

Western Railway authorities from the members of the families of deceased employees for employment since from January, 1993, till date;

(b) the number of representations out of these recommended by the Members of Parliament;

(c) the steps taken by the Government thereon; and

(d) the time limit by which the appointment are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) and (d). The extant instructions require the Zonal Railways to make all out efforts to provide compassionate appointments to all eligible persons as early as possible within the guidelines laid down for the purpose.

It is, however, difficult to fix any time limit for the appointment on compassionate grounds, as the same depends on several factors like availability of suitable vacancies, wards attaining majority, etc.

Raising of Funds

3032. SHRI B.L. SHARMA, 'PREM' : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a plan was prepared for raising funds about Rs. 30,000 crores by making commercial use of very large unutilised properties of the Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether the proposals include any such properties in vicinity of the Capital; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. However, with a view to generate additional resources for development, Railways had proposed to commercially utilise air-space over Railway land/buildings. A decision on this proposal has been deferred by Government of India.

Passenger Amenities at Railway Stations in Tamil Nadu

3033. SHRI A.G.S. RAM BABU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the facilities for passengers are provided properly at the railway stations in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) the quantum of funds sanctioned during 1996-97 for providing passenger facilities at railway stations in Tamil Nadu; and

(d) the details of the facilities likely to be provided by Railway Administration in Tamil Nadu in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Facilities at stations are provided as per norms based on the volume of passenger traffic handled. Stations in the State of Tamil Nadu are provided with amenities commensurate with the volume of traffic. These facilities are augmented/additional facilities provided wherever so warranted by growth in traffic. Allocation of funds for provision of passenger amenities at stations are provided to the zonal Railways according to their requirements and no state-wise bifurcation of funds are maintained. However, an allocation of Rs. 15.74 crore has been made for passenger Amenity works at stations on Southern Railway. Future programme for provision of amenities are decided based on the over all availability of funds during each financial year.

[Translation]

Introduction of New EMU Train

3034. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether no E.M.U. train ply between Gaya to Mughal Sarai;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to introduce new E.M.U. train service between Gaya to Mughal Sarai and Gaya to Dhanbad; and

(c) if so, the time by which it is likely to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). MEMU services are proposed to be provided on the Mughal Sarai-Gaya-Dhanbad section in a phased manner on availability of MEMU rakes.

[English]

Offices of Divisional Engineers

3035. SHRI BRAJ MOHAN RAM : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of offices of Divisional Engineers (Telecom) of the Telecom Department in the country. State-wise, location-wise;

(b) the criteria for setting up such offices;

(c) the number of new offices likely to be set up in the country, State-wise, locations-wise;

(d) whether the Government also propose to set up this office in Daltanganj in Bihar; and

(e) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The details of Telecom Districts headed by Divisional Engineers (Telecom) is enclosed in the statement.

(b) As per existing criteria a Telecom District comprising of more than one Secondary Switching Area (SSA) can be bifurcated into separate Telecom Districts headed by Divisional Engineers (Telecom) if the workload of each Telecom District after bifurcation is not less than 455 Direct Exchange Lines (DELs).

(c) This depends upon the growth of the network in any District. Presently three proposals for sanction of Telecom District Engineers, namely Monghyr in Bihar, Raiganj in West Bengal and Orai in U.P. (East) are under process.

(d) No Sir.

(e) The workload is not sufficient as per the prescribed criteria.

STATEMENT

List of Telecom Districts headed by DETs (TDEs) in the Country.

Name of the Circle	Name of the SSAs
1	2
Andhra Pradesh	Adilabad Srikakulum Vijaynagaram
Assam	Nagaon
Bihar	Arrah Bhagalpur Chhapra Deoghar (Dumka) Katihar Motihari Saharsa Sasaram
Gujrat	Amreli
Haryana	Jind Narnaul (Rewari) Sonapat
J&K	Leh Rajouri Udhampur
Karnataka	Bidar Chickmagalore Mandya

1	2
Maharashtra	Bhir (Beed) Jalna Kudal (Sindhudurg) Osmanabad Parbhani Wardha Yeotmal
Madhya Pradesh	Balaghat (Mahakoshal) Betul Chhatarpur Chhindwara Dewas Guna Narshinghpur Raigarh Rewa Sagar Satna Shahdol Shajapur Shivpuri Vidisha Jagdalpur (Baster) Rajgarh
Orissa	Balasore Bolangir Koraput Phulbani (Mayurbhanj)
Punjab	Ropar
Rajasthan	Barmer Bundi Chittorgarh Churu Jhalawar Sawaimadhopur Tonk
U.P. (East)	Behraich Ballia Banda Barabanki Basti Etawah Faizabad

1	2
	Farrukhabad
	Gonda
	Jaunpur
	Lakhimpur
	Mainpuri
	Mirzapur
	Raibareilly
	Shahjahanpur
	Sitapur
	Sultanpur
	Unnao
U.P. (West)	Almora
	Bijnore
	Etah
West Bengal	Bankura
	Berhampur
	Calcutta (Howrah)
	Jalpaiguri
	Krishnagar
	Malda
	Suri (Birbhum)

[Translation]

Railways Link with Major Projects

3036. SHRI RAMSHAKAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to connect Major projects with railway facilities;

(b) if so, time by which the projects run by Union Government, Government of Uttar Pradesh and Private sector in Sonbhadra district of Uttar Pradesh are likely to be connected with railway facilities;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to lack of railway facilities lakhs of labourers working there are facing difficulties; and

(d) if so, the remedial measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d). Requirement of Rail Linkages to connect major projects is considered by conducting a survey and investment decisions are taken thereafter. There is no such proposal at present.

[English]

Expansion/Modernisation of Exchanges in Orissa

3037. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under consideration of the Government for extension and modernisation of telephone exchanges in Orissa, particularly in Bhubaneswar; and

(b) if so, the details therefor, Distt.-wise?

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

(b) The details of the proposed expansions/modernisation (in the form of replacement of electromechanical exchanges by electronic exchanges) of telephone exchanges in Orissa-District-wise, particularly in Bhubaneswar during current financial year is as given in the enclosed Statement-I (major exchanges) and II (small exchanges).

STATEMENT-I

List of proposed Expansion Replacement of Exchanges

District	Name of Stations	Capacity (Type)
1	2	3
1. Khurda	(a) Bhubaneswar	6K (NEC Main)
	(b) Mancheswar (Bhubaneswar)	4K (NEC RS)
	(c) Bhubaneswar Tax	0.5K (E 10B)
	(d) Bhubaneswar	1K (E 10B) Expn
	(e) Chandaka	1K (E 10B) Expn
	(f) Jatni	1K (E 10B) Expn
2. Dhenkanal	Dhenkanal Tax	1.5K (E 10B) (New)
3. Ganjam	Behrampore	2K (E 10B) Expn
4. Sundargarh	Rourkela	1K (E 10B) Expn