

(e) A perspective plan has been prepared for undertaking intensive survey and investigation of hydel schemes. These projects will be taken up for execution in the State Sector/Central Sector and Private Sector after the Detailed Project Report has been prepared and necessary clearances are obtained.

Vacant Posts in Damodar Valley Corporation

2892. PROF. RITA VERMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to State:

(a) whether the total staff provided in the Damodar Valley Corporation is as per the sanctioned strength;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to fill up the vacant posts;

(c) the total number of sanctioned posts lying vacant as on March 31, 1998 in each category;

(d) the details of the total number of vacancies as against each category during the last three years;

(e) whether all the vacant posts have since been filled up;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARA-MANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (e) In Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC), the man-megawatt ratio in respect of its various thermal power stations is above the national norm. DVC has taken up a review exercise for rationalisation of manpower and personnel policy.

The posts required for running and maintenance of power stations are being filled except in cases where court in junctions have been ordered on recruitment/promotion. In other cases, the posts will be filled after the completion of the manpower rationalisation review.

(c) and (d): The total number of sanctioned posts lying vacant as on 31.3.1998 are as follows:

Group "A"	:	357
Group "B"	:	1074
Group "C" & "D"	:	1013

(f) and (g) Do not arise in view of information furnished at (b) and (e) above.

[English]

Low Rate of Literacy

2893. SHRI MUKUL WASNIK : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the states having low rate of literacy as compared to the national literacy rate;

(b) whether the Government have conducted any study to identify the reasons for the low rate of literacy; and

(c) If so, the details thereof including the action proposed to be taken by the Government for the rapid spread of literacy in States bearing the stigma of being low on the literacy front?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) As per 1991 census, the States/Union Territories where literacy rate is below the National Literacy Rate of 52.21% are Bihar, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

(b) and (c) No Study has been conducted to identify the reasons for the low rate of literacy. The Steps taken to strengthen the programme include greater involvement of Panchayati Raj Institutions, community and voluntary organisations; reinforcement of linkages between Literacy programmes and other development programmes, greater decentralisation with delegation of financial and administrative powers to States, strengthening of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms etc.

Modernisation of Telephone Exchanges

2894. SHRI SURENDRA PRASAD YADAV (JHANSI): Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of telephone exchanges in Bihar have not been functioning satisfactorily;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the efforts being made by the Government to remove the deficiencies;

(d) whether any scheme to expand and modernise these telephone exchanges is under consideration of the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Generally the telephone exchanges in Bihar are functioning satisfactorily. Some times, though exchanges become non-functional due to prolonged power failure and lightning.

(c) (i) The Engine alternators are being provided to all exchanges and kept in working condition.

(ii) Faulty cards of exchanges are expeditiously repaired.

(d) Yes, Sir. All the exchanges in Bihar Telecom Circles are already Electronic. These are planned to be progressively expanded as per the demand for new telephone connections.

(e) Details are given in the statement attached.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Statement

S. No.	Name of SSA	Name of the Distt.	No. of electronic exchange to be expanded
1	2	3	4
1.	Arrah	Bhojpur	17
2.		Buxer	12
3.	Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur	26
4.		Banka	11
5.	Chapra	Chapra	23
6.		Siwan	20
7.		Gopal Ganj	05
8.	Darbhanga	Darbhanga	37
9.		Samastipur	22
10.		Begusarai	23
11.		Madhubani	28
12.		Khagaria	16
13.	Daltonganj	Palamu	15
14.		Garhwa	09
15.	Dumka	Dumka	14
16.		Deoghar	08
17.		Godda	11
18.		Sahebganj	09
19.		Pakur	03
20.	Dhanbad	Dhanbad	20
21.		Bokaro	14
22.	Gaya	Gaya	19
23.		Nawada	08
24.		Jehanabad	08
25.		Aurangabad	17
26.	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	28
27.		Girdih	15
28.		Chatra	03
29.		Kodarma	10
30.	Jamshedpur	East Singhbhum	18
31.		West Singhbhum	20

1	2	3	4
32.	Katihar	Katihar	12
33.		Purnia	15
34.		Araria	09
35.		Kishanganj	08
36.	Motihari	East Champaran	30
37.		West Champaran	14
38.	Munger	Munger	13
39.		Lakhisarai	07
40.		Shekhpura	04
41.		Jamui	08
42.	Muzaffarpur	Muzaffarpur	21
43.		Vaishali	17
44.		Sitamarhi	13
45.		Sheohar	10
46.	Patna	Patna	32
47.		Nalanada	29
48.	Ranchi	Ranchi	28
49.		Lohardagga	07
50.		Gumla	10
51.	Saharsa	Saharsa	22
52.		Supaul	15
53.		Madhepura	10
54.	Sasaram	Rohtas	19
55.		Kaimur (Bhabhua)	09
Total			851

[Translation]

Courses in Hindi Medium

2895. SHRI ADITYANATH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Universities where education is imparted through English medium only and not through Hindi;

(b) whether courses run by the University of Delhi and Central Board of Secondary Education for various standards are still not available in Hindi;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the time by which Hindi version of these courses is likely to be made available?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of Power Trading Corporation

2896. SHRI JANARDAN PRASAD MISRA:

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI:

SHRI BHIM DAHAL:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state: