

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No Post Office has been opened during 1995-96 in Orissa.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) it is proposed to open 4 Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices and 4 Departmental Sub Post Offices under Annual Plan 1996-97 in Orissa.

Revision of Tariff Structure

920. SHRI UDAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether telecom equipment manufactures have requested the Government to revise the tariff structure to encourage indigenous industries;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) whether the Government while considering these requests will ensure that the consumers of common telecom equipments are not overburdened with fresh levies on such account; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Telecom Equipment Manufactures Association of India (TEMA) had requested to revise the tariff structure. The broad details of charges proposed by TEMA are given in the Statement attached.

(c) and (d). Various representations which have been received are under careful consideration of the Government. The Government will decide in the best overall interest.

STATEMENT

Tariff Structure Proposed by Telecom Equipment Manufactures Association of India for the Year 1996-97

A. Custom Duty

S. No.	Item	Existing Custom Duty (1995-96)	Proposed Custom Duty by T.E.M.A (1996-97)
1	2	3	4
1.	Complete telecom equipment	50%	50%
2.	Sub-assemblies	35%	35%
3.	Non-electronic parts	35%	35%
4.	Electronic Components		
	(a) Normal discrete components	25%	15%

1	2	3	4
	(b) SMS components	25%	5%
5.	Raw materials	15%	5%
6.	Capital goods for manufacture of telecom equipments	25%	25%

B. Excise duty

S. No.	Item	Existing Excise Duty (1995-96)	Proposed Excise Duty by T.E.M.A. (1996-97)
1.	Rural telecommunication equipment	15%	10%
2.	Radio Transmission Equipment	15%	10%
3.	Other telecom equipment (i.e., other than Rural and Radio Microwave Equipment)	20%	10%
4.	Optical Fibre Cables	20%	10%
5.	Telecom Cables	25%	10%

[Translation]

Conversion of Transmitters

921. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to provide High Power Transmitters in the Munger Doordarshan Kendra in Bihar so as to improve the quality of transmission;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also propose to set up such Kendras in other districts of the State in the near future; and

(d) if so, the details thereof location-wise and the time by when these are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to upgrade the existing Low Power TV transmitter (LPT) at Munger into High Power TV transmitter (HPT).

(c) and (d). While the power of the existing LPTs at Motihari, Jamshedpur and Deogarh is envisaged to be upgraded, 7 additional LPTs, one each at Noamundy,