

Plan to clean the polluted river, to be funded by the Overseas Environment Cooperation Fund, Japan, through a soft loan of 17.77 billion yen;

(b) if so, the details of the plan and terms of the Japanese loan; and

(c) the time by which it is scheduled to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) A loan agreement was signed on December 21, 1992 between the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) of Japan and the Government of India to finance the Yamuna Action Plan. As per this agreement, OECF has extended a loan of Japanese Yen 17.77 billion for pollution abatement works of river Yamuna.

(b) The action plan aims at improving the water quality of the river Yamuna by undertaking such works as interception & diversion of domestic sewage, construction of sewage treatment plants, low cost toilets, bathing ghats, improved wood crematoria and works of afforestation, public awareness etc. The OECF funded Yamuna Action Plan covers 15 towns out of which 6 are in Haryana and 8 in Uttar Pradesh besides Delhi. The loan bears an interest rate of 2.6% with a repayment period of 30 years.

(c) The Scheme is targetted to be completed by 31.12.1999.

S.T.D. Facility

1723. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL:
SHRI NARENDRA BUDANIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether members of the Telecom Advisory Committee of the States are provided with STD facility; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

MTNL Report on Restructuring

1724. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the MTNL has engaged three international consultancy firms to submit reports on the restructuring its organisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the deficiencies which compelled MTNL for such a move; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve and speed up the productivity of MTNL and improve its financial and material management?

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

(a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of answer to (a).

(d) In order to improve the material management functions in the Nigam, a case is under process to award Indian Institute of Material Management (IIMM), New Delhi, an All India body of professionals dealing with Materials Management & Inventory Control, to simplify, rationalise and re-structure the purchase policy and practices, as well as, to computerise the functioning of MM Cell in MTNL. In addition to improve the financial management of the company, a proposal is on the anvil to streamline the Financial Management System in the country. M/s Tata Consultancy Services has been engaged to introduce a modern Financial Management System. Further, for organisational restructuring of its management and executive functions, MTNL is proposing to entrust the consultancy work to Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad, as soon as complete delinking from DOT takes place.

Public Telephones in Rural Areas

1725. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY :
SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI :
SHRI G. GANGA REDDY :
SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV
(JHANJHARPUR) :
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL :
SHRI RAM NARAIN MEENA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the details of National Telecom Policy for setting up village public telephones;

(b) whether the Government have made a plan to provide public telephones to each and every villages in the country;