

Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d). As stated in the reply to part (a) above, there has been no progress on this proposal owing to financial constraints.

Separate telecom. and postal circles for Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana

***33. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR :** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a decision has been taken to create separate telecom. and postal circles for Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Haryana by trifurcating the existing North-Western Circles ;

(b) if so, the action taken so far in this regard and the likely date and venue of the creation and location of the separate circles ; and

(c) if not, the likely date by which a decision would be taken and the date with effect from which they would be created ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) *Postal* : Yes, Sir. A decision has been taken to create separate Postal Circles for Himachal Pradesh and Punjab by trifurcating the North-Western Circle.

Telecom : No, Sir.

(b) & (c). *Postal* : Postmasters General, Himachal Pradesh and Punjab will take charge of the two proposed Circles at Ambala. Orders to this effect will be issued as soon as approved officers are available. Thereafter, the headquarters of the two Circles will be shifted to Chandigarh and Simla at a convenient date subject to availability of suitable accommodation and sanction of supporting staff in the light of the present ban on creation of posts.

Telecom : The Government has approved creation of Posts of General Managers for the new Telecom. Circles of Himachal Pradesh and Punjab. Action has to be

initiated for creation of these circles. It is not possible to indicate the likely dates of the creation of new circles.

Production of energy through domestic waste

***34. SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU :** Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is shortage of power supply to industries in almost all the States and whether 'domestic waste' can be used for producing energy ;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to set up 'domestic waste recycling plants' in order to produce energy ;

(c) if so, in which States ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c). Waste recycling plants to produce energy from sewage waste are in operation at Delhi, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh etc. Such plants are also proposed to be set up in cities along the Ganga (under the Ganga Action Plan) and other cities in India. A pilot plant for generation of power from municipal solid wastes is under installation at Timarpur, Delhi. This project on commissioning in March 1987 will incinerate 300 MT of garbage per day and generate 3.75 MWe. Additional power-from-waste plants are also proposed to be set up in other cities in different States. Some individual as well as community and institutional biogas plants linked to latrines for extraction of energy from waste through biogas have also been set up in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Punjab, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, etc. It is proposed to extend this programme so that sanitation as well as energy recovery can be provided in villages as well as towns.

(d) Not applicable.