

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:

(Rs. in Crores)

Circle	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
U.P. (E)	259.48	445.31	577.46	411.41
U.P. (W)	280.33	335.85	399.59	415.02

(b) U.P. State comprises of two telecom circles U.P. (E) and U.P. (W). Both the telecom circles have completed their target during the last three years by and large. The details are furnished below:

U.P. (W) : Direct Exchange Lines (Nos.)

Year	Target	Achievement
1995-96	75000	83070
1996-97	75000	105027
1997-98	99000	132875

U.P. (E) : Direct Exchange Lines (Nos.)

Year	Target	Achievement
1995-96	70000	68266
1996-97	80000	111885
1997-98	95000	181043

(c) The details of amount spent in the Circles during the last three years and the current financial year is given below;

Circle	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
U.P. (E)	258.03	359.29	593.94	208.54 *
U.P. (W)	281.65	314.35	424.15	80.31 *

* Expenditure incurred upto Oct., 1998.

(d) Details are being collected and will be laid on the table of the House shortly.

[English]

Silchar T.V. and Radio Station

3997. SHRI A.F. GOLAM OSMANI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of Broadcasting done by the Silchar T.V. Station and Radio Station in Assam is poor;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether the viewers/listners of Karimganj and Hailakandi districts are covered by the said stations; and

(d) if not, the steps Government propose to take to improve the quality of broadcasting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Dakra Nala Pump Project

3998. SHRI BIJOY KUMAR 'BIJOY' : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dakra Nala Pump Project in Munger district of Bihar has achieved its objective for which it has been constructed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total funds incurred on the project so far;

(d) whether some parts of the project are yet to be completed; and

(e) if so, the time by which these parts are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (e) Dakra Nala Pump Project in Munger District of Bihar was originally sanctioned in 1978. The scheme envisages creation of potential 21.367 th. ha. on completion. No potential has been created so far. Total expenditure incurred till March, 1998 is Rs. 54.92 crores. The main course of the river Ganga has shifted approx. 4 Km away from the present pumping site. The State Government is conducting a technical study in this regard. As per the State Government, project is to be completed in the Xth Plan period.

[English]

Water Management Programmes

3999. SHRI ABHAYSINH S. BHONSLE :

SHRI A. VENKATESH NAIK :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to involve farmers participation in the Water Management Programme for the better utilisation of irrigation facilities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;