(e) if so, th details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. Shri Unnikrishnan, Minister of Surface Transport and Communication visited Chile and Brazil in March 1990.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e). Not applicable in view of answer to (b) above.

Tamil Refugees from Sri Lanka

7353. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMA-CHANDRAN: SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR: SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPA-THI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what were the reasons for Tamil Nadu Government refusing to grant refuge to the Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka; and

(b) what were the circumstances that led to the refugees being housed in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) The Government of Tamil Nadu refused to accept the Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka, as they apprehended that their presence will pose a law and order problem for the State Government.

(b) The Government of India, in consultation with the Government of Orissa, decided to house these refugees in Koraput District (Orissa), as necessary infrastructure facilities were available there.

Telephone Connections in Orissa

7354. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of applications for telephone connections pending in Orissa, district-wise;

(b) the number of connections given year-wise during the last three years;

. (c) when the backlog is likely to be cleared; and

(d) the steps taken to improved and modernise the telecommunication system in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The information is given in the statement below.

(c) Subject to availability of resources, most of the present backlog is likely to be cleared progressively during 1990-91 and the rest in 1991-92.

(d) Improvement and modernisation programme for Orissa includes the follow-ing:---

- (i) Automatisation of all local manual exchanges.
- (ii) Replacement of all life expired, worn out and unserviceable equipments.
- (iii) Induction of electronic equipments.
- (iv) Ducting of underground cable system.
- (v) Expansion of the network to

(a)

provide telephones practically on demand in all local exchange systems with capacity upto 5000 lines and to contain the waiting period on an average to one year in local exchange systems with a capacity of more than 5000 lines by the end of 8th Plan period. Necessary programme is drawn up or year to year basis in keeping with the availability of funds and equipment each year.

STATEMENT

SI. No.	Name of the District	No. of pending applicants for telephone connections as on 31.3.1990
1	2	3
1.	Balasore	275
2.	Bolangir	15
3.	Cuttack	1244
4.	Dhenkanal	80
5.	Ganjam	352
6.	Kalahandi	52
7.	Keonjhar	63
8.	Koraput	182
9 .	Mayurbhanj	85
10.	Phulbani	—
11.	Puri	1990
12.	Sambalpur	213
13.	Sundargarh	193
	Grand Total	4744

(b)

SI. No.	Year	No. of telephone connections provided
1	2	3
1.	1987-88	3456
2.	1988-89	7014
3.	1989-90	8454
		18924

Telephone Connections in Andaman and Nicobar Islands

7355. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants waiting for telephone connections at Andaman and Nicobar Islands as on 28 February, 1990; and

(b) the action proposed by Government to provide the telephone connections to all the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) 664.

(b) It has been planned to wipe out the existing waiting list during initial years of the 8th Plan and to make telephone connections available practically on demand for the Islands of Andaman & Nicobar by the end of 8th plan.

Appointment of Directors in C-DOT

7356. SHRIJANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: (a) whether Government have appointed two new directors in C-DOT in place of the two who were removed in March, 1990; and

(b) if so, the details of the bye laws, rules and regulations of C-DOT under which they have been appointed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir, temporary.

(b) Rule 14 of C-DOT Rules and regulations regarding appointment of Executive Director and Director is reproduced below:

Rule 14 — Appointment of Executive Director, Directors:

"The appointment of Executive Director and Directors shall be made by invitation by the Committee with the approval of the Chairman of the Council. Subject to the provisions of Rule 17, the Executive Director and Directors shall normally hold office for a period not exceeding five years at a time. Their emoluments, allowances and other conditions of service shall be fixed by the Council."