

(a) whether Government are aware of the difficulties faced by fishermen, particularly the fishermen of Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu due to lack of residential accommodation and

(b) if so the steps taken by Union Government to provide assistance out of National Welfare Fund for Fishermen to solve their residential accommodation problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA)  
(a) Yes Sir

(b) Central Government have sanctioned development of 10 model fishermen villages in Tamil Nadu including two fishermen villages in Kanyakumari district during 7th Five Year Plan under Centrally Sponsored Scheme "National Welfare Fund for Fishermen". These model fishermen villages according to the proposal submitted by Government of Tamil Nadu will have 844 houses, 7 community halls, 41 tube wells and 7 credit societies including 150 houses, 1 community hall, 7 tube wells and 1 credit society in Kanyakumari District. An amount of Rs. 37.23 lakh has been released during the 7th Plan.

#### **Expansion of Telephone Exchange in Sholapur District in Maharashtra**

815E SHRI S B THORAT Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received proposals for opening of new post offices, the expansion and development of several telephone exchanges in Sholapur district during current year and Eighth Plan period in Maharashtra

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the proposals under consideration for setting up of new telephone exchanges with STD facilities in the district; and

(d) the time by which these would be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) No proposal has been received for expansion and development of telephone exchange in Sholapur District (MH) during the Eighth Plan. As regards Post Offices, proposals have been received for the current year. The Eighth Plan as such is, however, in the process of formulation.

(b) Post Offices to be opened are at (i) Sayyad Wardwade (ii) Kolgaon (iii) Kanbas and (iv) Umbare.

(c) and (d) At present there is no proposal to open new telephone exchanges. However, one 1000 lines telephone exchange with STD facilities is planned for Pandharpur during 1990-91 in replacement of existing manual exchange subject to availability of equipment. 10 small exchanges are planned for commissioning during 1990-91 with STD facility as a replacement of existing MAX-III and manual exchanges subject to availability of equipment.

#### **Construction of Roads in Maharashtra Under Central Road Fund**

8156 SHRI S B THORAT Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the number of roads in Maharashtra taken up for construction with assistance from Central Road Fund during Seventh Plan,

(b) the number out of them which have been completed so far,

(c) whether there is any proposal for taking more roads in Maharashtra under Central road Fund during 1990-91; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN):** (a) and (b). Fourteen road and Bridge projects have been sanctioned, out of which two have been completed.

(c) and (d). Proposals have been received from Government of Maharashtra for taking up 801 schemes under Central Road Fund during the period 1989-90 and 8th Five Year Plan. The schemes that will be taken up for implementation during 1990-91 have not yet been identified.

#### **Visit of All Party Delegation to Batala**

8157. **SHRI KIRPAL SINGH:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had led a delegation consisting of leaders of different political parties to Batala (Punjab) after Batala killings in April, 1990;

(b) if so, the particulars of the political leaders who participated in the delegation;

(c) whether it is fact that no member of Parliament from Punjab was included in the delegation;

(d) the decision taken by Government after the visit of the delegation?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY):** (a) to (e). The Home Minister visited Amritsar and Batala on April 6, 1990 accompanied by S Shri Kamal Choudhary, Yashwant Sinha and J.S. Aurora, Members of Parliament. S Shri

Harkishan Singh Surjeet and A.S. Malhotra also accompanied the Home Minister.

The Home Minister had reviewed the Law and Order situation and other aspects with the officers of the Government of Punjab and given suitable instructions to face the critical situation out of the activities of the terrorists.

#### **Criteria For Postings in Indian Mission Abroad**

8158. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether there are any criteria laid down with regard to the posting of personnel of the External Affairs Ministry in Indian Embassies and High Commissions abroad; and

(b) If so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL):** (a) and (b). The general criteria for postings of personnel of the Ministry of External Affairs in Indian Embassies and High Commissions abroad comprise functional considerations including suitability for particular posts with reference to experience, background qualifications and language knowledge and, to the extent possible in accordance with the principle of rotation for different categories of stations.

#### **Manufacture of Switching Equipment**

8159. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to involve the private sector as well as foreign companies in the manufacture of switching equipment; and