

(b) to (d) Telephone directories in regional language are printed if the demand is more than 15% of the working connections.

#### **Threat From Taliban Movement**

3916. SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government perceives any threat from the Taliban movement in Afghanistan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps proposed to be taken to meet such eventualities?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the existence of terrorist training camps and facilities in the Taliban held territories in Afghanistan. Government is also aware that these facilities are used by Pakistani fundamentalist groups to train and then undertake terrorist activities in J & K. The Government is taking all necessary steps.

[Translation]

#### **Migration of People**

3917. SHRI DHIRENDRA AGARWAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey to ascertain the details of people who have migrated from industrially backward States during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check migration from such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) and (b) No comprehensive survey has been conducted.

(c) Migration from one State to another State for better employment opportunities is not objectionable as this option is guaranteed under Article 19 of the Constitution. However, to safeguard the interests of migrant workers at their destination point, the Government have enacted the Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act, 1979.

#### **Computer Education**

3918. SHRI PRADEEP KUMAR YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide computer education in remote rural areas through partial financial assistance under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where computer education is being imparted during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHANAN) : (a) to (c) Electronics has promoted five electronics projects including 'Computer in Education' to create computer awareness, its productive applications and promote their usage in Government and Government aided schools/colleges and institutions. As mentioned in the Brochure on 'Guidelines on Implementation of Electronics Projects', the Department of Electronics provides the necessary technical assistance and guidance to facilitate implementation of these projects within the framework of the guidelines of the Scheme issued by the Government of India, Department of Programme Implementation from time to time.

Under the 'Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Computer Literacy and Studies in Schools' (CLASS) currently under implementation by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (HRD), central assistance is provided to States and Union Territories for purchase of computer hardware and for implementing the Computer Literacy Project in Government and Government aided Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools.

#### **Central Assistance Scheme**

3919. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the provisions made to each State under the Central assistance and loan from the Agriculture Stabilisation Fund during the year 1998-99, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received any request from any State to raise this allocation particularly from Bihar; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Under Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Fund Scheme, central assistance is released to the State Governments in the ratio of 75% grant and 25% loan to help build up the Agricultural Credit Stabilisation Funds at the level of State Cooperative Banks. For the financial year 1998-99, a sum of Rs. 500 lakhs has been provided under the Scheme. No State-wise

allocation of funds is made under the scheme, as funds are released on the basis of proposals received from the State Governments.

(b) and (c) The question does not arise in view of (a).

#### Financial Assistance

3920. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to give financial assistance to terrorist affected areas to strengthen communication system;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (c) Development of telecommunication network is normally based on requirement of each territorial circle, Project circle and Maintenance Circle, Financial resources, as required, are also assessed on the basis of each circle's development plans.

[English]

#### New Appraisal System

3921. SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

SHRI VITHAL TUPE :

SHRI PRASAD BABURAO TANPURE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to introduce new appraisal system for social sector spendings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which the new system is likely to be successful in making a cut on the social sector spendings; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the new system does not create bottle necks in the implementation of ongoing projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### RAPP

3922. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of nuclear power plant units which have outlived their age in the country;

(b) the details of schedule of commissioning of unit III of Rajasthan Atomic Power Project at Kota; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to commission the said unit in stipulated period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) No Atomic Power Station has outlived their life span in India.

(b) The scheduled date of criticality of Unit-III of Rajasthan Atomic Power Station at Kota is expected to be July, 1999.

(c) To avoid delay in commissioning the project, parallel working in various activities and crashing of downstream activities by employing more resources and offering incentives to contractors of critical works as well as employees of Nuclear Power Corporation is resorted to.

#### Degradation of Marine Resources

3923. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to a Food and Agriculture Organisation's assessment that India is among the top five countries with "excessive fishing capacity" responsible for degradation of marine resources and significant economic waste; and

(b) if so, the whether the Government contemplate immediate action to stall further degradation and to rehabilitate damaged resources?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the saturation in the traditional fishing fleet which has resulted in almost full exploitation of the annual harvestable potential from the near-shore coastal waters.

Various measures are being undertaken to optimise and rationalise the fishing fleet as well as fishing effort by area-wise deployment of different categories of fishing vessels, regulation of fishing gear and mesh size, uniform closed fishing season, development of deep sea fishing including diversified fishing, replenishment of fish stocks by undertaking projects on sea ranching, setting up of artificial reefs, etc.