

villages and 884 habitations etc. Health education programme and demand based sanitation programme are also included in the project. The total estimated cost of the project is Rs.169.97 crores for implementation in five years.

(c) A pre-appraisal mission of the World Bank visited the State in end of March, 1990 for detailed discussions and finalisation of the project. The project will be finalised after appraisal by the World Bank mission approximately in September–October, 1990. Actual implementation of the project will start after conclusion of the agreement with the World Bank.

Purchases by C-DOT

*630. SHRI M.G. SEKHAR:
SHRI R. GUNDU RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether C-DOT made certain purchases from companies based in USA, Singapore and other countries dealing in electronic test equipments, computers, components etc.;

(b) if so, the purchases made and the names of selling companies:

(c) whether any Indian or Indians have any direct or indirect interest in the foreign companies from whom C-DOT made the purchases: and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is ready.

[*Translation*]

Conversion of Telephone Exchanges Into Electronic Exchanges at Dholpur and Bharatpur

*631. SHRI THAN SINGH JATAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to convert telephone exchanges at Dholpur and Bharatpur into electronic exchanges;

(b) if so, the time by which electronic exchange will be installed there;

(c) whether telephone bills issued to telephone users in March, 90 were of excessive amount; if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken to strengthen the organisational set up in view of the large number of the telephone users and difficulties faced by them?

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

(b) During 1991-92 subject to availability of equipment.

(c) Out of 547 users excess billing complaints were received from 157 users during March, 1990. On preliminary inquiry 19 cases were found in order. In the remaining 138 cases provisional bills have been issued based on their past trend.

(d) Officers from Bharatpur Division have been instructed to visit Dholpur regularly.

To strengthen the organisational set up

a Sub-Division will be created as and when justified.

Filling up of SCs/STs Posts

*632. DR. BENGALI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each group lying vacant at present in his

Ministry and since when;

(b) the action being taken to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) The number of posts reserved for SCs and STs in each group, lying vacant at present in Ministry of External Affairs is as follows:

GROUP	SC	ST	Since when lying vacant
1	2	3	4
A	—	—	—
B	1	6	3 from 1986, 2 from 1987 and 2 from 1988
C	5	3	From 1988
D	1	4	2 posts for STs since 1988, 2 posts for STs since 1989 and 1 for SC in 1990

(b) For Group B and C posts, vacancies have been conveyed to Department of Personnel and Training for filling them under the Special Recruitment Drive this year. For Group D posts, applications are being invited from eligible Casual Labourers working in the Ministry. If SC and ST candidates are not available among the Casual Labourers, requisition will be sent to the Employment Exchange for sponsoring SC and ST candidates.

(c) Does not apply

[English]

Portuguese Culture Central at Goa

*633. SHRI YASHWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be

pleased to state:

(a) whether the Portuguese Government has made a request for setting up a cultural centre at Goa under the aegis of the Portuguese Embassy;

(b) if so, whether the request has been agreed to by Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) to (c). The Portuguese Government has made a request for setting up a Cultural Centre at Goa within the ambit of Government of India's policy guidelines on operation of such centres. The matter is under discussion