

Extension of activities by Dredging Corporation of India

1139. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH
KHAN AZMI:
SHRI SANJAY DALMIA:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI V. HANUMANTHA
RAO:
SHRI AJIT P.K. JOGI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Dredging Corporation of India has formulated any scheme to extend its activities in foreign countries;

(b) if so, whether any other orders for undertaking dredging work have been received from foreign countries under this scheme; and

(c) the extent of business transacted by the Corporation during 1993-94?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (e): Dredging Corporation of India has been trying to obtain foreign contracts. But so far no foreign contract has been secured by them. During 1993-94 the total income of Dredging Corporation of India was 153.27 crores and net profit before tax was Rs. 24.42 crores.

Lack of Telecom and Fire Fighting Equipments facilities to Forest Guards

1140. DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SMT. KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telecom facilities and fire fighting equipments are not being provided to all forest guards;

(b) whether there is no provision for training forest guards in fire fighting system;

(c) the reasons for not accepting UNDP/FAO offer of aircraft and helicopters for fire surveillance in forest areas of hills; and

(d) the scheme evolved for fighting the forest fire manage along the Himalayan foot hills?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) Under the on-going centrally sponsored scheme 'Modern Forest Fire Control Methods' there is provision for providing telecom facilities, fire fighting equipment and training in fire fighting system to the forest staff in the 11 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

(c) The Ministry has accepted one aircraft and one helicopter from UNDP for fire surveillance in forest areas of hills and other parts of the country.

(d) Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Modern Forest Fire Control Methods' is in operation since 1992-93 100% central financial assistance is provided to the states for procurement of hand tools, fire resistant clothing, wireless communication sets, fire finders, fire tenders, creation of fire lines, construction of watch tower, training and demonstration, research and publicity.

Awarding Petrol/Diesel outlets/LPG agencies to SCST

1141. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR:
Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of petrol/diesel retail outlets, LPG agencies and kerosene distributorships awarded to SC/ST persons during the last three years,

(b) whether Government have any policy to provide land and other infrastructures to the SC/ST allottees in this regard; and

(c) if so, the number of allottees provided with land and other required infrastructures during the said period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) During the last 3 years, 366 petrodiesel retail outlets, 77 SKO-LDO dealerships and 205 LPG distributorships were awarded to SC/ST persons in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 184 retail outlets, 26 SKO-LDO dealerships and 69 LPG distributorships have so far been commissioned under this scheme.

Working of pager companies in the country

1142. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pager companies which have come into existence in various cities, their names and the cities where they operate;

(b) what is the average cost per unit incurred by the pager companies;

(c) what is the average price per unit charged by the companies; and

(d) what is the extent level and type of control exercised by Government over such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The details of operator companies, which have started Radio Paging Service in various cities is given in statement. {See below}

(b) The Government does not have these figures readily available, since as per the licence agreement, operator companies shall install, operate and maintain the Radio Paging System and they will incur all the costs for the system.

(c) The cost of pager unit will depend on the facilities type and manufacturer company. However, the subscribers are free to purchase unit from any source as per the terms and conditions of the licence agreement.

(d) The Government has fixed ceiling tariffs within which the operators shall charge from the subscribers. Also the Government has the right to monitor the quality of service as and when required.

Statement

Radio Paging Services

Sl. No.	Name of the Company	Cities	Service Commenced
1.	M/s. Page Point Services (India) Pvt. Ltd., 29, Bank Street, FORT, Bombay—400 023	Bombay, Bangalore, Pune, Hyderabad	Yes (except Pune & Hyderabad)
2.	M / s. Microwave Communciations Ltd., 1202, Chiranjiv Tower, 43, Nehru Place, New Delhi—110 019	Bombay, Calcutta, Vadodara, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Surat	Yes
3.	M/s. Usha Martin Telecom Ltd., 16, Community Centre, Saket, New Delhi—110 017	Delhi, Madurai, Rajkot, Ernakulam, Indore, Coimbatore, Vishakpatnam, Jaipur	Yes
4.	M/s. BPL System and Projects Ltd., 64 Church Street, Bangalore—560 001	Ernakulam, Trivandrum	Yes