

(d) whether telephone exchanges in Bermon and Chandrapura regions in Dhanbad division are not working satisfactorily;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether complaints have been received against the installation of such system at some other places, violating the rules;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) the action taken by Government in this regard?

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

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Two MARR systems installed in Bokaro district are yet to commence work.

(d) No Sir, they are generally working satisfactorily.

(e) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (d) above.

(f) No Sir.

(g) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (f) above.

(h) Question does not arise in view of reply to part (f) above.

III Treatment to Animals

[English]

3735. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the animals are being ill treated in circus and roadside shows;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to reduce the sufferings of such animals; and

(c) whether the Government propose to impose a total ban on the animal shows in circus and roadside shows?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of India had imposed a ban on exhibition and training of certain species of animals under the provisions of Prevention of the Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 (59 of 1960). The aforesaid order has, however, been stayed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. On the request of the petitioners, Hon'ble Court had directed the Ministry to consider the whole issue afresh, keeping in view all the available information on the subject. The Ministry has made following submission to the Court.

(i) The animals, the display of which has been banned by the impugned notification, already in the possession of the circuses may be retained by the circuses provided all the animals which have reached the stage of reproduction are sterilized.

(ii) A status report regarding the animals retained by the circuses is furnished to the Government every three years.

(iii) The cubs and calfs that are born, after the impugned order coming into effect under the order of the Hon'ble High Court, must be handed over by the circuses to the Government. The same principle should apply to lions also. The elephants, horses which can be transported without cages and the birds, which do not require very large cages, can continue to be used for display purposes by the circuses. Regarding use of other animals excluding the banned species, for performances may be drafted and enforced in due course.

(iv) The circuses should display only such animal tricks that do not demean the animals and also do not harm them physically and psychologically.

The aforesaid case is listed for hearing on 3.8.98.

Allotment of TDMA Equipments

3736. SHRI MANJUNATH AYANUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list of telephone connections in Karnataka, district-wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that due to acute shortage of cables, line materials and other equipments, the expansion work of telephone exchanges and allotment of telephone connections have been stagnated in Karnataka;

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

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether telephone exchanges are not working satisfactorily in the State;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Government have received any request for the allotment of TDMA equipments in the State; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) The details of waiting list as on 31.5.98 is given in the attached statement.

(b) to (d) There is no stagnation in the expansion work of telephone exchanges and allotment of telephone connections. Targets for providing new telephone connections during 1997-98 were not only fully achieved but exceeded.

(e) and (f) Telephone exchanges are working satisfactorily in the State.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Projected demand for TDMA equipments for rural areas has been received from various Telecom Circles including Karnataka. As TDMA equipments are under field trial, these will be inducted in the network of DOT after satisfactory field trials.

Statement

The number of persons on the waiting list of telephone connections in Karnataka, district-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Waiting List
1.	Bangalore (Urban)	33,504
2.	Bangalore (Rural)	5,754
3.	Mangalore	22,592
4.	Mysore	8,100
5.	Belgaum	8,438
6.	Hubli	3,526
7.	Kodagu	4,196
8.	Bellary	2,146
9.	Bidar	888
10.	Bijapur	3,768
11.	Gulbarga	2,605
12.	Raichur	2,047
13.	Karwar	4,375
14.	Davangere	3,134
15.	Hassan	5,000
16.	Kolar	5,404
17.	Mandya	3,567
18.	Tumkur	3,983
19.	Chickmagalur	5,540
20.	Shimoga	3,307
Total		1,31,874

M.A.R.R. System

3737. DR. SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether DOT had opted for the inferior multi-access rural radio technology as against the technologically advanced wireless in local loop technology for meeting the VPT target; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Telecast of Soccer World Cup

3738. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Doordarshan had the sole right to telecast live the Soccer World Cup '98;

(b) if so, whether the live telecast was discontinued from the second day onwards depriving the soccer lovers the opportunity to see this international event; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Live telecast was not discontinued from the second day. Only on the second day two matches could not be telecast live due to programme exigencies. From third day onwards, all matches scheduled to be telecast live (41 out of 64) were telecast as per schedule.

(c) Does not arise.

Uplinking Facilities to Indian T.V. Channels

3739. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government recently decided to extend uplinking facilities to Private Indian TV Companies; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and its modus-operandi?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have approved the following scheme:

(i) Indian Satellite Channels which are presently uplinking from abroad and are taking foreign exchange release for this purpose would be permitted to uplink their programmes from Indian soil through Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. only. Indian Satellite Channels, who hold Indian equity of at least 80% and effectively managed by resident Indians would be considered for this purpose.

(ii) Indian Satellite Channels would be initially permitted to uplink their TV signals to both Indian as well as foreign satellites.