

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2220
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2001
TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN ORISSA
BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several exchanges connected by Optical Fibre Cables (OFC) are functioning poorly in Orissa;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether a large number of sanctioned telephone connections are pending due to lack of planning and poor administrative management and scarcity of material in the State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which said connections are likely to be provided?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.
- (c) Pending sanctioned telephone connections are not large. A few sanctioned telephone connections are pending due to technical non-feasibility in rural areas where the demand for connections are scattered and far off from existing exchanges.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.
- (e) Connections to wait listed applicants are likely to be provided by March, 2002.