

**AIR Relay Station at Koppal and Salem in  
Karnataka and Tamil Nadu**

1771. SHRI H. G. RAMULU:

SHRI T. R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up AIR relay station at Koppal and Salem in Karnataka and in Tamil Nadu respectively during 1998-99; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Expansion of Ultra High Frequency System**

1772. SHRI RAVI SITARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts in Goa where expansion of Ultra High Frequency telephone system has been done during the last two years;

(b) the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) the number of persons benefited as a result thereof?

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

(a) The expansions have been carried out in North Goa & South Goa districts.

(b) Approximately Rs. 63 lakhs have been spent in each District.

(c) The direct beneficiaries are the subscribers connected to the telephone exchanges where these systems have been installed. In addition the people who are making calls from around the world to these subscribers are also benefited.

**Survey Report on Coverage of Doordarshan Network**

1773. SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:-

(a) whether any survey report on the areas covered by Doordarshan is available with the Government for proper planning and development of Doordarshan network;

(b) if so, the sources of information thereof;

(c) whether the Hilly and Tribal Areas of rest of the country and North Eastern Areas are yet to get full coverage by HPTs, LPTs and VLPTs;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to formulate

a special scheme exclusively for said areas under the concept of Tribal Sub-plan; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) and (b) Schemes for expansion/upgradation of Doordarshan services are planned on the basis of reception surveys conducted by various kendras and requests received from various quarters from time to time.

(c) to (e) Although Doordarshan programmes are available throughout the country including hilly, tribal and North-eastern areas through satellite mode which can be received by using appropriate dish antenna system, it has been the constant endeavour of Doordarshan to expand/upgrade its terrestrial services throughout the country including hilly/remote/ North-eastern region/border and tribal areas keeping in view the factors such as suitability of location, availability of funds and infrastructural facilities, resultant coverage and relative priorities while finalising its projects.

**Electronic Telephone Exchanges**

1774. SHRI DINSHAW PATEL:

DR. MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges opened in the country during the Eighth Five Year plan period, State-wise;

(b) the number of electronic exchanges proposed to be opened during the Ninth Five Year Plan period, State-wise; and

(c) the details of financial allocation for opening of electronic exchanges during the Eighth Five Year Plan and the estimated financial allocations for the purpose for the Ninth Five Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Number of Electronic Exchanges opened in the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan, State-wise is enclosed as Statement.

(b) Number of electronic Exchanges proposed to be opened during Ninth Five Year Plan period, State-wise is enclosed as statement.

(c) There is no separate financial allocation in respect of electronic exchanges, but the expenditure is booked under the Head—Local Telephone System. Actual Expenditure booked under this Head for Eighth Five Year Plan was Rs. 27680.91 Crores including MTNL.

Estimated financial allocation for Local Telephone Systems in the Ninth Five Year Plan is Rs. 59099.03 Crores including MTNL.