

ilities which would qualify for Central assistance are : approach roads, water works, effluent discharge system, common utilities and facilities, power sub-stations, drainage, culverts, industrial housing and additional facilities that are normally provided in growth centres by the State Government. One-third is to be provided by the State Government, and one-third comes from the Industrial Development Bank of India at concessional rates of interest.

**SHRI ANAND GAJAPATHI RAJU :**  
The hon. Minister was mentioning some criteria for developing industries in backward areas ; but I would like to mention that the per capita income and other figures also should be taken into consideration ; and when the industrial policy is decided, then also dispersal of industry to backward areas should be done in a very scientific manner, because to-day it is being done, but not very scientifically and properly.

**SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :**  
The hon. Member has given a suggestion for revising the norms. Since this Inter-Ministerial Group has already been constituted we will communicate the suggestion of the hon. Member to that Group. They will take it into consideration while finalizing their recommendations.

**SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :** My experience of five years has been that several times, suggestions have been made and answers have been given, and recommendations have been given by this House—not for having Centrally-declared backward districts, but for Centrally—declared backward talukas, i. e. for bringing it down to taluka level. Will this suggestion be considered by this Group itself ?

**SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN :**  
This Group will take this aspect also into consideration.

#### **Modernisation of the Telecommunication Network**

\*395. **SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :**  
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether France had offered to assist in the improvement and modernisation of the telecommunication network in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the said proposal ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

**SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :**  
Mr. Speaker, Sir, as per the reply given by the hon. Minister, the answer to first part of my question automatically answers the second part of my question. But the 'Nav Bharat Times' dated 11th June, 1985 had carried this news report :

'French collaboration in improving Telephone Services in Metropolitan cities'

Paris 10 June : France has put forth a proposal for bringing about extensive improvement and modernisation of Telecommunication network in Bombay, Delhi, Calcutta and Madras. France has also given a proposal to provide loan for the entire programme. The scheme involves a cost of Rs. 125 crores.

This proposal was made during the talks between the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi and the France Telecommunications Minister and Shri Gandhi has given a hint that he would consider it.

A senior officer in the French Ministry of Telecommunication told that the French Digital system was in use in 49 countries the world over. This official told that France has installed 23 Telephone Exchanges in India and that it can also help in the modernisation of telecommunications.....

**MR. SPEAKER :** Listen to me, are you here for asking questions or for reading newspapers ?

**SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :** I am asking the question...

**MR. SPEAKER :** Do you rely more on newspaper or on the information given in the House ?

**SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :** I want to know whether the Prime Minister has said these things or not ?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** It is not proper to go into what the Prime Minister has said to whom, but this matter, as the hon. Member is putting, has not come up before us at any level.

**SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY :** I would like to know from the hon. Minister how many telephone exchanges have so far been installed by France in India and how are they functioning ? Has any other country also come forward with a proposal for bringing about improvement and modernisation of the telecommunication network in India ? If so, the details there of and Government's reaction thereto ?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** Our country has entered into an agreement with France to improve telephone system and there are one or two more agreements in this connection under which we have imported two lakh lines from there which are being installed. Besides, an industry has been set up in Mankapur (Uttar Pradesh) with annual installed capacity of five lakh lines which is likely to be commissioned shortly. We have also entered into other agreements with France which relate to research etc. Other countries have not come forward with a definite proposal as to how and to what extent they can assist us in improving our telephone system,

*(Interruptions)*

*[English]*

**SHRI K. R. NATARAJAN :** There are about more than one lakh telephone connections in Madras. Often they are going out of order. Is there any proposal for installing sophisticated telecommunication system in Madras to perfect this system ; if so, when ?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** The question does not arise out of this. But I can assure the hon. member that telephone services in Madras are very much in our mind and constant efforts are made to improve the services. New exchanges are being installed and others are being replaced, and we are trying to see that improvement takes place.

**SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY :** What about Delhi and other places ?

**SHRI UTTAM RATHOD :** On the one hand government is thinking of modernising the telecommunication network and on the other we have been told that very shortly we will have the hexagonal scheme. But, at the same time, we have come to know that the government has asked the Department to go slow, as far as the hexagonal scheme is concerned. How far is it true ?

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** Our Department projected a plan of about Rs. 13,000 crores. The planning Commission Working Group reduced it to Rs. 11,000 crores, and the present indications from the Planning Commission are that the amount to be allocated would be much less. So, it is bound to happen that many schemes perhaps will be affected.

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** It is frequently coming out in newspapers and others journals that 50 per cent of the revenue of the Telephone Department is because of its inefficiency, because to get the same line people have to dial two or three wrong numbers and then they get the right number. Now, if the Telephone Department increases its efficiency and people get the line on one dialing, by how much the revenue will go down ? Has the Department assessed it ?

**AN HON. MEMBER :** This is a common sense that they will not improve their efficiency.

*(Interruptions)*

**MR. SPEAKER :** How are they going to make it up ?

**SHRI AMAL DATTA :** Let them say if they have got any assessment. Why do they not improve their services ?  
(*Interruptions*)

**SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA :** If we improve our services, for example, if the percentage of trunk-calls going through and becoming effective is increased, naturally our revenue will increase. To say otherwise, that the calls will give us a lot of revenue is completely misunderstanding the whole situation.

#### **Amendment of the Societies Registration Act**

\*396. **SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to amend the Societies Registration Act, which was brought on the statute book as back as in 1860, with a view to bring it in line with the changed conditions ; and

(b) if so, what are the proposed amendments and when a bill to amend the Act will be introduced ?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

**SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH :** Since Independence how many amendments have been made in the 1860 Act ? What are the major suggestions given to the Government either by the elected representatives or institutions or the public at large for amending this 1860 Act ?

**THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) :** So far as the Societies Registration Act of 1860 is concerned, it has undergone a lot of change after the Constitution came into force. After its coming into force the subject

matter relating to societies has devolved on the State Government by virtue of List II Entry 32 of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. Some of the State Governments have adopted the 1860 Act with necessary modifications. Some of the States like Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Meghalaya have passed their own legislations. So, since the State Governments are fully empowered under the Constitution to pass necessary legislation in this behalf, the question of our amending the Act does not arise and we have not issued any proposal in this behalf.

#### **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

[*English*]

#### **Manufacture of Poisonous Pesticides**

\*397. **SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :** Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that THIMET 10-G manufactured by one of the multinationals M/s. Cyanamid India Ltd : is a highly poisonous pesticide with a very low Dermal/Oral LD-50 value ;

(b) if so, whether Government ensure the safe use of the product before its coming in the market by testing it in some Government Laboratory with particular reference to Dermal/Oral LD-50 value ;

(c) whether samples had been drawn from the market for testing and checking Dermal/Oral LD-50 value, and if so, what were the results of such testing ; and

(d) whether Government propose to ban this product, which is equally toxic at TIMIC, which was produced by Union Carbide and had been banned recently after Bhopal tragedy ?

**THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) :** (a) and (b) : Thimet is the trade name used by M/s,