

true concept of delicensing. The actual concept of delicensing is to encourage small and new entrepreneurs in the field and break up the monopoly of big industrialists. Why do the Government encourage them? Why do you give them clearance? New entrepreneurs deserve to get this clearance.

[English]

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: I think the hon. Member is mentioning about the tyre industry.

SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: No, Shri Datta Samant has already told about that.

SHRI J. VENGAL RAO: In this industry, Birlas are not there.

[Translation]

Introduction of S.T.D. Facility

*723. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of new places in the country in respect of which it has been decided to provide STD facility and the date by which it will be introduced; and

(b) the names of other places which are under consideration for providing STD facility in near future?

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHARGOMANGO): (a) and (b). A statement is given below:

STATEMENT

(a) The names of stations in the country which are likely to be provided with STD facility during 1989-90 are given in the Annexure 'A' below:-

(b) The names of the other places which

are under consideration for providing STD facility in future are given in Annexure 'B' below:-

ANNEXURE - A

- A. Along, Anini, Amalapuram, Akiveedu, Attili, Aurangabad (Bihar), Arsekere, Amabalathera, Alibag, Azamgar, Ambajipeta.
- B. Bomedilla, Barpeta Town, Bhuj, Botad, Bharuch, Bilaspur (H.P) Badgaum, Betul, Balaghat, Bhandara, Bheed, Buldana, Bassin, Bishenpore, Bhawanipatna, Bolangir, Banswara, Barmer, Bhilwara, Ballia, Bhairach, Baranbaki, Balurghat, Bankura, Berhampur (W.B).
- C. Chandrapur, Chapi, Chikhli, Chamba, Chelari, Changala, Chindwara, Chhattarpur Chandel, Churachadpur, Churu, Chittorgarh, Cuddalore, Chamoli, Car Nicobar.
- D. Daporijo, Dharmavaram, Diphu, Dumka, Dungri, Dabwali, Doda, Damoh, Dungarpur, Deoria, Diu.
- E. Elathur.
- F. Farukhabad.
- G. Golpara, Golaghat Gutty, Gadwal, Gopal Gunj, Godda, Gumla, Gavgavathi, Guna, Gondia, Gad-Chiroli, Gurdaspur, Goraya, Geyzing.
- H. Himmat Nagar, Hardoi, Hardwar, Hodal, Hoskote, Haripad.
- J. Jahanabad, Jadcherla, Jind, Jhabua, Jalore, Jaiselmer, Jhalawar, Jhunjhunu, Jhansi, Jalpaiguri, Jajpur Road.
- K. Khonsa, Kodad, Karimganj, Kokrajhar, Khagaria, Kodinar, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, Kumta, Kampli, Kalpa, Keylong, Kulu,

- Kathua, Kargil, Kupwara, Kasargod, Kanjirapally, Kunnamangalam, Kurunagapally, Kondotti, Kondassan, Kadavu, Koothattukulam, Khargaon, Katni, Kailashahar, Kannauj, Kothapeta, Khurda.
- L. Lakhimpur, Lohardaga, Leh.
- M. Mancherial, Madnapuram, Mangaldoi, Madhopura, Mehhdabad, Modsa, Mandi, Mandya, Mavelikara, Manjeswar, Munderoor, Mulankunathukavu, Mandala Mapuca, Mon, Mokokchung, Mongan, Manapparari, Memary,
- N. Nalbari, Nowgong, Narasapur, Nandesari, Narnaul, Narwana, Narsingpur, Nongston, Naya Bazar, Narindernagar.
- P. Passighat, Puttur, Pithapuram, Padra, Palwal, Pulwama, Parapangadi, Pampady, Ponkunnam, Panna, Parbhani, Phek, Poonch, Patalganga, Ponda.
- Q. Quilandy
- R. Rajouri, Rajgarh, Raisen, Rattlam, Raj Nand Gaon, Ratnagiri, Ropar, Radhakishapur, Rudrapur,
- S. Sahrsa, Sitamarai, Sahebganj, Samalka, Saklespur, Shahdol, Shajapur, Sidih, Shivpuri, Senapati, Sikar Sawai Madhopur, Solan, Sirpur Kagaz Nagar, Shad Nagar.
- T. Tezu, Twang, Twzpur, Tiptur, Trikarapur, Tikamgarh, Tamenlong, Thoubal, Tuensang, Tonk, Tumsar.
- U. Una, Ukhral, Uttarkashi, Uruti-kanchan.
- V. Vasad, Vedakkoncherry, Valappad, Vridhachalam.
- W. Williamnagar, Wokha.

- Y. Yerranuntla.
- Z. Ziro, Zunheboto.

ANNEXURE 'B'

- A. Ankaleshwar, Anjar, Amethi, Arankadanallur.
- B. Bhongiri, Baula
- C. Cherla, Chennimalai, Cortalam, Contai
- D. Damanjodi.
- G. Godavarikhani, Gondal, Gamdevi, Gonda
- I. Ichalkaranji.
- J. Jatni, Jamkhandi.
- K. Kothakota, Katras Garh, Konaje, Khamgaon, Khopoi, Kayalpattinam, Krisangiri, Kallahurichi.
- L. Loyabad.
- M. Manavdar, Mandideep, Melur, Metturdam, Mau Nath Bhanjan, Malegaon.
- N. Nandapetta.
- P. Ponner, Parwanoo, Pilani, Paltan.
- R. Rabkavi.
- S. Seppa, Siddipet, Satara Saiha, Sankar Nagar.
- T. Ttrapore, Tiruchendur, Tuckalay.
- V. Vikramasingapuram.
- Y. Yercaud.

[Translation]

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Bhandara district, to which I

belong is a backward district. Though cables were laid in Bhandara, Tumsar and Gondia a year back yet the facility of STD has not so far been provided in these areas. The statement contains the names of those places in the country where this facility is likely to be provided by the year 1989-90. I do not understand the meaning of 'likely'. I would urge the hon. Minister to provide this facility at least in the backward areas by the year 1989-90 positively. This will be in tune with Government's policy to set up industries in backward areas. But industrial units cannot be set up there until facilities of communication are provided. I would like to know from the hon. Minister how long it would take to provide the facility of STD in Bhandara, Tumsar and Gondia.

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): Sir, all the State capitals were linked with STD on priority basis. Now the Government is making efforts to link 447 district headquarters with state headquarters during the current year 309 districts have already been linked and the remaining are likely to be linked during this year itself. Efforts are being made to provide this facility to the areas named by the hon. member wherever it is possible. Once the district headquarters are linked with the State headquarters, we shall take up other places for providing this facility. But our first priority is to link the district headquarters.

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the name of Bhandara, Gondia and Tumsar have been mentioned in Annexure (A). All these three districts are backward. Cables were laid there one and a half year back. Not only this, even microwave line passes through that area and the pillars for micro-wave have been raised but STD facility has not yet been provided to these backward district so far. Therefore, I would urge the hon. Minister to take measures in this regard. I have already raised this issue many times through question and under Rule 377 and I was assured that the demand would be fulfilled very soon, but nine years have been since passed. How long would it

take for the execution of this work?

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in reply to part (a) of the question, I have said that the work would be accomplished during the current year.

SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI: This year may mean even March 1990.

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: In 1989-90.

[*English*]

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI: Sir, this matter is regarding STD facility. I am coming from a district called Golaghat of Assam. It is not that there are no telephones there. There are telephones but they are always found dead. In the last two occasions, two incidents took place in Assam-Nagaland border. Because of the Communication lapse and the bad system, the authorities in Delhi and Dispur could not be contacted in proper time about the incidents, Many people had lost their lives alongwith their property. Recently, 30 people lost their lives. Because of the lapse of the communication system, they could not be protected. at Sarupathar in Dhansari sub-division, telephones right from their inception remain dead. The people, that is the business community surrendered their telephones to the authorities in a funeral procession. In spite of that no action has been taken as yet. What to speak of STD facility from the State Headquarters to the District Headquarters when even the local telephones are not functioning? In spite of the assurance given to us, we do not think that they are going to do it. The entire communication system is worse in Assam. We have been raising this matter time and again. We have been assured by the Minister but no action has been taken. Are there any authorities to look after these problem?

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER You please sit down. I would stop questions. This is not the way to do?

[English]

SHRI BHADRESWAR TANTI : Sir, this is preamble before putting the question. Many I know from the hon. Minister as to what action is proposed to be taken to improve the communication system in Golaghat as well as in Assam? Sir, this is a border district.

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You have repeated the same thing five times. This makes your question ineffective. It is a matter of STD. You should provide your assistance.

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: Sir, it is true that our old telephone exchanges and strozer technology are outdated and they are being replaced. We are replacing the old technology with the new one. But it is a time consuming process and there are some difficulties in it. I myself feel that the old exchanges are not functioning well. We are making efforts of improve the system by introducing electronic equipment so that we may not have to face the difficulties. So far as the matter of Golaghat is concerned, I would take measures to improve facilities. So, far Assam is concerned (*Interruptions*) We have done one thing. We have given priority to not only Assam but whole of the North-East. We are going to make efforts to improve the telephone system.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Without my permission nothing is going on record. You are not authorised to speak without my permission. You must be very patient. Not like this .

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW : Sir, it is true STD facilities are available now. But there are districts in West Bengal only within 15 kms. from Calcutta—the district headquarters of Barasat and Barrackpore where not to speak of STD facility, even regular service is not available. No one can contact over telephone from Calcutta within 15 kms. radius particularly from Barasat and Barrackpore. There are so many similar difficulties. May I

know from the Hon. Minister, apart from STD facility—of course we are happy about STD—what the Minister is proposing to do to improve the regular facilities within 15 kms. radius of the big cities like Calcutta and Madras? What steps is he proposing to take in this regard?

MR. SPEAKER: It is the same question which Mr. Tanti had already put. It is obsolete equipment that has to be replaced. He has already replied.

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW: STD facilities may be given or not, but my question is whether the regular service can be improved.

[Translation]

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Mr. Speaker, whether it is a fact that many hon. Members of this House have complained to you that when they go back to their constituencies after the end of session their telephone connections are misused in Delhi by some people who get their S.T.Ds connected to their telephones. The M.Ps come to know of it when they return from their constituencies.

I know that a number of businessmen of Delhi get their telephones connected with the telephones of Members and the latter come to know about it from the telephone bills, when they come back. For months when we are away in our constituencies and no one lives in our flats at least in some cases—even then the telephone bills are heavy. I had made this complaint earlier also and Prof. Ranga had supported it and asked the Government to enquire about it. I would like to know whether the Government has conducted any enquiry in this regard? If so, what steps have been taken to check it?

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: Enquiry is conducted on every complaint and reply is also given. We have adopted a new system. In all electronic exchanges we shall provide codes to the people. This will enable them to switch on and switch off the STD facility, when ever required. There will be no possibility of complaints after that. Besides, we

are making efforts to check such complaints in future.

MR. SPEAKER: We can also show the numbers.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: One minutes . I am speaking. Why can't you do it properly ? In that billing the number should be shown as is done in other countries also. Whatever you may connect it is numbered on the bill. Here it is only a local call and you are not able to pinpoint.

[Translation]

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: It is done in the telephones under electronic exchanges and not in others.

DR. PRABHAT KUMAR MISHRA: The hon. Minister has said that this facility is being provided in district headquarters on the priority basis. I would like to know whether S.T.D. facility will be provided in big industrial cities, such as Korba, which lies in my constituency. It is surprising that even though a public sector company has paid huge sum of money to the telecommunications department, it has not been connected with S.T.D. facility, though that place has vast resources of coal and produces maximum electricity. Whether any efforts are being made in this regard, because the officials have to travel to Delhi by air for negotiations, due to the non-availability of S.T.D. facility. They are under acute pressure on account of it. Whether any arrangement is being made in this regard?
(Interruptions)

SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH: This is true. I will look into your complaint.

[English]

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: The priority in the 7th Plan is to connect district headquarters with State capitals. As regards STD we have given so far more than 700

places Korba, being an important place in Madhya Pradesh needs STD facility, but on the basis of the priority accorded during 7th Plan, and the equipment availability as well as the technical feasibility, we are providing STD facilities. The industrial towns and other important places have priority, but as the equipment is not available to connect all the district headquarters, we are only connecting district headquarters on the route from one main point to another where it is technically feasible.

Setting up Tidal Power Generation Projects in Andhra Pradesh

*725. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any places along the East Coast of Andhra Pradesh have been found suitable for setting up power projects to generate power from tidal waves;

(b) if so, the names of these places; and

(c) the steps proposed to generate power from tidal waves at these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The possibilities of harnessing tidal energy for power generation in the country have so far been identified only in Gulf of Kutch and Gulf of Cambay on the West Coast in Gujarat and the Delta of Ganga in Sunderbans in West Bengal.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Sir, in the East Coast along Andhra Pradesh, several times cyclone and tidal waves are occurring. In fact, when we examine the incidence of cyclone and tidal waves over a long period of time, it is found that several times it has occurred in the East Coast near Machhalipatnam and Delta of Krishna river. I would like to know whether the Government will make an in-depth study of the possibilities of generating energy from