[Translation]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges into Electronic Exchanges in Sonbhadhra Districts of U.P.

7405. SHRI SUBEDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the telephone exchanges in Shakti Nagar, Renukot. Obra, Churk in Sonbhadhra district and in Chunar, district Mirzapur of Uttar Pradesh are outdated and are not functioning properly; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government for replacing them with new electronic exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). The telephone exchanges are functioning properly. As a part of modernisation it is proposed to instal electronic exchanges in place of existing exchanges during 8th Plan at Chunar, Shakti Nagar, Renukot and Churk subject to availability of equipment.

The existing telephone exchange at Obra is proposed to be further expanded subject to availability of equipment.

[English]

Subsidy to Farmers for Insecticides and Fungicides

7406. SHRI PALAI K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the rate of subsidy for insecticides and fungicides given to farmers is too insufficient:
 - (b) whether Government propose to

increase the rate of subsidy given to farmers;

- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) No, Sr.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Does not arise in view of reply to part (a).

Security Protection to People in New Delhi

7407. PROF SAVITHRI LAKHSMANAN Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of people who sought security protection and were provided with security in New Delhi during the last four months; and
- (b) the number of Members of Parliament, Government officials and common people out of them, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Security arrangements are provided to people on threat perception. 78 people have been given security protection during the last four months. In addition, 24 family members of protected persons have also been provided with security.

(b) The details are furnished below:-