

1. Inadequate allocation of funds to Telecom. Sector;
2. Delayed/unbalanced supplies of equipment and material from indigenous sources ; and
3. Delay in commissioning of Digital electronic local exchanges (of E-10B type) due to prolonged validation tests.

(d) This is still not finalised as our proposals are still under consideration in the Planning Commission.

**Commissioning of Tellichery Automatic Telephone Exchange**

500. SHRI K. P. UNNIKISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a delay in completion of Tellicherry automatic telephone exchange ; and

(b) if so, the date by which the Exchange will be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWASMIRDHA): (a) There has been a little delay in commencing construction of building for Tellicherry automatic telephone exchange.

(b) The telephone exchange is expected to be commissioned by March, 1988.

**Complaints Regarding Functioning of Telephone Exchanges in Calicut and Cochin.**

501. SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there have been complaints regarding functioning of telephone exchanges in Kerala in

general, and Calicut and Cochin in particular; and

(b) if so, reasons therefor and the steps taken to improve the equipment quality of service ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. There were two complaints regarding functioning of telephone exchange at (i) Pallarivattam ; and (ii) Eda Cochin.

(b) The functioning of telephone Exchanges at Kerala (including Calicut and Cochin) is generally satisfactory. The following steps have been taken to improve the equipment and quality of service further :

- (1) Supervision and inspections are being tightened up.
- (2) Efficiency team visits different exchanges to find out incidence of faults of equipments.
- (3) Replacement of overhead lines by underground cables wherever possible.
- (4) Use of drop wires to replace bare overhead wires to provide connections to subscribers.
- (5) Proper fittings of Distribution points and subscriber offices.
- (6) Recommendation of Committee on Telecommunications are being implemented progressively.

**Expansion of Tele-Communications Facilities During Seventh Five Year Plan Period in Maharashtra**

503. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHEPATIL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up the broad plans for expansion of tele-communication facilities during the Seventh Five Year Plan period ;

(b) if so, the number of new exchanges, PCOs electronic exchanges and new lines that are to be created in Maharashtra ;

(c) the district-wise break up of this plan if available ; and

(d) whether any effort is being made to make the service cheaper ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) : The Plan is still under discussion with the Planning Commission. Detailed plans for the individual territorial/urban units will be finalised only after the plan size has been decided upon.

(d) As of now, there appears to be no possibility of making the service cheaper due to rising investment costs in the coming years.

**Issue of Supplement to the Delhi Telephone Directory**

504. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to issue a Supplement to the Delhi Telephone Directory released recently giving latest telephone numbers of Minister, MPs etc; and

(b) if so, the time by which the supplement will be issued ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b) : Yes, Sir. A

Supplement to Delhi Telephone Directory corrected upto 31.3.1985 including telephone numbers of Ministers, MPs etc. is expected to be available by June, 1985.

**Reservation of the Production of Some Drugs**

505. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian drug sector has proposed for reserving the production of some items of drugs for itself; and

(b) if so, the details of such drugs and Government's decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) and (b) : The Indian Drugs Manufacturers Association has suggested that 138 Bulk Drugs be reserved for companies without foreign equity. Government would take into account all view points while taking a decision regarding changes, if any, in the Drug Policy.

**Taking over of Sick Industrial Units by MRT Companies**

506. SHRI SAIFUDDIN CHOWDHARY : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether MRTP Companies are being asked by Government to take over sick industrial units ;

(b) if so, the response from those companies;

(c) whether any of the industrial units of the MRTP companies have fallensick;

(d) if so, details thereof; and