

rescue and recovery work as and when required. Normally the mine managements make some ex-gratia payments to the next of kin immediately after the accident. In due course, statutory compensation is also paid through Compensation Commissioner and other legal dues are paid by the managements to the legal heirs.

(c) to (e). Only equipments which meet the provision of law are used in the mines. These equipments are required to be checked and tested regularly and maintained in functional order by the mine managements. The equipments are also checked by the officers of the Directorate General of Mines Safety during their normal course of inspections.

#### Low Priority Consumer Goods

998 SHRI STAYADEO SINGH :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are preparing any list of low priority consumer items on which investment of multinational companies will be discouraged.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :  
(a) to (c) The review of sector specific policy issues relating to foreign investment is a continuous process. In line with the overall policy of economic development, the decisions on permitting foreign investment or imposing restrictions on consumer items are taken as per the general foreign investment policy guidelines modified from time to time

[English]

#### East-West Airlines

999 SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to promote oldest and largest private Airlines East-West Airlines, a sick unit; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) It is for the private airlines, including East West Airlines, to take steps to overcome their financial and management problems.

#### Ration on Conessional Rate

1000. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT :  
SHRI RUPCHAND PAL :  
KUMARI UMA BHARATI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy of the Government in regard to provide essential commodities to poor people through Public Distribution System.

(b) whether the Government have decided to strengthen the Public Distribution System to provide maximum benefit to poor people;

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

(d) whether the Government are also considering a proposal to provide ration at further subsidised rates to the people living below the poverty line;

(e) if so, the details thereof including persons likely to be benefited thereby; and

(f) the time by which the above proposal is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) The present policy of Government is to supply some Essential Commodities at a reduced price to all persons under the PDS. The Government has also been implementing Revamped PDS since 1992 under which 1775 blocks in the country are presently entitled to specially subsidised foodgrains at the rates equivalent to Rs.50 less than the normal Central Issue Price. The RPDS cover remote, far-flung, tribal and difficult areas where the poorer sections of the society live.

(b) to (f) The details of Government's proposal to streamline PDS with focus on the poor are being worked out

#### A.I.R. Station

1001. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the construction work of All India Radio Station at Tezpur in Assam has been completed; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) A new radio station with 20 KW MW transmitter, Multi-purpose studio and staff quarters

at Tezpur in Assam is expected to be technically ready by December, 1996.

#### Development of Tourist Places

1002. SHRI MEHENDRA SINGH BHATI :  
SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA :

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the tourist places of Rajasthan that are likely to be developed with Central assistance;

(b) the reasons for delay in clearance of those projects;

(c) the time by which the work on these projects are likely to be started; and

(d) the details of funds likely to be incurred on various places of tourist interest in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA):

(a) to (d). In consultation with the State Government of Rajasthan, Six projects at Gangaur, Ajmer, Mt. Abu, Churu, Jhunjhunu and Osian have been identified for the development of tourism infrastructural facilities in the State during 1996-97. Central financial Assistance is sanctioned for projects on receipt of detailed proposals from the State Governments.

So far, no detail proposal has been received from Rajasthan.

#### Telephones in Villages

1003. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have fixed the target for linking the villages with telephones during the last three years;

(b) if so, whether the target has been achieved;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the number of villages where telephone connections have been provided during the above period; and

(e) the reason for not achieving the target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Partially achieved.

(c) and (d). The details of targets and number of villages where telephone connections have been provided during the last three years are given in statement attached.

(e) The main reason for not achieving the targets, is non-supply of Radio systems by indigenous suppliers in the stipulated time frame.

#### STATEMENT

Details of target and number of villages where telephone connections have been provided during last three years.

S.No.	Year	Target	Achievement
1.	1993-94	46820	33001
2.	1994-95	50000	47659
3.	1995-96	1,05,000	31496

[Translation]

#### Telecom Offices in Udaipur

1004. SHRI BHERULAL MEENA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the office of Telecommunication Department (South), Director, Telecommunications, Udaipur is proposed to be shifted elsewhere; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b). No decision has yet been taken.

#### Introduction of New Air routes

1005. SHRI DATTA MEGHE :  
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce new air routes in the country during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof Sector-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b). Indian Airlines has, at present, no firm proposal to introduce any new service in the domestic sector. Private Operators decide their route schedules as per Government guidelines, in their best commercial judgement and seek the approval of the Director General of Civil Aviation.

[English]

#### Asian Media Summit

1006. SHRI RUPCHAND PAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Asian Media Summit on Child Labour has been held recently in Manila;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the discussion held?