

(b) to (d). No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Telephone Link between District Towns and State Capital in Gujarat

*115. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the district towns in Gujarat have been linked with the State Capital with telephone services; and

(b) if not, the names of towns which are yet to be linked with this facility?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Import of Solar Pumps

*116. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RURAL RECONSTRUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has approached the Finance Ministry for the import of solar pumps from a company abroad without paying customs duty; and

(b) whether any recommendations have also been made by the Department of Science and Technology for testing and field trials?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO):

(a) No, Sir. This Ministry has not approached the Finance Ministry for import of solar pumps from a company abroad without paying customs duty. However, this Ministry recommended to the Finance Ministry a proposal from M/s. Indian Detonators Limited, (IDL), Chemicals Ltd., for importing the components of 100 solar

pumps without payment of customs duty.

(b) No, Sir. Testing and field trials of solar pumps had been undertaken mainly by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI). However, Department of Science & Technology has been fully associated with the formulation of a project on solar pumps and that Department is represented in the Working Group set up by the Ministry for this purpose.

Damage to Crop due to Floods Cyclone in Gujarat

*117. SHRI AHMED M. PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the extent of damage done to the crops due to floods, cyclone and other natural calamities during the years 1978 and 1979 in various parts of the Gujarat State;

(b) whether the Central Study Team has made certain recommendations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the subsidy given by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE & RURAL RECONSTRUCTION (SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO): (a) 1978: The State Government reported that there were very heavy rains and floods in August, 1978 in certain parts of the State, affecting about 2.55 lakh ha. of cropped area.

1979: On account of floods in August 1979, 4.75 lakh ha. cropped area was reported to have been affected.

(b) and (c). 1978: No Central Team visited the State during 1978 floods.

1979: On the basis of the Report of the Central Team and the recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief thereon the Government of India approved a ceiling of expenditure