

THE MINISTER STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) 1389 persons were arrested during 1989.

(b) Action against all the arrested persons has since been initiated. Following measures were taken to book the criminal dealing in drug trafficking:

- (i) Some active drug traffickers/smugglers operating inter-State and also internationally have been identified.
- (ii) Special watch is being maintained at the entry and exit points of the UT of Delhi against drug trafficking.
- (iii) The bail of drug traffickers, who are sent to judicial custody in drug cases is strongly opposed in courts.
- (iv) Cases of major drug traffickers are moved for preventive detention to the Delhi Admn. under the provision of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Expansion and Modernisation of Karungapally Telephone Exchange

6788. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received from the people and organisations for the expansion and modernisation of Karungapally Telephone Exchange;

(b) whether power plant and microwave tower for providing S. T. D. facility have been constructed and if so when; and

(c) the steps taken for implementing the scheme?

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

(b) Yes, Sir by March, 1990.

(c)

(1) In order to expand and modernise Karungapally Telephone exchange it is proposed to replace the present electro-mechanical telephone exchange by an electronic exchange of suitable capacity during 8th Plan period.

(2) For providing STC facility a reliable transmission medium is required between Karungapally and Trivandrum Trunk automatic exchange. The microwave Tower and power plant have been used to commission a UHF link between Karungapally and Quilon. Between Quilon-Trivandrum an optical Fibre link is planned to be commissioned during 1990-91. STD facility would become feasible soon after commissioning of above scheme using the existing automatic exchange.

Problems faced by Mechanised Fishing Industry

6789. SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of mechanised fishing industry in Kerala;