

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) There are 52 Electro-Mechanical Exchanges including 13 Cross Bar Exchanges as on 30.6.1996.

(b) Out of 52 exchanges, only 7 have completed more than 15 years of life.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 32 exchanges are planned to be replaced during 1996-97. Remaining 20 exchanges are planned to be replaced progressively in subsequent years.

Infiltrators

169 SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA
PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the progress made so far regarding the erection of barbed fence along the Indo-Pak border,

(b) the number of persons arrested by various agencies from the border district for sneaking inside the Indian territory during the last one year till date,

(c) the action taken against them including the steps taken to check it in future,

(d) the total number of Pakistani citizens arrested while trying to enter India illegally and the action taken against them,

(e) the number of such Pakistani citizens who have been detained in jails but against whom cases have not been filed in the competent courts,

(f) whether some of these persons have not been deported to Pakistan and instead allowed to stay in India, and

(g) if so, the details of such persons?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA) : (a) The progress of fencing work along the Indo-Pak border is as under

| | Completed | To be completed |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Punjab | 451 Kms | - |
| Rajasthan | 600 Kms | 435 Kms |
| Gujarat | Terrain not suitable for Fencing | |
| Jammu | - | 180 Kms |

(b) 4487 persons were arrested by BSF during 1995 and 1996 on the Indo-Pak border

(c) On apprehension such persons are handed over by BSF to local Police authorities for taking

necessary action under the law. To check infiltration, the following steps have been taken

(i) Border fence/flood lighting has been erected/being erected

(ii) OP towers have been erected on International Border.

(iii) Additional Bns. have been sanctioned in order to reduce the gaps between the BOPs and Patrolling Nakas have been increased/ intensified

(iv) Binoculars, goggles, twin telescopes, PNV binoculars and hand held search lights have been provided for enhanced vigilance on the border

(v) Boats/motor boats have been provided for patrolling riverine area

(vi) The intelligence set up has been geared up for keeping close surveillance on the border.

(d) In total 255 Pakistani Nationals were apprehended by BSF during 1995 and 1996 on the Indo-Pak border and were handed over to State Police. Action has been taken by State Police under the law in these cases

(e) to (g) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

Gas based Fertilizer Plants

170 SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether any action has been taken by the Government to double the capacities of gas based fertilizer plants at Jagdishpur and Aonla in Uttar Pradesh.

(b) if so the details thereof and

(c) the time by which additional gas is likely to be allocated to these plants so as to enable them to double their capacities as planned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SHEES RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) A project for doubling the capacity of the Aonla plant of M/s Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. was approved by the Government on 30.9.1993. The required quantity of natural gas (1.75 MMSCMD) has been allocated for the project which is expected to be commissioned by 1.1.1997.

The project of M/s Indo Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corporation Ltd. for doubling the capacity of their plant at Jagdishpur (U.P.) has not materialised since the projected gas availability along the HBJ pipeline is fully allocated and it is not feasible to consider additional allocation of gas