

Statement

Statement-wise details of Village Public Telephones (VPTs) provided upto 31.07.1996

| s. No. | Circle/State | Total No. inhabited | VPTs as 30.07.199 village |
|--------|--|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 29460 | 18878 |
| 2. | Assam | 22224 | 8676 |
| 3. | Bihar | 79208 | 12507 |
| 4. | Gujarat including Dadar & Nagar & Diu | 18125 | 13028 |
| 5. | Haryana | 7018 | 6708 |
| 6. | Himachal Pradesh | 16997 | 4103 |
| 7. | Jammu & Kashmir | 6453 | 1506 |
| 8. | Karnataka | 27024 | 13789 |
| 9. | Kerala | 1530 | 1530 |
| 10. | Madhya Pradesh | 71526 | 28073 |
| 11. | Maharashtra including Goa | 40430 | 23441 |
| 12. | North-East including Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal & Manipur. | 14197 | 2530 |
| 13. | Orissa | 46989 | 12973 |
| 14. | Punjab | 13252 | 8514 |
| 15. | Rajasthan | 37889 | 12864 |
| 16. | Tamil Nadu including Pondicherry | 20196 | 14469 |
| 17. | Uttar Pradesh (E) | 75462 | 17864 |
| 18. | Uttar Pradesh <W> | 37106 | 10112 |
| 19. | West Bengal including Sikkim | 38337 | 8210 |
| 20. | A&N Island | 292 | 93 |
| 21. | MTNL. Delhi | 191 | 191 |
| TOTAL | | 60390 | 220059 |

Promotion of Amateur Radio Activity in India

3095. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA
JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the urgent need to promote Amateur Radio Activity in India on a very large scale;

(b) whether its MPLAD Scheme has helped in its promotion;

(c) whether Government are taking any steps to promote Amateur Radio; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Need for promoting Amateur activity in India is well recognised.

(b) to (d) Under the MPLAD (Member of Parliament Local Area Development) Scheme, a project "HAM Amateur Radio Station/Club in every High School" for implementing in Government and Government aided Schools/Colleges was formulated by Department of Electronics in consultation with Department of Programme Implementation with a view to promoting Amateur Radio.

Drug abusers in the country

3096. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of drug abusers in the country;

(b) the steps taken by Government for prevention of drug abusers in schools and colleges;

(c) whether Government are considering introducing capital punishment for drug traffickers; and

(d) the number of drug traffickers sentenced so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) No National survey has been conducted to assess the number of drug abusers in the country. However, the drug addicts registered during the last 3 years for treatment in the Drug De-addiction Centres/ Counselling Centres financially assisted by the Ministry of Welfare under the Scheme for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention are as under;—

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|---------|------------|
| 1993-94 | — 2,90,628 |
| 1994-95 | — 3,12,118 |
| 1995-96 | — 2,81,266 |