

Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 4th August, 1994, agreed without any amendment to the Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1994 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 26th July, 1994."

12. 44 hrs

STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Third Report and Minutes

[English]

SHRI INDER JIT (Darjeeling): I beg to present the Third Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on External Affairs on Passport Facilities and Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating thereto.

12. 45 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE-377

- (i) **Need to provide STD facilities at Tehsil headquarters of Sarguja District in Madhya Pradesh.**

[Translation]

SHRI KHELSAI SINGH (Sarguja): Sir, Sarguja is the second adivasi dominated district of Madhya Pradesh. There are 11 Tehsil headquarters in this district. According to Ministry of Communications, all tehsil headquarters were to be linked with STD facility in 1992-93, but no STD facility has been extended to any of the headquarters so far. The entire telephone system of

Sarguja is decrepit. As a result, there is great resentment among the people of this area.

Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister of Communication that S.T.D. facility may be provided in all tehsil headquarters of this district at the earliest.

- (ii) **Need to Expedite Setting up of a High Power T.V. Transmitter at Chandrapur and Installation of Low Power TV Transmitter in the Tribal District of Maharashtra**

[English]

SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE (Chandrapur): Chandrapur in Maharashtra is a district headquarters with a population of over five lakhs. It is industrially developed area having giant industrial establishments like Asia's biggest Super Thermal Power Station, cement industries like L&T Cement, Manikgarh Cement, A.C.C. Cement, Paper Mills, Steel Plant and over 150 coal mines near about Chandrapur. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting had approved a High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) at Chandrapur under the Doodarshan Annual Plan of 1993-94 in September, 1993 and issued instructions to start work without loss of time. But even after lapse of nearly a year, upgradation work on this TV centre has not yet been started.

People of the tribal backward Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra which consists of mostly tribals have been demanding a Lower Power TV Transmitter or a very Low Power TV Transmitter at Aheri/ Allapalli in Gadchiroli District since the last five years. This Lower Power TV Transmitter will cater to the developmental and entertainment needs of the tribal population of this tribal, backward, naxalite infested southern part of Gadchiroli District of Maharashtra.