

(b) During the year 1998-99, a target of 78,000 MU has been fixed for hydel generation. The region-wise targets are given below:—

Region	Generation Targets (MU)
Northern	31,225
Western	8,900
Southern	30,725
Eastern	4,930
North-Eastern	2,220
All India Total	78,000

Entertainment Tax

5806. DR. SUGUNA KUMARI CHELLAMELLA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to implement uniform entertainment tax;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments have agreed over the issue;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to bring transparency in the finances of the film industry?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) As the subject of 'Cinema' including entertainment tax is in the State list, the Centre has written to the State Governments to review the entertainment tax structure for the overall benefit of the film industry.

(d) Consequent upon the decision of the Government to confer industry status on the film sector, proposals have been initiated with the objective of making film production and other related activities eligible for institutional and bank finances.

Multiplicity of Agencies in the Road Sector

5807. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the steps are being taken to avoid multiplicity of agencies in the road sector; and

(b) the likely time by which single agency namely Highway Board will come into existence and start its work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Rakesh Mohan Committee recommended the constitution of a Road Board to streamline the work of the Highway Sector. However, the proposals are at conceptual stage.

[Translation]

Telephone Facilities in Bihar

5808. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made any review in regard to functioning of telephone service in the country particularly in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of the telephones and STD services have been out of order in Bihar;

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(e) whether due to installation of substandard equipments, telephone services do not work smoothly in most of the areas of Bihar; and

(f) if so, the steps taken by the Government for providing regular telephone service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The functioning of telephone services in the Country is periodically reviewed and monitored.

(b) Periodical technical and administrative inspections are being carried out at Circle and TCHQ levels besides daily prescribed schedule tests being conducted by the maintenance staff in regard to equipments. Battery, power plant and working telephone lines etc. To maintain functioning of the telecom services to the best satisfaction of the subscribers.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.