

Statement

	As on 1-4-1986	As on 1-2-1993
1. Equipped Capacity :		
Delhi	3,36,800	7,34,500
Bombay	5,42,400	9,25,717
2. Direct Exchange Lines :		
Delhi	2,92,669	6,46,721
Bombay	4,53,989	8,28,569
3. Percentage of lines served from Electronic Exchanges :		
Delhi	23.75%	74.94%
Bombay	16.04%	59.81%

Besides, MTNL has introduced radio-paging service in Bombay and Voice-Mail service in both Bombay and Delhi.

* MTNL was formed w.e.f. 1-4-86.

India's debt servicing foreign exchange commitment

*115. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the debt servicing foreign exchange commitment for the year 1992-93; and

(b) what is the amount of outstanding external loans borrowed by India from other countries, International Financial Institutions and commercial non-Government Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) The amount of debt servicing payment (Repayment of Principal and Payment of Interest) is estimated to be Rs. 17,418 crores during 1992-93.

(b) As per latest available information India's total external debt including NRI's deposits and short term debt is estimated to be U.S \$ 72672 million and Civilian Rouble debt of Rouble 978 million as on 30th September, 1992. Be-

sides there was GCA and Rouble defence debt of US \$ 2176 million and Rouble 8899 million respectively as on March 31, 1992.

Pending power projects of Madhya Pradesh

*116. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some power projects which are proposed to be extended in Madhya Pradesh have not been cleared so far;

(b) if so, what are the names of the power projects which are proposed to be set up in that State and are pending for the Forest/Environmental clearance;

(c) what are the names of the proposed power projects in that State which are awaiting approval of the Planning Commission; and

(d) what are the names of the projects that have been approved but are awaiting sanction of funds?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI N. K. P. SALVE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following power/transmission projects of Madhya Pradesh are, inter alia, awaiting environmental and forest clearance:—

1. Sanjay Gandhi TPS Extn. (1x500 MW)
2. Rajgarh TPS (2 x500 MW)
3. Marhikheda HE Project (2x20 MW (MW 20X1) 4.
- Omkaroshwar Multipurpose Project (8x65 MW)
5. Gandhisagar Power House II K.E. Project (4x40 MW)
6. Bodghat (Indira Sarovar) (4x125 MW)
7. Hasdeo Bangs (3x40 MW)
8. Bansagar-I to Bansagar-II (REWA) D/C 220 KV
9. Vindhyachal Bina S/C 800-KV VSTPP St. II
10. Korba-Bhilai S/C 400 KV 4th Oct. VSTPP St. If
11. Itarsi-Dhule 400 KV D/C VSTPP St. I (Add), system)
12. Bina-Malanpur 400 KV D/C.

(c) and (d) No power project of Madhya Pradesh is pending for approval of the Planning Commission or awaiting sanction of funds. As to the State sector projects mentioned at (b) they would be submitted to the Planning Commission only after necessary clearances including Environmental & Forests clearances are obtained. Likewise Central Sector projects will be submitted for investment approval after the requisite clearances are taken.

Setting up of a study group for promotion of Tourist Centres in Eastern State]

*117. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: SHRI MD. SALIM:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) What are the plans under Govern-

ment's consideration to promote some major tourist centres in Eastern States;

(b) by when some of the projects are likely to be taken up;

(c) whether Government have set up any Study Group for this purpose; and

(d) if so, what are its achievements'?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Development of tourist centres in Eastern States is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, the centre extends financial assistance to the States on project to project basis. Sanction of funds to augment tourist facilities is a continuous process and as such no specific time limit could be indicated.

(c) The Government of India has set up Task Force I and II for Buddhist centres which includes centres in Bihar, Orissa and Sikkim in the Eastern region.

(d) Task Force-I has recommended certain action points to be taken jointly by the Government of Bihar and Government of India. The OECF of Japan has approved loan assistance amounting to Japanese Yen 3314 million for projects related to Buddhist centres in Bihar.

Appointment of a Chief, Commissioner for NRIs

* 118. SHRI IQBAL SINGH:

SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the Central Budget, 1991-92, a reference was made regarding appointment of a Chief Commissioner for the NRIs;

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government in this direction;

(c) If so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) If the answer to part (b) above be in negative, the reasons therefor?