

## Statement

## Details of Memorandum and corrective action taken

Points in the memorandum	Action taken
(1) At present the telephone subscribers are only being provided with consolidated bills. The subscribers has been demanding details of the STD calls made by them.	The exchange installed at Mohlia does not have Technical facility to provide detailed billing. Such Technical facility is generally available in bigger Telephone Systems.
(2) There is an echo in the line whenever a call is received and as a result there is disturbance and the speech is not audible.	The satellite link was having echo problem which has since been rectified.
(3) The cable at the pillar had broken off in May'97. It nearly a year now and the cable has not been repaired, on the cable has been joined with a tape.	The cable at the pillar has been attended to.
(4) There is no Telegraph office (to receive telegrams) at Mohlia and as a result the telegrams have to be received and routed through Ambargarh Chowki which is time consuming.	Telegraph services at Mohlia is provided through a combined Post Office. The Postal Department has been requested to ensure prompt booking and delivery of Telegrams.

## Inclusion of Environment Protection in Syllabus

855. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :  
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to include environment protection as a compulsory subject in the syllabus of schools/colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Environmental protection has always been an integral part of the school curricula developed by NCERT at every stage of school education. The National Policy on Education adopted in 1986 (and modified in 1992) identified protection of the environment as one of the components of core curriculum to be followed throughout the country. It has been emphasized in the National Curriculum for Elementary and Secondary Education—A Framework brought out by NCERT in 1988 and the Guidelines and Syllabuses for various stages of school education in different subjects as well as the textbooks which NCERT brought out. Environment protection has, thus, already become a major component of school curriculum syllabuses and textbooks and the work in this area has progressed far beyond the stage of a proposal.

There is no proposal with the University Grants Commission to include Environmental protection as a

compulsory subject in the syllabus of colleges. However, the University Grants Commission has introduced Environment Science as one of the subjects under the scheme of Vocational Courses in the area of Environment and Water Management at the first degree level in the universities and colleges. 11 colleges have been assisted so far. As a follow-up action on the Supreme Court judgement in November, 1991 the UGC is providing financial assistance to selected universities/colleges for introduction of an optimal/special paper in Environment Science at Post Graduate level under the scheme of assistance to Courses in Emerging areas. So far, the UGC has provided assistance to 70 universities/colleges for implementing this programme.

(b) and (c) : Do not arise.

## Amendments to Basel Ban

856. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India, at the Fourth Conference on trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste held at Kuching, Malaysia, had indicated its plan to ratify the historic 1995 amendments to the "Basel Ban", pending adoption of the list of hazardous wastes prepared by the technical working group;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Organisation for Economic Cooperation of Developed countries has been trying to scuttle or delay the ban; and

(d) the steps being taken to effectively prevent the exports of such wastes to India, indicating the actual

exports of such wastes into India from various countries during 1995-96, 1996-97 and 1997-98?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) to (c) In the address delivered by India at the Fourth Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal held at Kuching, Malaysia from February 23-27, 1998 it was indicated that India is taking steps to ratify the amendments to the Basel Convention. The proposal to amend the Basel Convention to include the lists of wastes—List 'A' and List 'B' prepared by the Technical Working Group as Annex VIII and IX to the Convention, which defines hazardous wastes, was jointly presented by the European Union and Chile to the fourth Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention. Many European countries are part of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation of Developed countries.

(d) As per rule 11 of the Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989, imports of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal. However, import of such wastes may be allowed for processing or reuse as raw material after examining each case on merit. From April 1995 with the amendments to the EXIM Policy, import of hazardous wastes has been restricted to actual users with an import licence. Vide order dated 5.5.1997, the Supreme Court of India in a public interest litigation Writ Petition No. 967/95—Research Foundation for Science, Technology and Ecology versus Union of India and Others ordered that no authorization/permission should be given by any authority for the import which have already been banned by the Central Government or by any order made by any Court or any authority. 7 permission for imports of hazardous wastes have been granted so far from 1989 till 1996. 2 permissions have been granted for negotiation in 1998. Details are given in the attached statement.

*Statement*

S.No.	Importer	Exporting Country	Quantity & Waste to be imported	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	M/s Balmer Lawrie & Co., Calcutta	Dubai	150 KL, Waste Oil December, 1993	One time permission granted for R&D Project
2.	M/s Southern Refineries Ltd., Trivandrum	U.K.	8000 Barrels of waste oil, 1994	For trial run to demonstrated waste oil re-refining by vaccum distillation technology
3.	M/s Zinc Smelters & Refiners India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai	Germany	20,000 MT, Zinc containing residual dusts on 20 <sup>th</sup> June, 1994	Steel mill dust
4.	M/s Bharat Zinc Ltd., Bhopal	Germany, The Netherlands & Sweden	14,100 MT Zinc wastes on 12.5.95.	On 8.8.94 with the condition that clearance would be sought on each consignment. Permission for negotiation of 17,000 MT Zinc ash/residue/dross scrap was granted.
5.	M/s Indo-Zinc Ltd., Dhar, M.P.	The Netherlands	1,000 MT, Zinc ash/dross/scrap, 8.5.95	Permission for import
6.	M/s Associated Pigments Ltd., Calcutta	South Korea	3,500 MT, Lead waste dross/residue/scrap, December 1995	Permission was granted as per the recommendations of the Committee.

1	2	3	4	5
7.	M/s India Lead Ltd., Mumbai	—	Lead dross/residue/ scrap, Nov., 1995	Permission granted only to negotiate the import for use in their Thane unit as per the recommendations of the Committee.
8.	M/s Tirupati Chemicals Ltd., Malerkotla, Pb.	—	Zinc ash/skimmings, 1998	Permission granted for negotiations
9.	M/s Bharat Zinc Ltd., Bhopal	—	Brass dross/copper dross, 1998	Permission granted for negotiations

1. All imports were permitted subject to the requirements under Hazardous Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1989.

#### Transportation by Road

857. SHRI CHINTA MOHAN  
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated share of road traffic in the total goods and passenger traffic at the end of Eighth Five Year Plan, Separately;

(b) whether in view of the increasing number of vehicles, the present network of roads becoming inadequate; and

(c) if so, the disadvantages due to the shortage of roads and the annual estimated financial loss to the country as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) :  
(a) According to a study conducted by Planning Commission, estimates for road-rail traffic during 1986/87 and projection for 1999-2000 based on the prevailing trend are as follows :

		1986-87	1999-2000
Freight (BTK)	Road	210	374
	Rail	223	686
Passenger (BPK)	Road	256	446
	Rail	893	2916

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Capacity shortage, delays in transportation, increased transportation operating cost and poor roads resulting in increased in fuel consumption in the range of 10-15% causing annual loss of approximately Rs. 3000 to 4000 crores.

#### Chandra Shekhar Azad

858. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI MOHAN SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the name of Chandra Shekhar Azad, a great patriot and one of the heroes of the country's freedom struggle finds a place only as a footnote in the Indian History text books;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to reassess his contribution towards the country's freedom struggle in order to give him a deserving place in the Indian History; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOJHAR JOSHI) : (a) The contribution of the great revolutionary Chandra Shekhar Azad is brought out adequately in the textbooks prepared by the NCERT. He is referred to in the history textbooks in the context of the description of India's struggle for freedom. In these textbooks, the role of individual leaders, including Chandra Shekhar Azad is mainly referred to in the context of major developments & trends.

(b) and (c) The role of Chandra Shekhar Azad is well known and widely acknowledged.

#### Environmental Clearance For Mining

859. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the details and the number of applications received during last three years for the Environmental clearance for the proposed mining in South India; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI) : (a) and (b) A Statement is annexed.