

Telecom Centres in Kerala

906. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Telecom Centres working in Kerala, District-wise;

(b) whether the Government have given any directions for operation of Telecom Centres for 24 hours;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to open some more Telecom Centres in the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, the total number of Telecom Centres working in Kerala district-wise are :

Alleppey	-	5
Ernakulam	-	17
Idukki	-	1
Kannur	-	3
Kasargode	-	1
Kollam	-	11
Kottayam	-	8
Calicut	-	5
Malappuram	-	3
Palghat	-	5
Pathanamthitta	-	8
Trivandrum	-	15
Trichur	-	5
Wyannad	-	1
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(b) No, Sir.

(c) So far, the requirement of the Telecom Centres in Kerala Circle was during day time only. Also, there is shortage of manpower.

(d) There is no such proposal during this year.

Construction of Wayside Tourist Centres in North Bengal

907. PFOF. JITENDRA NATH DAS : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to construct wayside tourist centres in North Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) and (b). The Central Department of Tourism has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 13.94 lakhs for

construction of a wayside facility at Raiganj in distt. North Dinajpur and an amount of Rs. 3.00 lakhs has been released in the year 1995-96 for starting the work on this project. The State Government have prepared detailed design and estimates for this wayside facility and the construction work will start after this monsoon. Other facilities such as tourist lodges, yatri niwas and tented accommodation have also been sanctioned in the North Bengal region.

(c) Does not arise.

Security Lapses in Indira Gandhi International Airport

908. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware of the growing security lapses in the handling and checked-in baggage in the Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the direction given to various Airlines to undertake proper screening of the checked-in baggage; and

(d) the steps taken to detect the ammunition and explosive properly so that they are not smuggled at the Indira Gandhi International Airport?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) All airlines have been instructed to undertake, (i) proper screening of checked-in baggage through X-ray Baggage Inspection System (BIS) installed at the Airport and (ii) 10% to 20% random physical check.

(d) X-ray BIS is used to detect ammunition and explosives. Suspicious baggage are physically checked. Besides, the services of Dog Squad and Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad are also utilised to detect explosives.

Closure of Channel DD-3

909. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to close down Doordarshan channel three;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the estimated loss suffered by the Doordarshan; and

(d) the reasons for failure of this channel in providing any return to the advertisers for their consumer products?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no loss in operation of this channel.

(d) An advertiser advertises his product on a particular media only if he derives some benefit from it. Therefore, the question of his not getting any return does not arise.

Supply of Edible Oil

910. SHRI RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of edible oil requested by the Government of Maharashtra for distribution through public distribution system during December, 1995 to October, 1996 month-wise;

(b) the quantity supplied upto June, 1996, month-wise; and

(c) the reasons for short supply?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b). The monthly demand for imported edible oil for PDS received from Government of Maharashtra for the period December, 1995 to October, 1996 and the allocations made for the central Pool for these months is indicated below :

Month	Demand	Allocation
December, 95	3000	-
January, 96	3000	1000
February, 96	3000	2000
March, 96		2000
April, 96	5000	3000
May, 96	5000	3000
June, 96	5000	3000
July, 96	7000	4000
August, 96	7000	4000
September, 96	7000	4000
October, 96	7000	4000

Note : Advance allocation made for the period Feb-Oct, 1996.

(c) Supply of imported edible oil through the PDS is limited/supplemental in nature. The quantity allocated to a particular State/UT is determined by various factors like total volume of imports, inter-se requirements of States/UTs, demand received, past offtake etc. Maharashtra has been allocated about 15% of the total 2.00 lakh MT of RBD Palmolein to be imported during February to October, 1996.

Privatisation of Tourism Projects

911. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the tourism projects in some States;

(b) if so, the details of such States;

(c) whether those State Governments have sought clearance from the Union Government for this purpose; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) :

(a) to (d). The State Governments do not require any clearance from the Department of Tourism, Government of India to privatise State tourism projects.

[Translation]

STD in Ujjain and Ratlam

912. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the STD code number of area connected with STD facilities in Ujjain and Ratlam as on June, 1996;

(b) the areas covered under telecommunications system in rural areas of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) the places where telecommunication system is being set up with solar energy during 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The details are given in the Statement-I enclosed.

(b) and (c). District-wise details of Madhya Pradesh are given in Statement-II enclosed.

STATEMENT-I

STD code numbers of area covered with STD facilities in Ujjain and Ratlam till 1996.

S. No.	District	Names of SDCA	Names of Stns. covered in SDCA in Col. 3	STD code
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Ratlam	Aldte	Alote	07410
2.	"	"	Tal	"
3.	"	Ratlam	Ratlam	07412
4.	"	"	Bilpank	"
5.	"	"	Dhanasuta	"
6.	"	"	Karandi	"