

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
 (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) and (b) Expansion of Doordarshan Network in the country is being carried out in a phased manner subject to availability of resources, infrastructural facilities and inter-se priorities. The Prasar Bharati envisages to set up a High Power Transmitter for DD-II Service at Aurangabad during the 9th Plan period.

- (c) Does not arise.

Indians in Greece

4071. SHRI D. S. AHIRE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether some Indians at port of Igoumenitsa in Greece were confined illegally;
 (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for confinement; and
 (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE) : (a) and (b) In the wake of reports in the Greek media about the discovery of 25 alleged illegal migrants from India having been locked up for 4 days in a truck, enquiries by the Embassy Of India in Athens revealed that a Greek truck was transporting illegal aliens on payment of a specific amount from Athens to Igoumenitsa. The Greeks involved in this operation disappeared before the local police could apprehend them. Greek Police, after breaking the lock of the abandoned truck found these 25 persons confined in a specially constructed hidden compartment.

- (c) There is no confirmation that any of the 25 persons found in the abandoned truck are Indian Citizens. Informal enquiries have revealed that the Greek authorities may have released the persons without filing any charges.

Lower Bhawani Projects Farmers Association

4072. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the date from which funds were released or to be released under the revised financing pattern of the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme to Lower Bhawani Project Farmers;
 (b) the reaction of the farmers on the revised financial pattern;

(c) whether the Lower Bhawani Project Farmer's Association has submitted any representation to the Government in this regard;

(d) if so, the decision taken by the Union Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) Under the Centrally Sponsored Command Area Development Programme, Central assistance is provided to the State Governments for carrying out various activities under the programme. One of such activity is encouraging farmers participation in irrigation water management for which one time functional grant @ Rs. 500 per hectare (to be shared @ Rs. 225.00 per hec. by Centre and Rs. 225.00 per hec. by State and Rs. 50.00 per the hec. by Farmers Association) is provided for registered and functional Farmers' Associations since 1.4.96 in place of management subsidy used to be provided earlier. The central assistance is admissible in the irrigation commands covered under the Programme. The registered and functional Farmers' Association in Lower Bhawani Project are also eligible for such assistance.

(b) The Farmers' Association have shown a great interest to receive the grant as per the revised financing pattern effective from 1.4.96.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) and (e) The State Government has been requested to expedite the proposal for central assistance for the year 1998-99, which may include one time functional grant also.

STD Facility

4073. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether STD facility has been made available in all the telephone exchanges of urban and rural areas of the country particularly in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;

(c) the number of Takukas where this facility is not available so far, State-wise;

(d) the time by which such facility is likely to be made available in all the telephone exchanges of the country; and

(e) the number of telephone exchanges where this facility is proposed to be provided during 1998-99?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) No Sir. State-wise details regarding provision of STD facility to the exchanges in urban and rural areas in the country, are given in the enclosed Statement-I

(c) The number of Talukas where this facility is not available is given State-wise in the enclosed Statement-II.

(d) STD facility is likely to be made available in all the telephone exchanges of the country by March, 2000 subject to availability of resources.

(e) STD facility is planned to be provided to 2648 telephone exchanges during 1998-99, subject to availability of resources.

Statement-I

Status STD in Urban and Rural Exchanges of the Country as on 30.11.98, State-wise

S.No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Exchanges		Number of exchanges where STD facility is available	
		Urban	Rural	Urban	Rural
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	306	1806	303	1363
2.	Assam	81	238	81	238
3.	Bihar	205	650	205	629
4.	Gujarat	298	1175	298	964
5.	Haryana	126	669	121	335
6.	Himachal Pradesh	66	545	66	416
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	116	139	84	39
8.	Karnataka	375	1808	375	1600
9.	Kerela	187	635	187	635
10.	Madhya Pradesh	355	2379	355	1631
11.	Maharashtra	530	2384	509	1295
12.	Goa	34	36	34	27
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	10	65	10	31
14.	Meghalaya	11	35	11	27
15.	Mizoram	17	25	11	10
16.	Tripura	6	45	6	43
17.	Manipur	20	11	16	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
18.	Nagaland	10	25	10	9
19.	Orissa	134	630	133	618
20.	Punjab	205	791	205	647
21.	Chandigarh	10	4	10	4
22.	Rajasthan	257	1408	251	837
23.	Tamil Nadu	522	1002	522	901
24.	Pondicherry	12	6	12	5
25.	Uttar Pradesh	820	1313	813	556
26.	West Bengal	286	573	283	441
27.	Sikkim	9	16	9	15
28.	Andaman & Nicobar	3	26	3	25
29.	Delhi	159	0	159	0

Statement-II

Number of Talukas where STD Facility is not available in the Country as on 30.11.98 State-wise

S.No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Talukas where STD facility is not available
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7
2.	Assam	No Talukas
3.	Bihar	No Talukas
4.	Gujarat	0
5.	Haryana	No Talukas
6.	Himachal Pradesh	No Talukas
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	No Talukas
8.	Karnataka	0
9.	Kerela	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	No Talukas
11.	Maharashtra	13
12.	Goa	0
13.	Arunachal Pradesh	No Talukas
14.	Meghalaya	No Talukas
15.	Mizoram	No Talukas

1	2	3
16.	Tripura	No Talukas
17.	Manipur	No Talukas
18.	Nagaland	No Talukas
19.	Orissa	No Talukas
20.	Punjab	No Talukas
21.	Chandigarh	No Talukas
22.	Rajasthan	No Talukas
23.	Tamil Nadu	0
24.	Pondicherry	0
25.	Uttar Pradesh	No Talukas
26.	West Bengal	No Talukas
27.	Sikkim	No Talukas
28.	Andaman & Nikobar	No Talukas
29.	Delhi	No Talukas

[Translation]

Regional Publicity Units In Uttar Pradesh

4074. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the locations in Uttar Pradesh where the offices of Directorate of field publicity units exists;

(b) whether the Government propose to set up more such units in other districts of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI) : (a) The location of Field Publicity Units in Uttar Pradesh are as shown in the enclosed statement.

(b) and (c) A new Field Publicity Unit is envisaged to be set up at Haridwar in Uttar Pradesh during the remaining period of the Ninth Plan, depending upon the availability of resources required for the purpose.

Statement

Location-wise list of existing Field Publicity Units of Directorate of Field Publicity in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

- (1) Lucknow
- (2) Banda
- (3) Jhansi

(4) Mainpur

(5) Varanasi

(6) Gonda

(7) Kanpur

(8) Rai Bareilli

(9) Allahabad

(10) Azamgarh

(11) Gorakhpur

(12) Lakhimpur Kheri

(13) Sultanpur

(14) Dehradun

(15) Aligarh

(16) Moradabad

(17) Pauri

(18) Uttarkashi

(19) Gopeshwar

(20) Muzaffarnagar

(21) Bareilli

(22) Agra

(23) Nainital

(24) Ranikhet

(25) Pithoragarh

(26) Meerut

Telephone Exchanges

4075. SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up telephone exchanges in Koshambi, Allahabad and Fatehpur districts of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are given in the enclosed statement. The steps taken in this regard as under.