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	VLPT	Sikanderpur Mau Ranipur
		Bageshwar Didihat Ghandyal Kaljikhah
West Bengal	HPT	
	LPT	Calcutta (DD III)
		Jhargram Kalna Puruliya Ranaghar
	VLPT	Egra Jhalda

VLPTs commissioned during the above period and subsequently closed consequent upon commissioning of LPTs at these places

[Translation]

#### Leasing Out of Bailadila

\*29. SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH :  
SHRI CHITTA BASU :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the formalities in regard to the leasing out of Bailadila Iron Ore reserves to private company at nominal rates have been completed; and

(b) if so, the details alongwith terms and conditions thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

[English]

#### Decline in the Growth of Revenue

\*30. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :  
SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been decline in the growth of revenue in Telecom Deptt./telecom circles in the country during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 (till date);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps being taken by the Government for improvement in the growth of revenue;

(d) whether arrears of telephone bills have increased from Rs. 439.82 crore in March, 1992 to Rs. 955.81 crore in March, 1995;

(e) whether some outstanding amount has also been written off;

(f) if so, the details thereof and reasons, therefor, and

(g) the steps being taken to realise/recover the outstanding amount on priority basis to increase the growth?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) There is no decline in the growth of telephone revenue (Amount Billed for) in the Deptt. as a whole and in Telecom Circles during the year 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 and till July, 96 except in J and K Circle where the revenue (Amount Billed for) has decreased during the year 1993-94.

(b) In J and K Circle the telephone revenue has decreased from Rs. 23.14 crores (1992-93) to Rs. 22.37 crores (1993-94). This was due to prolonged disturbances in the state. However, the telephone revenue has increased from the year 1994-95 onwards with the improvement in the situation in the state.

(c) Growth of telecom. revenues remains a predominant concern of the department and measures are introduced from time to time to increase the network utilisation and improve collection efficiency which have been further explained below :

1. The unit have been asked to expedite forwarding of Advice Notes to TRA for timely issue of bills.
2. Timely Revision of rent consequent upon revision of tariff
3. Regular checking of Telephone Directory.
4. Annual checking of non-directory items.
5. Proper billing of spare numbers.
6. Providing adequate staff strength to TRA.

(d) Arrears of telephone bills have increased from Rs. 419.26 Crore in March, 1992 to Rs. 897.29 crore in March, 1995

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The amount written off during the year 95-96 is Rs. 1.36 Crore and Rs. 2.20 lakhs during 1996-97 (upto July, 96). Reasons for their write off are as given below:

1. Whereabouts of subscribers not known/ financial status of the subscribers not sound.
2. Closure of subscribers firms or concerns.
3. Outstanding involving petty amounts where persuance is considered uneconomical.