

For STD Facility

The district headquarters are priority stations for connecting them on STD with respective State Capitals. However, the prerequisites for provisions of STD from a station are :

- (i) Installation of automatic exchange of appropriate type at that station.
- (ii) Availability of reliable transmission medium including multiplexing equipment required for linking that station to national network.
- (iii) Availability of appropriate terminations in the Trunk Automatic Exchange to which the station is to be connected.
- (iv) Availability of required terminating equipment in the local exchange at that station.

For Telegraph Link

The norms for teleprinter link between two departmental Telegraph Offices are based on traffic and distance. A teleprinter link is provided when—

- (i) the telegraph operations exceed 50 per day and the distance is upto 200 Kms.
 - (ii) the telegraph operating exceed 200 per day and the distance is between 201 to 2000 Kms.
 - (iii) the telegraph operations exceed 300 per day and the distance as over 2000 Kms.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c)(i) STD link for Azamgarh is likely to be provided after commissioning of the transmission system towards the end of the 7th plan.
- (ii) Azamgarh is already connected Delhi via Microprocessor based Store and Forward System located at Varanasi.

Steps by Telephone Nigam to meet monsoon threat

617. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Telephone Nigam, Delhi has taken steps to meet the monsoon threat; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the other proposals to make the telephone service up-to-date in metro and other big cities of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The details of the steps taken are given in the Statement given below.

(b) The other important steps taken to make telephone service upto-date in metro and other big cities of the country are : replacement of outlived exchanges, induction of electronic local and trunk exchanges, digital microwave, Coaxial and PCM interchange junctions circuits, computerisation of various telecommunication services.

Statement

The important measures taken to ensure faultless functioning of the telephones during monsoon

- (i) Pressurisation of cables which enables immediate detection of cable damage and its rectification preventing cable break-downs.
- (ii) Use of jelly filled cables to prevent ingress of moisture.
- (iii) Patrolling of cable routes to monitor road digging operations and immediate detection of the cable damage.
- (iv) Flooding of trenches to detect damages before these are closed.
- (v) Laying of main cables in ducts to protect these from external damages.

- (vi) Formation of inter-utility coordination boards to have close liaison with the other utility services working in the vicinity of underground cables for avoiding damages to telephone cables.
- (vii) Use of sophisticated fault localisation instrument to get accurate and quick results.

Shortage of alcohol

618. SHRI S. G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is scarcity of alcohol in the country;
- (b) if so, to what extent;
- (c) whether Government are importing duty-free industrial alcohol; and
- (d) if so, to what extent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b). As per the projections made by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations at the time of last meeting of Central Molasses Board on 22.2.86, the estimated availability of alcohol was likely to be short of its demand in the country by about 3000 lakh litres during the current alcohol year 1985-86 (December, 1985-November, 1986).

(c) and (d). In order to improve the availability of alcohol for industrial users, about 900 lakh litres of alcohol (denatured) has been permitted to actual users (industrial) for duty free import during February, 1985 to 30 6 86.

Sick Industries

619. SHRIMATI PRABHAWATI GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick industries in the country as on 31 December, 1985; State-wise;

(b) the names of sick industries; and

(c) the steps taken in this regard to restore the health of these units ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The data on sick industrial units assisted by banks are collected by the Reserve Bank of India as per the definition of sickness adopted by it. The latest State-wise data on sick industrial units (large and small scale units) as available from it, for the period ending December 1984 are given in the statement given below.

(b) In accordance with the practices and usages customary among bankers as also in conformity with the provisions of the statutes governing nationalised banks, it will not be possible to divulge the names of individual units/parties drawing loan credits from the banks.

(c) Government have issued certain policy guidelines for various Central Ministries, State Governments and Banks and Financial Institutions in October, 1981 for the revival and rehabilitation of potentially viable sick units. The salient features of these guidelines were furnished in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 204 on 23.1.1985. Government have also enacted a legislation, namely "The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 which inter-alia provides, for setting up of a Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction to look into the cases of companies which have become sick.

Statement

Name of the State/Union Territory	No. of sick units (Large and small scale)
1	2
1. Andhra Pradesh	5414
2. Assam	2887
3. Bihar	5558
4. Gujarat	2831