

balance of 52 lakhs will be provided by the Private Operators. During the first year (1997-98) of the 9th Five Year Plan 32.59 lakh telephone connections were provided in the country against the target of 29 lakh telephone connections. During 1998-99 9th Plan proposal envisages provision of 33 lakh new telephone connections. This has been increased to 36 lakh telephone connections in the Annual Plan 1998-99.

Six private companies have signed Licence Agreement for providing Basic Telephone Service in six Circles, and one among them has started service in Madhya Pradesh this month.

[English]

National Highways Affected by the Natural Calamities

1691. SHRI RAMPAL UPADHYAY : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the National Highways affected by the natural calamities in Rajasthan during the last three years; and

(b) the expenditure incurred during the period till date on the repair work of these National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :
(a) National Highway Nos. 8, 11, 12, 14 and 15.

(b) Yearwise amounts allocated to the State of Rajasthan on account of Maintenance and Repairs of National Highways are indicated below :—

Year	Rs. in Lakhs
1995-96	1860.72
1996-97	2669.08
1997-98	3641.71
1998-99	873.19

[Translation]

Norms for Setting up Primary Schools

1692. SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are holding discussions with the State Governments for setting up a primary school for a population of every one thousand; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Plans for Satellite Port of Mormugao

1693. SHRI FRANCISCO SARDINHA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan for setting up of a satellite port at Mormugao;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :
(a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Grant to Voluntary Organisations

1694. SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the scheme for which the grant is being provided to the voluntary organisations by the Ministry of Science and Technology;

(b) the total grant provided during the last two years under each scheme and the criterion adopted to provide the same;

(c) the name of the organisations which have received the grant during the last two years alongwith the State-wise and scheme-wise names of the projects for which the grant was provided;

(d) whether irregularities have been committed in giving the grant; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?