

1	2	3	4
ii.	Reserch Centre of Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Motipur	I.C.A.R.	6.68

Technology Park

3993. SHRI BHIM DAHAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for setting up a technology park in Sikkim with a link up base in Bangalore has been received from Sikkim;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the said proposal is likely to be approved and assistance given by the Union Government?

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) A letter has been received from the Government of Sikkim seeking assistance for the setting up of a Technology Park in Sikkim with a linking base in Bangalore. Such a project does not require any approval. Currently, there is no scheme for financial assistance to State Governments for such projects.

National Telecommunication Conference

3994. DR. V. SAROJA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether National Telecommunication Conference held recently; and

(b) if so, the main agenda discussed therein and decision taken therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Department of Telecommunications has not held any Telecommunication Conference recently.

However, a National Telecom Seminar and Exhibition for Relevance of Telecommunications in Socio-Economic Development was organised by Department of Telecommunications on 14.1.98 to create awareness and to celebrate 50th Anniversary of Independence.

(b) During the Seminar the role of telecommunications for Socio-Economic Development was highlighted by the eminent speakers. Exhibition was visited and products appreciated by visitors and participants.

Production of Hindi Films

3995. SHRI SHANKER PRASAD JAISWAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s Sony Pictures Entertainment had submitted a \$ 2.5 million proposal for the production and distribution of Hindi Films;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) the mechanism evolved with grant of the Status of Industry to the film-world to prevent monopolisation in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. M/s Sony Pictures Entertainment Inc. USA (SPE), a wholly owned subsidiary of Sony Corporation has submitted a proposal to the Foreign Investment Promotion Board in the Ministry of Industry for investment in India with a 100% foreign equity amounting to \$ 2.5 million for the purpose of production and distribution of films in India. The comments of this Ministry have been called for in its capacity as administrative Ministry. The proposal is under consideration as the policy regarding extent of permissible foreign equity in this sector is yet to be finalised.

[Translation]

Funds for Development of Telecom System in U.P.

3996. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount distributed for the development of Telecom in U.P. during the last three years and the current financial year;

(b) whether the telecom circle have completed development work as per the target fixed in the State;

(c) if so, the details of amount spent for the purpose during the last three years and the current financial year; and

(d) the number of new telephone connections provided in U.P. particularly in Ghaziabad and Bulandshahar districts during the last three years, exchange-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) The amount distributed/allocated for the development of Telecom in U.P. during the last three years and the current financial year is given below: