

(d) whether the plan to link the four district headquarters of Sikkim by STD facilities is being implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) A 2048 lines electronic exchanges is programmed for Gangtok in this financial year to replace the strowger exchange. This will improve the telecom services at Gangtok.

(b) With the existing assets and workload, Sikkim State does not justify a telecom circle of its own.

(c) For recruitment/promotions to officer grade no consideration is given to the state of origin of the candidate and this information is not maintained.

(d) District headquarter (Gangtok) has already been provided with STD facility. The other 3 District headquarters are programmed to be provided with STD facility in this financial year (1990-91).

Storage Facility for Grapes

7287. SHRI PRAKASH V. PATIL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether grape growers in Maharashtra do not have cold storage facilities for grapes as a result of which thousands of metric tones of grapes are destroyed;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to provide cold storage facilities to the grapes growers in Maharashtra; and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed by Government in this regard:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPEENDRA NATH VERMA):

(a) There are 226 cold storages in Maharashtra having capacity of 1,19,437 tonnes for storing potato, fruits and vegetables, meat, fish and milk products etc. Majority of cold storages in Maharashtra are in private sector accounting for 76.26% of capacity. Reports have not been received that grapes are destroyed on account of want of proper storage facilities in Maharashtra.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Deployment of Mahila Battalion of CRPF

7288. SHRI N. DENNIS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines regarding deployment of Mahila Battalion of the Central Reserve Police Force;

(b) the details regarding the states and Union Territories where they are stationed;

(c) whether they are deployed at the frontiers also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Mahila Battalion of CRPF is utilized by States/UTs for tackling agitation involving women agitators and to perform such other law and order duties as may be assigned to them.

(b) to (d). Four coys. of the Bn. are stationed in Union Territory of Delhi and two coys. are deployed in J&K. None of the coys. are deployed in J&K. None of the coys. are deployed on the borders.