

Title: Need to provide adequate telecommunications staff at Malappuram Secondary Switching Area, Kerala - Laid.

PROF. A.K. PREMAJAM (BADAGARA) : A new Telecom Secondary Switching Area (SSA) namely Malappuram Secondary Switching Area was formed on 18.3.2001 bifurcating the Calicut Secondary Switching Area. The intention behind this programme was to achieve speedy implementation of Plan targets and ensure efficient customer services in the three Revenue Districts of Kozhikode, Wynad and Malappuram which formed the Calicut Telecom District. But this goal could not be achieved as sufficient number of staff is not posted. What the Department is doing now is to share the existing staff members between Calicut/Secondary Switching Area and Malappuram SSA according to the ratio of telephone connections. With the formation of the new Secondary Switching Area with Malappuram Revenue District under its jurisdiction, sufficient number of posts in the Officers Cadre have been sanctioned, but not a single post has been sanctioned in the Group C and D cadres. As the ban on recruitment continues special sanction will be required even if posts are created. Under these circumstances, I request the Government to examine the matter urgently and do the needful in this regard.