

(b) The approximate time by when Nanded, Parbhani and Jalna are likely to be connected with STD system is as follows:—

Nanded .. 1987-88

Prabhani .. 1989-90

Jalna .. 1986-87

Rural Post Offices in Maharashtra

1837. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV-RAO JADHAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) How many villages in Maharashtra have been provided with Post Offices as on 30th June, 1986;

(b) what is the number of Post Offices connected by telegraph and telephone connections in Maharashtra; and

(c) whether telephones in rural Post offices of Maharashtra are working satisfactorily?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) 10,665 villages in Maharashtra have been provided with post offices up to 30th June, 1986.

(b) 2257 post offices are provided with telegraph/telephone facilities in Maharashtra.

(c) Generally, the service has been satisfactory.

1838. [Transferred to the 14th August, 1986].

Import of drugs and medicines

1839. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be please to state:

(a) the names of the drugs and medicines imported from foreign countries during the last two years, year-wise and what is the total amount involved;

(b) whether it is a fact that these drugs can be manufactured indigenously at much lower cost; and

(c) what measures Government have taken to stop import of the drugs and start production thereof in India itself?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) Details of import of drugs covering quantity imported and value of such imports as available are given in 'Indian Drugs Statistics' 1984-85, a copy of which is available in Parliament Library.

(b) No exercise has been carried out in this regard.

(c) As and when indigenous production of any Bulk Drug is commenced, suitable restrictions are considered in its imports on merits.

Telephone exchanges in Orissa

1840. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be please to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to open twenty-eight new telephone exchanges in Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the names, of the places where these exchanges are proposed to be opened and by when these are likely to be set up;

(c) whether the manual telephone exchanges at Samalpur have been converted into automatic telephone exchanges; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The information is given in the Statement (See below):

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The reasons for non-conversion into auto exchange are:

(i) Non-availability of water supply and electricity.

(ii) Backlog in supply of automatic exchange equipment.

(iii) Non-availability of requisite demanded and financial justification.

Statement

List of exchanges proposed to be opened in Orissa during 1986-87 subject to availability of equipments

1. Baliana
2. Kantilo
3. Talabasta
4. Niali
5. Gop
6. Sumandal
7. Pitalo
8. Khetri Barampur.
9. Kantama
10. Bisoi
11. Raisuan
12. Bhandari Pokhri
13. Aul
14. Rajnagar
15. Pritipur
16. Jamini Kira
17. Barsuan
18. Gumahdihi
19. Lathikota
20. Kundukela
21. Khauripada
22. Chandan Wati
23. Satalama
24. Deogaon
25. Jharband
26. Chillima (Chiplima)
27. Behra
28. Tureikela.

I.S.D. facility from Bhubaneswar

1841. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide the International subscriber dialling (ISD) facility from Bhubaneswar to different countries;

(b) whether all necessary equipment for the ISD has been received by the Orissa Telecommunications Division; and

(c) by when the ISD service is likely to be commissioned from Bhubaneswar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. All necessary equipment for the ISD service is expected to be received by Orissa Telecommunications Circle by October, 1986.

(c) ISD Service is likely to be commissioned from Bhubaneswar by March, 1987.

STD facility through unattended PCOs

1842. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend facilities to Delhi citizens to make direct calls to other cities by STD system through unattended PCOs by using one rupee coin and without having to wait for booked trunk calls; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and by when the scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.