relating to wheat, rice, coarse cereals, oilseeds, pulses, cotton, jute, sugarcane, fruits and vegetables etc. in order to improve productivity as also production of crops in the country.

[Translation]

## STD Facility in Gujarat

2717. SHRI HARIBHAI CHAUDHARY: Will the MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Talukas and Tehsils Head-Quarters in Gujarat having telephone centres alongwith S.T.D. facility as on date;
- (b) the number of such Talukas where this facility is not available so far; and
- (c) the time by which STD facility is likely to be made available in the these Talukas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) (a) In Gujarat there are 184 Taluka Head Quaters and all these Taluka Head Quarters are having telephone centre (exchange) alongwith STD facility. Word "Tehsil" is not used in Gujarat.

- (b) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.
- (c) Not applicable in view of reply to (a) above.

## STD/ISD/PCOs in Bihar

2718. SHRI RAJO SINGH: SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH:

Will the MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of STD/ISD/Public Telephone Booths functioning in Bihar at present, district-wise;
- (b) the number of applications for allotment of new Public Telephone Booths/STD/ISD and Telex facility in the State pending with the Government; 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) Number of STD/ISD/Local Public telephones working in Bihar are given in the statement attached.

- (b) Number of applications pending in the Bihar Circle for STD/ISD/PCOs are 9770 and for Telex connections, it is NIL.
- (c) STD, PCO allotment Committees have been constituted and meetings are being held regularly for allotment of STD, PCOs to the extent possible.

## Statement

Statement to be Laid on the table of Lok Sabha Vide Part (a) of Unstarred Question No. 2718 for 16.12.1998.

SI. No. Name of SSA		STD/ISD/PT Booths working
1	2	3
1.	Bhagalpur	307
2.	Hazaribagh	406
3.	Chapra	1227
4.	Dumka	413
5.	Motihari	1328
<b>6</b> .	Arrah	222
7.	Sasaram	264
8.	Daltonganj	137
9.	Muzaffarpur	1532
10.	Katihar	444