

[1 August, 2002]

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(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to prepare such an action plan in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]:

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) As per Ministry's guidelines, Railway, Over Bridges (ROBs) are provided to replace the existing level crossings if the product of Average Daily Traffic (fast vehicles only) and the number of gate closures per day exceeds 50,000 in the design year. Out of the 66 numbers of level crossings on National Highways in Andhra Pradesh, 32 do not qualify for replacement by ROBs since they do not meet the above guidelines of the Ministry.

Replacement of 28 numbers of level crossings on National Highway No. 5 and 7 by ROBs is being done under National Highways Development Project (NHDP). Of the remaining 6 provision for Land Acquisition for 3 ROBs is included in the Annual Plan 2002-03. The remaining 3 will be taken up in phases subject to inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

New Telephone exchanges in Assam

***280. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH:** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new telephone exchanges have been set up in Assam during the year 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise; and

(c) the details of telephone exchanges proposed to be set up during the current year and the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A total of 34 new telephone exchanges were set up in the State of Assam during the year 2001-2002. The district wise details are given in statement-I. (See below)

(c) It is planned to set up 40 new exchanges during 2002-2003, out

of which 17 exchanges have already been commissioned up to June, 2002 and the details are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

District-wise new Telephone Exchanges set up in Assam during the year 2001-2002

Sl. No.	Name of Revenue District	No. of Exchanges opened during 2001-2002
1	2	3
1.	Kamrup	9
2.	Dibrugarh	2
3.	Tinsukia	1
4.	Cachar	4
5.	Karimganj	2
6.	Jorhat	2
7.	Sibsagar	3
8.	Golaghat	1
9.	Bongaigaon	1
10.	Dhubri	1
11.	Nalbari	1
12.	Sonitpur	1
13.	Dhemaji	1
14.	Nagaon	4
15.	Karbi Anglong	1
TOTAL		34

Statement-II

District wise new telephone exchanges planned in Assam for the Year 2002-2003.

Name of Revenue District	S. No.	Name of Exchange	Remarks
1	2	3	4
Bongaigaon	1	Borobazar	
	2	Raniganj	
	3	Sadari	
	4	Balagaon	

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1	2	3	4
Bongaigaon	5	Gahia	Planned
	6	Chandkuchi	
	7	Ambari	
	8	Jaleswar	
	9	Borbali	
	10	Dolgama	Commissioned
	11	Jalaghar	
	12	Domdoma	
	13	Kayakuchi	
	14	Srirampur	
	15	Garuphella	
	16	Chital	
Jorhat	17	Dolowjan	Planned
	18	Borhat	
	19	Modoigaon	
	20	Nayabazar	Commissioned
	21	Jaioli	
	22	Gomariguri	
Nagaon	23	Raja Mayang	Planned
	24	Diprong	
	25	Sivsan	Commissioned
	26	Sagmootea	
	27	Kuaritol	
	28	Mowarimari	
Silchur	29	Rajeswarpur	Planned
	30	Rajatilla	
	31	Gharmura	
	32	Berahmpur	
Tejpur	33	Sonua	Planned
	34	Butikur	

1	2	3	4
Tejpur	35	Korua	Planned
	36	Khanamukh	Commissioned
	37	Dhimakuchi	
Dibrugarh	38	Shantipur	Planned
	39	Khatkhti	Commissioned
Kamrup	40	Gorchuck	Commissioned

Note: Exchanges Commissioned = 17
 Yet to be commissioned = 23

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

New Policy for agro and rural industries

1606. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a new policy for agro and rural industries in view of the recent change in the economic liberalisation and globalisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES
 (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is engaged in an exercise to evolve a policy to strengthen this sector so that it adopts itself to the changing environment and also effectively face the challenges in view of the economic liberalisation and globalisation.

(c) Does not arise.

Potential of agro industries

1607. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the potential of Agro industries in the country, State-wise;