

graduate engineer, technician and technician (vocational) apprentices. The Working Group constituted is looking into the various aspects of the scheme in respect of graduate engineer, technician and technician (vocational) apprentices as per the terms of reference and guidelines suggested to the Working Group.

#### Loss to Kandla Port

2919. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA:

DR. SANJAY SINH:

SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated loss suffered to Kandla Port due to recent cyclone in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the details of equipments damaged and the number of persons who lost their lives in the mishap;

(c) whether the Government have formulated any action plan to resume operations at Kandla Port; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The total loss to the Port's infrastructural facilities due to cyclone have been estimated at Rs. 132.25 crores. Loss of operational income during the period from 9th June to 24th June, 1998 (till partial restoration of port

operations) is about Rs. 6.00 crores. The Port's civil, mechanical and electrical structures suffered severe damages. Five Wharf Cranes and the Marine Unloader sustained severe damages. Five Port employees lost their lives in the mishap.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Port operations have been resumed. The crude and POL handling have commenced during the 3rd week of June and the General cargo operations have commenced from 24th June, 1998. The Port has drawn up an action plan for restoration of various port facilities.

#### Telecom Facility in North-Eastern States

2920. SHRI BHIM DAHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government had decided in October, 1996 to give full coverage of North-Eastern States through telecommunication media;

(b) if so, the extent to which these States have so far been covered; and

(c) the time by which the remaining areas in these States are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Extent to which the North Eastern States have been covered with telecommunication media is furnished in the Statement attached. Full coverage of telecommunication media is planned by the end of the 9th Five Year Plan.

#### Statement

*Extent of coverage of telecommunication facility in north eastern states  
status of telecom facilities in north east region (State/Circle-wise) as on 31-05-98*

Sl. No.	Item	AP	MNP	MEG	MZR	NLD	TRP	Total NE Circle	ASSAM	Total NE Region
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Telephone Exchs.	72	30	45	41	35	50	273	319	592
2.	Telephone Connections	15678	18097	24214	20524	14650	25832	118995	164152	283147
3.	Villages with Telephone facility (out of)	557	592	842	575	516	547	3629	10524	14153
4.	STD Coverage	(3599)	(2394)	(5629)	(770)	(1192)	(862)	(14446)	(22224)	(36670)
	(i) Distt. Headquarters	13	8	7	3	7	4	42	23	65
	(out of)	(13)	(8)	(7)	(3)	(7)	(4)	(42)	(23)	(65)
	(ii) Sub-Divisional Hqrs.	18	13	15	9	5	11	71	48	119
	(out of)	(28)	(30)	(15)	(9)	(22)	(11)	(115)	(48)	(163)

AP — Arunachal Pradesh      MZR — Mizoram  
MNP — Manipur                NLD — Nagaland  
MEG — Meghalaya            TRP — Tripura