

(b) The amount allocated to these sanctuaries by this Ministry during the last three years, under the scheme of Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries is as follows:

State	Amount allocated		
	(Rs. in lakhs)		
Year	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Madhya Pradesh	3.65	-	3.50
Rajasthan	1.40	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	2.30	2.40	6.55
Andhra Pradesh	2.63	-	2.06

#### Education Schemes for Backward Areas

[*Translation*]

3728. SHRI PARASNATH YADAV:

SHRI CHINMAYANAND SWAMI:

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

(a) whether any survey has been conducted to identify the educationally backward areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to chalk out education scheme for these areas;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) No specific survey has been conducted to identify the educationally backward areas but the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission on Early Childhood, Non-Formal Education, Elementary Education and Teacher Education for the Ninth Five Year Plan has identified, the following States as educationally backward States; Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal on the basis that 75% of out of school children are located in these States.

(c) to (e) The Government has taken several initiatives to upgrade the standard of education in the educationally backward areas. Some of the important centrally sponsored schemes launched by the Department of Education are District Primary Education Programme, Operation Blackboard, Non-Formal Education, Teacher Education, Total Literacy Campaign, Post Literacy Campaign, Vocationalisation of Secondary Education, Area Intensive Programme for

Educationally Backward Minorities, Modernisation of Madarasa Education, National Programme of Nutritional Support to Primary Education, Community Polytechnics. Area specific schemes such as the Lok Jumbish and Shiksha Karmi Projects in Rajasthan also focus on these areas.

Further the welfare schemes of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment like Scholarship Scheme for SC/ST, Hostels for SC/ST Girls and Boys, Book Banks and Coaching Scheme for SC/ST Students and Special Educational Development Programme for Girls belonging to Scheduled Castes of very low literacy areas are also aimed at upgrading the standard of education in these areas.

[*English*]

#### Participation in Basic Telecom Services

3729. SHRI N.K. PREMCHANDRAN:

SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:

SHRI RAMPAL SINGH:

SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA:

DR. SAROJA V.

SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY:

SHRI D.S. AHIRE:

SHRI S. AJAY KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have recently allowed certain private companies for providing basic telephone services in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof State-wise;

(c) the areas identified for their participation; and

(d) the details of the terms and conditions finalised for the purpose?

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

(b) As per attached in the Statement-I.

(c) The entire Country has been divided into 21 Service Areas and the licensees will be providing Basic Telephone Services in their respective Licensed Service Areas. These areas are generally co-terminus with the State boundaries.

(d) Basic terms and conditions of the Licence are placed in the attached Statement-II.