State Electricity Board.

Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana

5656. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:
SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have taken final decision in regard to the implementation of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds earmarked for the purpose?

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

(b) The Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Yojana (PSSY) was first operated in the States of Orissa, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Gujarat during the year 1995-96. During the said year, against a target for opening 509 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras, 497 were opened.

In 1996-97 the scheme was extended to Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan and a target for opening 250 Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras was fixed. Against this Target, 173 Kendras were opened. No targets have been fixed for the subsequent years for opening Panchayats Sanchar Sewa Kendras.

(c) No funds have been earmarked for opening Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras during the current Financial year.

Pending Telephone Connections

5657. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK:
SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases for provision on priority basis of telephone connections to the educational institutions, hospitals, police stations etc. in Karnataka and Maharashtra are pending for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor alongwith period of their tendency; and

(c) the time by which these connections are likely to be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):
(a) and (b) Sir, telephone connections to educational institutions, hospitals, police stations etc. are registered under N-OYT-Special category for provision on priority.

In Karnataka Telecom Circle, there are only 31 cases pending under N-OYT-Special category; registered during last one year.

In Maharashtra Telecom Circle, there is a waiting list of 1903 as on 30.6.1998 under N-OYT-Special category.

(c) There are plans to provide these telephone connections during the year 1998-99; both in Karnataka and Maharashtra Telecom Circles.

Implementation of Recommendation of DPCs

5658. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA': Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are cases in offices of Directorate General of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Delhi where the implementation of the recommendations of DPCs held since 1997 have been held up;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which all these pending recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committees are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) No recommendations of Departmental Promotion Committees held since 1997 and accepted by the competent authority are pending for implementation in the offices of Directorate General of All India Radio and Doordarshan, Delhi.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[*Translation*]

Irregularities in Allotment of P.C.Os.

5659. SHRI PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the irregularities committed in the allotment of P.C.Os in Sonapat (Ambala Circle);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Complaints were received relating to tempering of applications and non-provision of STD PCOs etc. Based on these complaints, the allotments made by earlier committees were held in abeyance. Later on a three member committee investigated the case in April,