

[English]

**Ex-employees of Akbar Hotel**

1226. SHRI ROSHAN LAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) The total number of ex-employees of Akbar Hotel, category-wise, absorbed in the Ministry, after the Hotel was closed down in 1986;

(b) whether pay-scales and other pecuniary benefits like annual increment, LTC, pension and confirmation; and regularisation of service etc. being given to the employees of the Ministry are applicable to all such employees absorbed from the Akbar Hotel;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to bring them at par with the employees of the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAV-SINH SOLANKI): (a) Two telephone Operators in the erstwhile Akbar Hotel were absorbed in the Ministry in December 1988 after qualifying the Staff Selection Commission examination.

(b) Their pay-scales have not yet been fixed. However, in pursuance of the assurance given to the Supreme Court, they are being paid last pay drawn before the closing of the Hotel in addition to the interim relief @ Rs. 120 or Rs. 100 as the case

may be as also ad-hoc DA @ Rs. 30, Rs. 40, Rs. 50, per instalment released from time to time as admissible and usual ad-hoc bonus at par with other Government employees.

(c) and (d) The question of pay-scales and other pecuniary benefits can be taken up only after the creation of new posts. A proposal was mooted to the Cabinet for creation of new posts but as per latest developments the Ministry of Tourism is interested in taking over the building of Akbar Hotel back for conversion into a hotel again. In that case, all the ex-ITDC employees will revert to their parent Department.

**Electronic Telephone Exchanges in the Country**

1227. SHRI RAM NARESH SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges in the country as on June 30, 1991 State and Union Territories-wise; and

(b) the number of electronic exchanges likely to be installed in the country, during 1991 State and Union Territories-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The information is given in the attached statement.