

श्री सुबोध त्त सहाय : राज्य सरकारों को इसी दिशा में कार्यवाही के लिये फिर से हम... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He will communicate figures to you.
Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Packet of Tampering of Telephone Lines by private telephone subscribers

*183. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation. (CBI) has busted a racket of large scale tampering of telephone lines by private telephone subscribers on complaints given by MTNL Delhi on the 28th June, 1990;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(c) what action MTNL has taken/propose to take against the telephone subscribers and officials involved in tampering the telephone lines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) CBI conducted a joint raid along with MTNL Staff on 28-6-90 and succeeded in the detection of six telephones where a metering evading device was fitted. Meters of the calling subscribers do not operate whenever a call is made to a number fitted with such a device.

(c) FIR has been lodged by CBI under Section 25 of IT Act 1885 against the users in whose premises such devices were detected during joint raid by CBI alongwith MTNL officers. No official of MTNL was found invoked.

Proposal for low power transmitters in Gujarat State

*186. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHA. NKER- Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gujarat Government have made a proposal for 51 Low Power Transmitters for T.V. coverage of the remaining areas of the State; and

(b) if so, by when these will be operational to provide coverage for the remaining areas?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The extension of TV Serving for uncovered parts of Gujarat depends on availability of funds. ■ •

INDO-NEPAL Relations

*187. KUMARI SAYEEDA KHA. TUN:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the outcome of his recent visit to Nepal;

(b) whether the question of India's security particularly the supply of arms from China to Nepal was discussed; if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) what is the latest position of the treaty of friendship of 1950 and a treaty of trade, and transit; and

(d) what steps are being taken to further improve the relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH): (a) EAM's recent visit to Nepal from August 5—7, 1990, helped maintain the positive momentum of Indo-Nepal relations which were fully normalized following Prime Minister K. P. Bhattarai's visit to

India in June this year. During his stay in Kathmandu, he had useful meetings on matters of mutual concern with His Majesty the King, Prime Minister K. P. Bhattarai Supreme Leader of the Nepali Congress, Shri Ganesh Mansingh and with leaders of other important Nepalese political parties.

(to) No, sir.

(c) The 1950 Indo-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship remains the cornerstone of Indo Nepal relations. As agreed upon in the Joint Communique issued at the end of Prime Minister Bhattarai's visit to India, comprehensive arrangements covering all aspects of bilateral relations, including trade and transit, will be taken up later. In the meanwhile, the two Prime Ministers had agreed to restore *status quo ante* to April 1, 1987. This has been done.

(d) These include strengthening of cooperation in the areas of vital concern to both countries, particularly in the sphere of industrial and human resource development, harnessing of the common water resources and for the common water resources and for the environment.

Setting up of a Postal Training Centre in Assam

*188. SHRI BHADRESWAR BURGOHAIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Postal Training Centre in Assam;

(b) if so, whether it is likely to be opened during the current financial year; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS

(SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA):

(a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Considering the training needs and the staff strength of Assam and North Eastern Postal Circles, there is no justification for opening a Postal Training Centre in Assam, we have adequate capacity in Postal Training Centre, Dibrugarh.

Traffic handling by private sector at Major Ports

*189. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: DR. BAPTIST KALDATE;

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the comparative percentage of rise in the traffic handling by the major ports in the country during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 till date;

(b) whether in view of the rising traffic, Government have considered the feasibility of private participation in the ports' operations; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof stating the areas in which private participation has been found feasible and the terms and conditions, if any, for such participation?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The percentage increase during 1987-88, 1988-89 and 1989-90 over previous years was 8.2 per cent, 9.2 per cent and 0.2 per cent respectively. During the first four months of 1990-91 i.e., April-July, the increase in traffic is 5.5 per cent over the same period of last year.

(b) and (c) An Inter-Ministerial Group has been constituted to suggest measures for induction of private capital in Port Sector. The Group has issued a Questionnaire to various interests including users of Ports to elicit their suggestions in this regard.