

Patna  
 Purnea  
**Jammu & Kashmir**  
 Anantnag  
 Badgam  
 Baramula  
 Doda  
 Kargil  
 Kupwara  
 Pulwama  
 Punch  
 Srinagar  
**Manipur**  
 Bishnupur  
 Chandel  
 Imphal  
 Senapati  
 Tamenglong  
 Thoubal  
 Ukhrul  
**Meghalaya**  
 South Garo Hills  
**Nagaland**  
 Kohima  
 Mokokchung  
 Mon  
 Pheu  
 Tuensang  
 Wokha  
 Junningboto  
**Orissa**  
 Jajpur  
**Punjab**  
 Kapurthala  
**Sikkim**  
 East  
 West  
 North  
 South  
**U.T. of Andaman & Nicobar Islands**  
**U.T. of Daman & Diu**  
 Diu  
**U.T. OF Lakshadweep**

[Translation]

### Foreign Tours

772. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitem captioned, 'Adhikarion Ne Ki Ek Sal Mein So Se Jyada Videshi Yatrayain' appearing in the *Dainik Jagran* dated May 6, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period from 01.04.1997 to 31.3.1998, there were a total of 200 visits abroad by Department of Telecommunication Officials. Details all given in the enclosed statement.

(c) Proposals of Visits abroad are critically examined in the commission at the level of Advisors, Members, Chairman and Hon'ble Minister of Communications and only minimum essential visits are permitted. Most of the visits are for fellowships and training offered by International institutions to which India is a member country. Similarly, in International Telecommunication Fora, it is essential to be present to safeguard national interests in the policy matters.

### Statement

#### Foreign Visits during the period 1.4.1997 to 31.3.1998.

1. 50 Visits in all by Chairman (TC), 4 members, 5 Advisors and Additional Secretary (T).
2. 74 Visits in all by Chief General Managers, Sr. DDGs, DDG's, G.M.'s, and Joint Secretary.
3. 49 Visits in all by Director's and DE's.
4. 12 in all by Sr. SDEs and S.DE's.
5. 15 in all by Officers of the Wireless Planning and Co-ordination Wing.

Total : 200

### Private Investment in Power Sector

773. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHARY : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to states :

(a) whether the possibilities have been explored for joint ventures of private and public sector companies in the hydel power sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?