

(b) the time by which the work is likely to be commenced; and

(c) the funds provided for this purpose during the current Financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The work would be progressed on Nangal Dam-Talwara new line in Himachal Pradesh during 1997-98.

(b) As soon as land is made available by Himachal Pradesh Government.

(c) Rs. 5.00 crores.

[Translation]

Village Panchayats without Postal Facilities

5278. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of village Panchayat in Bihar, which have not been provided with the facilities of post and telegraph, district-wise; and

(b) the number of Panchayat Sanchar Seva and Telegraph offices set up likely to be set up by the Government in Bihar during the years 1996-97 and 1997-98, District-wise; and

(c) the details of the time bound programmes prepared by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The number of village Panchayats in Bihar which do not have post and telegraph facilities is 3207 and 8398 respectively. The district-wise details are given in attached statement I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) The district-wise number of Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras set up in Bihar during 1996-97 has been shown in attached statement-III. There is no proposal at this stage for any Sanchar Sewa Kendra in 1997-98.

Post Offices are opened as Plan activity under Annual Plan Scheme subject to availability of resources and norm based justification. During the Annual Plan 1997-98 it is proposed to open 40 Extra-departmental Branch Post Offices and 5 Departmental Sub Post Offices in Bihar.

No telegraph office was set up in Bihar during the year 1996-97. There is no policy to provide telegraph facility in every village Panchayat as it is provided on the basis of demand and justification of volume of traffic.

Statement-I

District-wise number of Village Panchayat in Bihar which do not have Postal facilities

Sl. No.	Name of District	Total number of village Panchayat where postal facilities have not been provided
1	2	3
1.	Saran	38
2.	Vaishali	105
3.	Bhojpur	40
4.	Buxar	16
5.	Gaya	129
6.	Nawada	33
7.	Jehanabad	42
8.	Nalanda	26
9.	Bhagalpur	56
10.	Banka	46
11.	Patna	103
12.	Begusarai	36
13.	Khagaria	16
14.	Darbhanga	69
15.	East Champaran	130
16.	West Champaran	42
17.	Madhubani	69
18.	Munger	55
19.	Lakhisarai	16
20.	Sheikhpura	17
21.	Jamui	44
22.	Muzaffarpur	53
23.	Araria	49
24.	Katihar	51
25.	Kishanganj	33
26.	Purnea	71
27.	Saharsa	25
28.	Madhepura	25
29.	Supaul	24
30.	Siwan	18
31.	Gopalganj	60
32.	Sitamarhi	40
33.	Sheohar	13
34.	Samastipur	44
35.	Dumka	90
36.	Pakur	25
37.	B. Deoghar	74
38.	Godda	74

1	2	3
39.	Sahebganj	125
40.	Aurangabad	81
41.	Palamu	123
42.	Garhwa	36
43.	Hazaribagh	82
44.	Kodarma	11
45.	Chatra	20
46.	Giridih	66
47.	W. Singhbhum	147
48.	E. Singhbhum	42
49.	Ranchi	125
50.	Gumla	82
51.	Lohardaga	32
52.	Dhanbad	69
53.	Bokaro	82
54.	Rohtas	107
55.	Babhua	80
Total		3207

Statement-II

District-wise number of Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendras set up in Bihar during the year 1996-97

S No.	Name of District	Number of Sanchar Seva Kendra set up during 1996-97
1.	Muzaffarpur	1
2.	Jamui	1
3.	Lakhisarai	2
4.	Bhagalpur	1
5.	Saran	1
6.	Darbhanga	1
7.	E. Motihari	1
8.	Vaishali	1
9.	Patna	1
10.	Samastipur	3
Total		13

Statement-III

Number of Village Panchayats, which have not been provided with Telegraph facility in Bihar, district-wise:-

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Panchayats not having telegraph facility
1	2	3
1.	West Singhbhoom	245
2.	East Singhbhomm	174
3.	Gumla	244
4.	Lohardaga	39
5.	Ranchi	266
6.	Hazaribagh	133
7.	Koderma	61
8.	Chatre	73
9.	Giridih	244
10.	Dhanbad	143
11.	Bokaro	34
12.	Palamau	137
13.	Garhwa	145
14.	Aurangabad	175
15.	Gaya	281
16.	Nawadah	129
17.	Jahanabad	123
18.	Bhojpur	202
19.	Buxar	112
20.	Rohtas	209
21.	Kamur (Bhabhua)	122
22.	Nalanda	174
23.	Bhagalpur	193
24.	Banka	110
25.	Khagaria	76
26.	Monghyr	22
27.	Lakhisarai	57
28.	Shekhpura	48
29.	Jamul	118
30.	Begusaral	126
31.	Deoghar	115
32.	Dumka	154
33.	Sahebganj	202
34.	Godda	120

1	2	3
35.	Pakur	48
36.	Purnia	186
37.	Kishanganj	73
38.	Araria	129
39.	Katihar	153
40.	Saharsa	136
41.	Madhopura	110
42.	Supaul	41
43.	Samastipur	208
44.	Darbhanga	260
45.	Madhubani	304
46.	Sitamarhi	63
47.	Shivhar	67
48.	West Champaran	285
49.	East Champaran	296
50.	Muzaffarpur	247
51.	Vaishali	98
52.	Sagan	257
53.	Siwan	198
54.	Gopalganj	146
55.	Patna	287
Total		8398

Extension of Telephone Services in Metro Cities

5279. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had prepared a plan for extension of telephone services in the metropolitan cities during the Eighth Five Year;

(b) if so, the details of the telephone services provided during the 8th Plan, metro-wise;

(c) whether any target was also fixed for providing telephone services in these metropolitan cities;

(d) if so, the details thereof, metro-wise;

(e) whether it has been achieved; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (f) No separate plan had been prepared for metropolitan cities during the Eighth Plan.

However, a target of providing 75 Lakh telephone connections in the country, including 19.2 lakhs by the MTNLS of Mumbai and Delhi, was set in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Details of telephone connections provided during Eighth Plan metro-wise is given below;

Metro city	No. of connections provided from 1992-97
Delhi	7.65 Lakhs
Mumbai	8.51 Lakhs
Calcutta	2.46 Lakhs
Chennai	2.36 Lakhs

As against a target of providing 75 Lakh lines in the country, the achievement was 87.73 Lakhs lines. However, the target of 19.2 lakhs lines for the MTNLS could not be fully achieved due to declining demand for telephones in Mumbai and Delhi.

Loss of Foreign Exchange

5280. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRIMATI PURNIMA VERMA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether loss of foreign exchange is being suffered due to non-availability of necessary tourism facilities in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government propose to develop necessary tourism facilities and places of tourist interests in these States; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA): (a) The foreign exchange earning from Tourism during 1996 increased by 16.5% over the previous year.

(b) and (c) The identification of tourist spots and its development is primarily the responsibility of State Governments. The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to State/Union Territory Governments on the basis of specific proposals received from them, on inter-ee priorities and availability of funds. During 1996-97, the Department of Tourism has sanctioned 14 projects amounting to Rs. 237.78 lakhs to Uttar Pradesh and 4 projects amounting to Rs. 41 lakhs to Bihar for the development of tourist infrastructure. In addition, for the developments of infrastructure in Buddhist Circuit covering Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Overseas Economic Co-operation Fund (OECF) has provided assistance to the tune of approx. Rs. 249 crores.