

Demand for STD Service from Nasik

525. DR. DAULATRAO SONUJIAHER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is demand for providing STD services from Lasalgaon, Sinner, Saitana, Deota, Chandor and Pimpalgaon in Nasik district (Maharashtra);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when this demand will be met?

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

(b) Plans have been drawn up for providing electronic exchanges at these places. Also reliable transmission media have been planned for linking these stations to the nearest Trunk Automatic Exchange.

(c) During the 8th plan period.

[*Translation*]

Research Centres for Tobacco and Sugarcane

526. SHRI DASAI CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large quantities of tobacco and sugarcane grown in Rosera Parliamentary Constituency in Bihar go waste due to the absence of research centre there; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to set up a research centre in this area in the interest of tobacco and sugarcane growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF

AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) ICAR has provided adequate research support for sugarcane to Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar. For tobacco, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is having a sub-station under Central Tobacco Research Institute at Pusa, Bihar which is catering to the needs of the Tobacco growers of the area.

There is no proposal at present to set up additional research centres for tobacco and sugarcane in Rosera Parliamentary constituency in Bihar.

STD Service between Delhi and Saharsa Region of North Bihar

527. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether S.T.D. service between Delhi and Saharsa region of North Bihar is defective causing great inconvenience to the people;

(b) if so, the reasons there for; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to remove these faults?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*English*]

Sri Lankan Refugees

528. DR. VENKATESH KABDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state: