

Internet Facility

684. SHRI V. M. SUDHEERAN:

DR. RAMESH CHENNITHALA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of cities connected with 'internet'.
- (b) whether there is any proposal to connect 'Kottayam' city in Kerala with internet;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government have received any representation to provide local internet connectivity at Alleppey in Kerala; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The following cities are connected to Internet on local dial up basis:

Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Calcutta, Pune, Abmedabad, Bangalore, Jaipur, Dehradun, Trivandrum, Gwalior, Gawhati, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Patna, Lucknow, Kanpur, Goa, Ernakulam, Aurangabad and Indore.

- (b) Yes Sir.
- (c) Instructions have been issued for provision of Internet node at Kottayam.
- (d) Yes Sir.
- (e) Aleppy has been approved as one of the 51 places approved by elecom. Commission for providing Internet nodes, so that local dial up access to Internet could be provided.

[*Translation*]

Lions in the country

685. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of lions in the country has come down during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise alongwith the number of white lions presently alive;
- (c) the year-wise number of lions found dead during each of the last three years alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether an progress has been made in respect of rehabilitation of the lions brought from Gujrat in Bind-Muraina areas; and
- (e) if so, the area covered thereunder and the total population alongwith the alternative measures to be adopted for rehabilitation of the displaced families in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Lions are found in the wild only in the Gir forests of Saurashtra in Gujarat. According to the census carried out in May, 1995 their population was 304. In the last census carried out in 1990 the population of lions was 284. There are no reports of any white lions in the wild.

(c) The year-wise number of lions found dead during the last three year is:

Year	Reasons for death			Total
	Natural	Deliberate	Accidental	
1994-95	4	1	3	8
1995-96	12	3	4	19
1996-97	12	9	5	26
	28	13	12	53

(d) and (e) Preliminary activities have been undertaken at the Palpur-Kuno Sanctuary in Morena distt. in Madhya Pradesh to develop the habitat, and prey density, to make it conducive for the re-introduction of lions. The total area of the sanctuary is 1153.41 sq. km. the number of families to be rehabilitated is 1374. Each family is to be provided 2 ha. of developed land, and 502 sq. mts. of land house site. Building materials, cash incentive, community facilities, wood lots and fuel reserves, pasture and fodder plantations etc. are also to be provided within a cost ceiling of Rs. one lakh per family.

[*English*]

Ban on Medicinal Herbs

686. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned 'Government ban on herbs may hit Ayurvedic Doctors' appearing in the 'Times of India' Mumbai dated September 11, 1997.
- (b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;
- (c) whether the Ayurvedic Drugs Manufacturers Association has written to the Government to reconsider the said order;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to study and implement the request?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Under the export policy, export of 53 plants, plant portions and derivatives obtained from the wild is prohibited. However, their export is allowed if these plants are obtained from cultivated source.

(c) and (d) The Ayurvedic Drugs Manufacturers' Association had been requesting for allowing the export of formulations made from 18 plants obtained from the wild, which are included in the prohibited list of export.

(e) To resolve this matter, an inter-departmental committee was constituted by this Ministry. Based on the recommendations of the committee export of formulations of the said species has been allowed by the exporters for a period of 90 days from 28.8.1997 to clear the existing stock of formulations. In addition, the Botanical Survey of India has been asked to carry out another review of the status of the 53 plants, in consultation with all concerned and make specific recommendations in the matter.

[Translation]

Literacy Campaign in Rajasthan

687. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided for the Lok Jumbish and total literacy campaigns in Rajasthan;

(b) the details of the main achievements of literacy schemes in the State;

(c) whether the Union Government propose to implement or expand these schemes all over the State;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government propose to provide special assistance liberally to the educationally backward and big States like Rajasthan; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) The amount provided under the schemes of Lok Jumbish and Total Literacy Campaigns is as follows:

Lok Jumbish:

Phase I (1992-94)	: Rs. 14.09 crores.
Phase II (1994-98)	: Rs. 95.65 cores.

Total Literacy Campaigns:

During the Eighth Plan period : Rs. 38.13 crores.

(b) and (c) The Lok Jumbish project has so far covered 58 blocks in the State of Rajasthan. Environment building activities have been undertaken in 3289 villages and school mapping exercise has been completed in 2293 villages. 265 new schools have been opened while 309 primary schools have been upgraded. An innovative and successful NFE programme launched by Lok Jumbish project has spread to 1600 centres. By the end of the Phase-II, the project is expected to cover 75 blocks.

Under the scheme of Literacy Campaigns, the entire

State of Rajasthan has been covered. Out of 31 districts, 16 districts are implementing total literacy campaign, 13 are under post literacy campaign stage and 2 districts have shifted over to Continuing Education stage. As of date, approximately 27.50 lakh persons have been made literate in the State of Rajasthan under all schemes of the National Literacy Mission.

(d) and (e) The funding pattern for the Lok Jumbish project will continue in the same ratio of 3:2:1 by Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), Government of India and Government of Rajasthan, respectively.

The funds for the Scheme of Total/Post Literacy Campaign will continue to be borne in 2:1 ratio for normal districts and in 4:1 ratio for Tribal Sub-Plan districts by the Central and State Government, respectively.

[English]

Constitution of Governing Bodies

688. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Delhi University colleges in which college governing bodies have been fully constituted;

(b) the names of colleges in which the college governing bodies have not been fully constituted;

(c) the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New ITDC Offices Abroad

689. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Tourism Development Corporation offices in the foreign countries, country-wise;

(b) whether the Government have closed its some overseas offices;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government propose to open new ITDC offices abroad to achieve the goal of 3.25 million foreign tourists by 2000 A.D.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) ITDC does not have an office in any foreign country.

(b) and (c) In order to explore and utilise the potential