

One is artistes. The second category is others who perform functions similar to those performed by Government servants in regular categories. There are eminent people who have retired from there, a special category called Artistes Emeritus. Can we not enlarge that class of Artistes Emeritus, people who have much experience and have received national awards and recognition? And I have suggested, and our Government also, I think, has suggested regional names and State names also. Would the Minister consider this aspect to enlarge this and make use of this and bring out people in this area?

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Sir, the category of what is called producers emeritus—not artists emeritus, but producers emeritus—is a category not within the framework of the regular Government servants or even the staff artists. We create this not only to honour, but to utilise the services of eminent men in the field of performing arts and other arts connected with radio and TV, so that we can utilise their services. The number today is limited, but the suggestion which you have made is worth considering, we will consider it and I can assure you that we will try to utilise the services of eminent artists to the best of our ability.

श्री पी. नामग्याल : पिछले समय में आल इंडिया रीडियो में जो प्रमोशन हुए हैं वह काफी हाट बर्निंग के विषय न रहे हैं। आगे भी डाइरेक्टर जनरल रिटायर हो गए हैं और एक ज्वाइंट सेक्रेटरी साहब उन की जगह आफिशिएट कर रहे हैं। मैं यह जानना चाहूंगा कि यह जो पोस्ट आप फिल अप करने जा रहे हैं वह उसी कैडर से करेंगे या ब्यूरोक्रेट उस की जगह पर रखे जाएंगे? अगर ब्यूरोक्रेट होंगे तो क्यों ऐसा किया जा रहा है।

श्री इंसंत साठे : यह दूसरा सवाल है। यह तो नीति की बात है। डी जी की पोस्ट सेलेक्शन पोस्ट है। यदि इस के जो कर्मचारी हैं उन में कोई एलिजिबल है उस पोस्ट के लिए तो जरूर उस का विचार किया जाएगा वरना ऐसा कोई बैन नहीं है कि डी जी की पोस्ट के लिए कहीं बाहर से या दूसरे सरकारी विभाग से व्यक्ति नहीं लिया जा सकता। ऐसा

कोई प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है। तो सब चीजों का विचार किया जाएगा और उसी के मूताबिक डी जी की पोस्ट भरने की कोशिश की जाएगी।

Expansion of Tele-Communication Services

*435. **SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether certain schemes are under implementation for the expansion of telecommunication services;

(b) if so, the names of those schemes under which expansion of telecommunication services are going on;

(c) the names of the States where those expansion programmes have been covered; and

(d) the States where the above expansion programmes is proposed to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL): (a) to (d). The Sixth Five Year Plan (1980—85) for telecommunications covers the entire country encompassing all the States and Union Territories. The schemes included in the plan for expansion of telecommunication services are at various stages of implementation. A statement indicating the physical and financial targets is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The 6th Five Year Plan for Telecommunications (1980—85) is an integrated development plan for the entire country encompassing all the States and Union Territories. The main projects included in the telecommunication expansion plan are for providing 13.30 lakh new telephone connections, opening of 20,000 new public call offices and an equal number of telegraph offices. The expansion programme includes provision of long distance switching facilities and expansion of long distance transmission media by installation

of more microwave radio relay systems and coaxial systems. An introduction of electronic switching technology in the telecommunication sector would also be made during the 6th Plan. The expansion programme also provides for satellite com-

munication systems to be set up during the Plan period.

2. The details of the various plan schemes and the financial outlay earmarked are indicated below:

(a) *Salient Physical targets of the plan:*

Item	Target for the period 1980-85
1. Local Telephone System :	
1. 1 Switching Capacity (lakh lines)	14.80
1. 2 DELs (lakh lines)	13.30
1. 3 Telephone Exchanges (Nos.)	3500
2. Long Distance System :	
2. 1 TAXs (Pmy & secddy) Nos.	40
2. 2 TAX Capacity (Lines)	94770
2. 3 STD Routes (Pt. to Pt.) Nos.	60
2. 4 Manual Trunk Boards (Nos.)	2500
2. 2 Long Distance Transmission System	
2. 2. 1 Coaxial Cables (Route Kms.)	12000
2. 2. 2 Microwave (Route Kms.)	16000
2. 2. 3 U.H.F. (Route Kms.) a. 60 Chl. Capacity.	14000
b. Small Capacity	6750
2. 2. 4 Open Wire Channel (Nos.)	7500
2. 2. 5 Satellite Earth Stations (Nos.)	28
3. Open Wire Telegraphs :	
3. 1 Telegraph office (Nos.)	20000
3. 2 L. D. PCOs (Gross)	20000
3. 3 Telex Exchanges (Nos.)	100
3. 4 Telex capacity (lines)	
a. Local	22500
b. Transit	13000
3. 5 Telex connections	18300
3. 6 VFT Channels (Nos.)	7000

b) *Financial outlays of the telecommunication plan 1980-85*

(Rs. Crores)

Plan Scheme	Total Plan Outlay
1. Local Telephone Systems	1242.00
2. 1 Long Distance Switching	170.00
2. 2 Long Distance Transmission	407.00
2. 3 Insat & Intelsat*	63.00
3. Open wire & Telegraphs including TELEX	226.00
4. 1 Other Land & Bldgs (Staff Qrs. & Administrative Offices)	120.00
4. 2 Telecommunication Research Centre, Testing and other Organisations.	108.00**
Grand Total:	2336.00

Note:* An amount of Rs. 51.65 crores relating to space segment will be made available in addition to outlays shown in this statement vide Planning Commission L. O. No. T & C-5 (5) /80 dated 13-1-81.

**This includes Rs. 40 crores for TRC (S&T).

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Sir, it is seen that about parts (c) and (d) of the question the Minister has not said anything. I think he means to say that the entire country comprises the expansion programme.

Sir, about the facility of a micro-wave link of the Doordarshan programme, I would like to know whether this programme is included in the expansion programme or not. If so, why Orissa has not yet been approved for this purpose, although the micro-wave link between Calcutta and Madras can easily be tapped? Also, I would like to know whether the Government to Orissa has brought this specifically to the notice of the Ministry of Communications.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): Sir, it is already included in the Sixth Five-Year Plan and if the honourable lady Member has seen the statement which is laid on the Table of the House, it appears that in item No. 2.2.2 the microwave route kilometres are 16,000. So far as Orissa is concerned, I would like to mention that in the Sixth Plan so far as Orissa is concerned, five stations are included in the Orissa Circle.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Names of the stations?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Regarding the names of the stations, I will give to the hon. Member later on.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: When will this be done?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: This will be done in the Sixth Plan.

SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Is there any programme to cover all the district headquarters of the Country with STD facilities, with definite time schedule? If so, what is the time limit? Would the cyclone-prone areas, at least, be covered within the time schedule? What are the details?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, there is already a proposal to give automatic telephone exchanges to all the district headquarters. Because, without the automatic telephone exchanges, STD facility cannot be extended and therefore, that will be covered in the Sixth Plan and the Seventh Plan.

PROF. N. G. RANGA: What about the cyclone-prone area?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: I said, it will be done as early as possible.

SHRI BHERAVADAN K. GADHAVI: So far as the system of tele-communication is concerned, it is very good that we are expanding. But the hon. Minister would not take it offensive if I say that the communication system is neither tele nor communicable. We hear a lot of complaints. Almost all telephones are not working whether STD or local call. Besides implementing the new schemes, may I know whether the Government would take it seriously because it affects every common man? Would the Government take it seriously either to replace the instruments which are presently existing or see that at least the telephone of every person is appropriately working? For that, what special attention the Government is paying?

AN. HON. MEMBER: It is now an old issue.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, it has been answered earlier. There is some difficulty. If we examine the system in the country, from 1948, one year after when we achieved independence, upto now—in 1948 there were only 82,000 lines capacity in the country whereas at present, it is 26 lakh capacity in this country. This is 28 times expansion. There is an expansion to the extent of 28,000 this year also. Sir, there is a considerable demand because of the industrialisation of the rural areas in this country. We are not in a position to meet the demand which is expanding every day because of the low production in the factories. To put a factory and to start production, it takes some time. During this period, the Government of India has done much in this area. Even then, we are not satisfied. We are putting two Digital Electronic Factories in the Sixth Plan and the Seventh Plan and also we are expanding the Palghat Factory to the tune of 1.5 lakh lines and 2 lakh lines in Rae Bareilly, Indian Cross-Bar System. When all these factories and units are commissioned, it will start production. And there will be some ease and by the end of the Sixth Plan or the Seventh Plan, we will be in a position to meet the demand.

SHRI VIRBADHRA SINGH: It is a matter of regret that even after 34 years

of independence, there are two district headquarters and many sub-divisional headquarters in my constituency, namely, District Lahaul & Spiti and District Kinnaur, which are still without any tele-communication facilities. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any definite programme in the Sixth Five Year Plan to provide with tele-communications to, at least, district headquarters and also other category of stations such as sub-divisional headquarters. There was also a proposal for setting up of an Earth Station at Kulu, Keylong and Kalpa which fall within my constituency, Mandi, Himachal Pradesh. I want to know what progress has been made in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): The point has already been stated by my hon. colleague that the scheme of priority is that the State capitals must be linked up with the capital of the nation, and the district headquarters must be linked up with the State capital and the sub-divisional headquarters must be linked up with the district headquarters. With that, a scheme has been framed up, a well laid-out scheme is there and we are implementing it. It is our expectation that by the end of Sixth Five Year Plan, every one of the district headquarters will be linked up with the State capitals and we will be able to do that.

A mention was made, on the one side about the deterioration and unsatisfactory functioning and the demand on the other. A suggestion was made that is it no use expanding unless you improve the quality. But the fact of the matter is that these two are inter-linked. The point is, unless there is sufficient equipment available to meet the demand in different segments, whatever be the effort, the satisfactory working becomes difficult. We are extremely short of our requirement in every area. In switch gear equipment we are short; in telephone instruments we are short; in transmission lines we are short and in TAS equipment we are short. In everyone of the areas we are very badly short of requirement. Therefore, the main effort is to build up our capacities to produce whatever we need to the extent of our requirement. We are succeeding in it.

We have already set up our expansion programme production unit at Rae Bareilly. The production is starting in the month of October. We are also setting up our expansion production of 1 million electronics switch gear equipment of which 0.5 million has been signed and the rest is being signed. As regards telephone instrument, we are at the final stage of collaboration agreement to set up a factory. As regards TAS connection, we are at the final stage of collaboration agreement to set up the factory.

I am submitting that the expansion is taking place in a very large measure with a perspective planning of having sufficient equipment to meet the demands from all over the country. Unless that is done, there will be insufficiency in the matter of transmission lines.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Himachal Pradesh?

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN: Please bear with me. If you want to hear me, you bear with me.

In the matter of suffocation, there is suffocation in the exchange with about 25 lakhs lines working and 8 lakh lines on the waiting list. That means, more than 1/4 of the total working is on the waiting list; the exchange is completely suffocated and it is difficult to get along. It is this fundamental problem that we are handling and we are succeeding in it. We will be able to improve the question of meeting the shortage. The moment that is met, the shortage will be wiped out.

As far as the question that was asked, I submit that district headquarters will be linked up with the State headquarters. With respect to earth stations, some have already been established. About the rest of it, I am not in a position to answer immediately.

Broadcast of Oriya news Bulletin

*436. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Oriya news bulletin at 1.20

P.M. from New Delhi A.I.R. Station could not be relayed by the local A.I.R. Station, Cuttack for two consecutive days viz. on 9 to 10 July, 1982 and instead 'Flute' recital was on the air;

(b) if so, the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) the specific steps taken against the persons responsible to prevent such occurrences in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 9-7-82 the Oriya News Bulletin at 1.20 P.M. was not relayed by the Cuttack Station because of non-availability of Short-wave Frequencies due to radio fade out caused by sudden ionospheric disturbances. On 10-7-82, the bulletin was not relayed from 1.21 P.M. to 1.25 P.M. because of a technical trouble at the transmitter.

(c) Once the net-working plan of the AIR Stations becomes complete, these will become a thing of the past.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Sir, this question is very important for the State of Orissa because for the two consecutive days this regional station could not relay from Delhi the Oriya News Bulletin at 1.20 P.M. The hon. Minister has stated that due to ionospheric disturbances, this could not be relayed. Secondly, he stated that it was because of a technical trouble at the transmitter tower. May I ask the hon. Minister whether this technical difficulty at the transmitter tower could not be removed knowing that the previous day this incident took place and why precautionary measures could not be taken to have the regional language news relayed properly at the fixed time?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): The two things are different. Although as a coincidence, they came one after the other, ionospheric disturbance is a rare phenomenon and this happens. That also affected only the short wave. It affects