[English]

Mining Work with Modern Scientific Technique in Mining Sector

3659. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of the Mines where mining work is being performed with modern scientific techniques during the last three years;
 - (b) the expenditure incurred on each mine work;
- (c) the expenditure likely to be incurred for this work during the present financial year and the target set therefor; and
- (d) the amount likely to be spend on the modernisation work of the mines situated in the districts of Kachh and Saurashtra region?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA): (a) As per provisions of Mines and Minerals (Regulation & Development) Act, 1957 and Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 and Mineral Conservation & Development Rules, 1988 framed thereunder, no mining lease is granted in respect of major minerals unless the mining plan for the mine is duly approved by Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM) to ensure scientific development of the mines and conservation of minerals. As per information available, there were about 348 and 347 working 'A' Category mechanised mines during the years 1994-95 and 1995-96 respectively, where mining operations were performed more or less by modern scientific techniques. The figure of such mines for the year 1996-97 and the list of such mines are being collected.

(b) to (d) Details of information on expenditure incurred and proposed to be incurred by mine owners are not collected by the Central Government.

[Translation]

MARR Telephone Towers

3660. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether arrangements are being made to install M.A.R.R. tower telephones in the districts of Deoria, Mau, Ballia, Azamgarh and Gorakhpur in Eastern Uttar Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the village selected in each of the development blocks for M.A.R.R. tower telephone;
- (c) the total villages and development blocks in each of the above district in which M.A.R.R. tower telephone have been provided;
- (d) whether such M.A.R.R. tower telephones are in operation;

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (f) whether the Government would contemplate providing M.A.R.R. tower telephone in the villages as per the list submitted by the Members of Parliament; and
 - (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) The number of Blocks and number of villages provided with tower telephone as on 31.7.97 in these districts are as follows:

| District | Block (Nos.) | MARR Tower Telephones (Nos.) |
|-----------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Deoria | 29 | 360 |
| Padrauna | | |
| Mal | 09 | 169 |
| Gorakhpur | 19 | 276 |
| Azamgarh | 21 | 367 |
| Ballia | 17 | 261 |

- (d) Majority of them are in working condition. Faulty equipments are being attended to regularly.
- (e) Due to defects developed in course of operation of these systems like faults in Base Stations, subscriber remote equipment, solar panel battery etc.
- (f) and (g) Government is having policy to install such public Telephones at a place which can be easily accessed by the general public. Views of MPs are taken into consideration if they are within the guidelines of the Department.

Statement
No. of Selected Villages in Each Block

| Block Name | Villages Nos. | |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| 11 | 2 | |
| District - DEORIA | | |
| Gauri Bazar | 28 | |
| Rudrapur | 40 | |
| Patherdewa | 15 | |
| Rampur Karkhana | 15 | |
| Desai Deoria | 25 | |
| Deoria Sadar | 7 | |
| Salempur | 22 | |