

Telephone Exchanges in Meghalaya

823. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the number of telephone exchanges in the State of Meghalaya at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): The number of telephone exchanges in Meghalaya are 19.

Improvement in the telephone exchange at Shillong

824. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any improvements have been made in the switching equipment system working in the Telephone Exchange at Shillong;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether it has resulted in an increase in the revenue earned during the last six months of the year 1984 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year?

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

(b) Local register circuits have been, modified and new connections* have been provided after carrying out these modifications.

(c) Yes, Sir. This has resulted in an increase in the revenue earned during July, 1984 to December, 1984 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. Revenue from July, 84 to Dec. 84 is 6003 (in thousands) as compared to Rs. 4050 (in thousands) for the corresponding period of 1983.

Profit earned by Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd.

825. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the profit owned by the Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited during the year 1984-85; and

(b) the estimated profit likely to be earned by the undertaking during the year 1985-86?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) The profit estimated now by BHEL for 1984-85 is Rs. 100 crores.

(b) The profit estimated for 1985-84 is Rs. 107 crores.

Telephone facility for retiring employees

826. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to provide telephone facility to its retiring employees and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Scheme for providing telephone connections to retiring Government employees exists. A retiring Government employee can register for a telephone connection in his personal capacity as a Retired Government Officer in the 'Non-OYI-SS' category six months before the date of superannuation provided he/she has drawn a basic salary of Rs. 1600 p.m. or more for at least one year prior to retirement. The Government official should not have availed of this facility earlier at any other station in the country under this category of registration.