

take action against HFCL : CAG" appearing in the 'Times of India' dated September 28, 1996;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Indian Telephone Industries has been starving for lack of orders of 2GHz, whereas orders were being placed on HFCL; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the details of the order placed on HFCL and on the ITI in the last three years;

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

(b) to (d). To provide Subscriber Trunk Dialling Services in Rural/Semi Urban areas, it was decided to induct 2 GHz Digital Microwave Equipment and accordingly a tender was floated for first time during 1992-93 for the procurement of 3500 terminals of this equipment. The Purchase Orders were placed on the 13 short-listed bidders including M/s HTL(HFCL) and M/S ITI on the basis of their ranking in the tender. The tender did not have the condition of type approval at the time of opening of the tender. It may be stated that there was no out of tender reservation at that time.

(ii) To meet the objective of 8th Five Year Plan for providing STD to all exchanges, on review during 1995, it was decided to procure additional 1500 terminals against the earlier tender to meet the urgent requirement of 1995-96. The orders were placed on the firms who had obtained type approval namely M/s HTL(HFCL), M/s Shyam Telecom and M/s Fujitsu Optel. M/S ITI were not considered for placement of orders at this time as they did not possess valid type approval for this item. These orders were placed at the reduced negotiated prices, as indicated below:

Configuration	Tender Basic Price (Rs.)	Negotiated Basic Price (Rs.)
30 Chl (1+0)	810320	751885
120 Chl (1+0)	989420	922190

However, matter is under investigation.

iii) The details of the orders placed during the last three years on M/s HFCL & M/s ITI are as below:

Year	HTL(HFCL) (Terminals)	ITI (Terminals)
1993-94	1050	420
1994-95		
1995-96	1048	344*

* inclusive of advance purchase order of 300 terminals.

Modernisation of Exchanges in U.P.

2014. SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR :

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHAUHAN :

SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

SHRIMATI BHAVNA BEN DEVRAJ BHAI
CHIKHALIA :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for modernisation/expansion of telephone exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and its suburban;

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

(c) whether the Government propose to install new telephone exchanges in the above states;

(d) if so, the details and the target fixed therefor; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Details are being collected.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Details are being collected.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Revival of Sick Units

2015. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV :

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) the details of sick steel units of SAIL in the country at present;

(b) whether any revival plan for these has been undertaken by SAIL;

(c) the number out of these likely to be revived;

(d) whether SAIL has decided to invest 51% in West Bengal at 6% on washeries;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the details of sick units likely to be revived during 1996-97; and

(g) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon, plant-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (g). SAIL is continuously making profits since 1984-85.

However, the following subsidiary companies of SAIL have been declared sick and referred to the BIFR.

- IISCO-Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Company Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Indian Iron & Steel Company Limited (IISCO).
- Indian Iron & Steel Company (IISCO)

IISCO-Ujjain Pipe & Foundry Company Limited was referred to BIFR in March 1994. The BIFR in its hearing dated 21.6.1996 decided that the company is not likely to exceed its accumulated losses within a reasonable time while meeting all its obligations and that it is just and equitable to wind it up. Pursuant to the BIFR order, a hearing was to be held on 2.12.1996 in Calcutta High Court which did not take place. IISCO was referred to the BIFR in June, 1994. In August, 1996, SAIL had invited offers for participation in the revival/modernisation of IISCO through a joint venture arrangement with SAIL retaining majority share-holding of 51% in the Joint Venture Company. SAIL have received offers from two parties viz. M/s Tyazhpromexport (TPE) of Russia and M/s Mitsui of Japan. SAIL had sought extension of time from the BIFR in order to further assess the offers received by them. The BIFR have since granted extension to SAIL till 6th January, 1997. The latest position is that M/s Mitsui of Japan have indicated their unwillingness for equity participation which is an essential requirement for selection of a Joint Venture Partner.

As IISCO has been referred to the BIFR, any scheme to be taken up for modernisation will have to be in accordance with the orders of the BIFR in this regard.

[Translation]

'Namaskar' Service

2016. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :
KUMARI UMABHARTI :
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
PROF. OMPAL SINGH NIDAR :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 'Namaskar' Service has been closed by the Government;

(b) if so, the details therefor;

(c) whether the Government have made any alternate arrangement in this regard;

(d) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) No, Sir.

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

[English]

Employees' Welfare Schemes

2017. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any welfare schemes for the employees of the Department of Telecommunications and Department of Posts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the allocation of funds made for these schemes during 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97, circle-wise, scheme-wise;

(d) whether these schemes are being implemented properly; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) The requisite information is placed in Statement-I for the Department of Telecommunications and in the Statement-II for the Department of Posts.

(c) The requisite information is placed in Statement-III for the Department of Telecommunications and in the Statement-IV for the Department of Posts.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The details of the schemes being implemented are as mentioned for Part(b) above.

STATEMENT-I

Details of the Welfare Schemes for the Employees of the Department of Telecommunications.

- i. Setting up of and grant-in-aid to Staff Welfare Institutions such as Holiday Homes, Creches, Tailoring Centres, Schools, Recreation Clubs etc.
- ii. Financial assistance to Telecom staff welfare association and Telecommunications Women's Organisations.
- iii. Financial assistance to Telecom Teams/Players for participation in various sports and games at All India/International level.
- iv. Organisation of arts and crafts competitions, exhibitions, holiday/scouting camps, etc.
- v. Organising training in first-aid and ambulance brigades, etc.
- vi. Providing immediate relief of an emergent nature for which no provision exists or can be made available in the normal way.
- vii. Financial assistance to deserving educational institutions sponsored by the staff of the Deptt.