

14.26 hrs.

[SHRI TARA SINGH *in the Chair*]

(ii) Need for Allocation of Funds for Repairing and Renovation of National Highway No. 23 particularly between Rourkela and Lathikata in Orissa

[English]

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundargarh): Sir, I draw the attention of the Government to the deteriorating condition of the National Highway 23 mainly between Rourkela and Lathikata. In spite of several requests to the Department, no steps are being taken for the improvement of this Highway. During the last one year, many death cases have been reported due to accident on the Rourkela-Lathikata Highway owing to extremely bad condition of this road. The said National Highway runs through Lathikata Block — a tribal dominated area of Sundargarh district in Orissa which needs the immediate attention of the Government. There is a necessity for a double-lane road from Rourkela to Lathikata.

I request the Government for allotment of funds necessary for the improvement of this Highway mainly between Rourkela and Lathikata immediately.

(iii) Need to set up an Electronic Telephone Exchange at Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR (Bareilly): Chairman, Sir, Bareilly is U.Ps one of the most prominent industrial metropolitan city. Even after having 11,000 telephones here, no electronic exchange has been set up established so far. On

account of this, telephone customers remain worried. For the last several years, an electronic telephone exchange is being demanded in Bareilly and in this regard, agitations have also been held, but till now, no solution has come up for this important problem. Due to this, the revenue of the department is also decreasing. In the absence of necessary facilities, customers are ready to get their telephone disconnected and a good number of the customers have already got their S.T.D. facilities disconnected. The victim of this mismanagement include public representatives, traders and Government officers who have been asking for the solution of this problem.

Therefore, I humbly submit to the Minister of Communications that in view of the requirement of Bareilly town, Government in the public interest should immediately announce setting up a telephone exchange of 10,000 lines.

(iv) Need to convert Telephone Exchange at Hathras into Electronic Exchange

[Translation]

DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL (Hathras): Chairman, Sir, due to the old type of machines filled in the telephone exchanges, telephones remain out of order most of the time as a result of which the customer have to suffer. Central Government has been apprised of the existing situation time and again and on that basis, the Government has decided to convert these exchanges into electronic exchanges and proved C-Dot machines. But till now in the Hathras towards of Aligarh district, this facility has not been made available. In this region, customers are not getting good services and telephones often remain out of order.