

(d) the steps Government propose to take to speed up the disposal of cases in Supreme Court, various High Courts, tribunals, commissions etc.?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. M. THAMBI DJURAL) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

LPT at Kollam in Kerala

1835. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to establish a low power T.V. transmission centre at Kollam in Kerala; and

(b) is so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) There is no approved scheme at present to establish a Low Power TV transmitter at Kollam.

(b) Does not arise.

World Bank Fund for Air Pollution

1836. SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank is keen to fund the Government backed efforts to clean up the air in the capital and in other urban centres;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have considered the suggestions made by the World Bank; and

(d) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (d) No formal communications has been received from the World Bank to fund the Government backed efforts to clean up the air in the capital and in other urban centres. However, the World

Bank is providing a grant of US \$ 9,00,000 for a study on the proposed Delhi Urban Environment and Infrastructure Improvement Project.

Shortage of Cables

1837. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that due to acute shortage of cables, the expansion work of the telephone exchanges has been stagnated in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the requirement and the quantity of cables provided to Kerala during 1997-98;

(c) whether the Government have assessed the demand for cables during 1998-99; and

(d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to meet the requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) The expansion work of the telephone exchange has not stagnated in Kerala due to acute shortage of cables.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Sufficient quantity of cables will be allotted based on development and operational requirements of Kerala.

Import of Hazardous Wastes

1838. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether free import of hazardous wastes like zinc-ash has been posing a grave threat to human life in India;

(b) if so, the nature, quantity and other details of imports of such wastes from different countries during the last three years and uses these waste materials are put to; and

(c) the steps taken to eliminate the human-hazards caused due to such imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) As per Rule-11 of the