

Development of Cochin Port-into Trans-shipment Port

3092. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Cochin Port Trust has made a study for the development of the Cochin Port into a Trans-shipment Port; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) to (b) A Feasibility Study on the Cochin-Vallarpadam Transshipment Container Terminal was done in 1989-90. But this study would need updating in the current liberalisation scenario. Cochin Port Trust has been recently advised to prepare feasibility studies on the upgradation of the existing Rajiv Gandhi Container Terminal and also Cochin-Vallarpadam Transshipment Terminal.

जल संरक्षण पर व्यय

3093. श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल: क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) प्रत्येक राज्य में जल संरक्षण के लिए अतिरिक्त जल भण्डारण क्षमता के निर्माण संबंधी कार्य पर सरकार द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष खर्च की जा रही औषत धनराशि का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना के आरंभ से किए गए व्यय एवं चालू आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना में होने वाले संभावित व्यय का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) इस संबंध में किए गए भारी पूंजी निवेश के बावजूद देश में निम्न जल संरक्षण क्षमता के क्या कारण हैं?

जल संसाधन मंत्री (श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र): (क) और (ख) पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना के आरंभ से मार्च, 1996 के अंत तक (i) वृहत एवं मध्यम सिंचाई योजनाओं, और (ii) लघु सिंचाई योजनाओं में सिंचाई क्षमता के सृजन पर व्यय की गई राशि का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा दर्शानेवाला विवरण अनुपत्र में दिया गया है। (देखिये परिशिष्ट 178 अनुपत्र सं० 75)

(ग) देश में जल संचय की कम क्षमता के मुख्य कारणों में शामिल हैं (i) संसाधनों की सीमित उपलब्धता, (ii) बड़ी संख्या में नई सिंचाई परियोजनाओं को आरंभ करने के कारण सीमित संसाधनों का कम पड़ना (iii) कार्यान्वयन में विलंब और (iv) संस्थागत निवेश का अपर्याप्त प्रवाह।

Rural Telecom Network

3094. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the definition of a rural areas for telephone purposes;

(b) the extent of the rural telecom network in India, State-wise;

(c) the equipped exchange capacity and the number of exchanges in the above network; and

(d) the number of working connections and waiting list?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA): (a) A rural area is defined as a Human settlement which conforms to the following criteria:—

(i) A minimum population of 5000.

(ii) A population density of at least 400 persons per sq. Km.

(iii) Employment of at least 75% of male population in agriculture occupations.

(iv) Any Human settlement not covered by Notified Areas Committee, Municipality or Municipal Corporation also comes under the definition Rural Areas.

(b) to (d) (i) State-wise details of Rural Telephone exchanges as on 1.4.96 are as per Annex. (See. Appendix 175, Annexure No. 76)

(ii) State-wise details of Village Public Telephone (VPTs) provided upto 31.7.96 are given in the enclosed statement.

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;—

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