

Staff strength of various cadres

860. SHRI HARKISHAN SINGH SURJEET: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the staff strength in the various cadres, separately, justified in different offices of Telecommunications as on 1st January, 1982 according to the work load during the year 1981;

(b) the actual staff strength available in the offices as on that date;

(c) the number of persons undergoing training in each cadre; and

(d) the total amount saved by way of salary on account of the shortage of staff in 1981 and the amount paid as over-time allowance during 1981?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

New Telephone Exchanges for West Bengal

861. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone exchanges proposed to be established in West Bengal during 1982-83;

(b) the particulars of the telephone exchanges which are already under construction or have been approved by Government as well as those proposed to be automatised in West Bengal; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken to improve the telephone exchanges in West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) About fifteen.

(b) The proposals for providing new exchanges at the following places

have been approved and the work is in progress.

25-lines small auto exchanges at:

1. Kandra
2. Pakushat
3. Gankar
4. Bharatpur
5. Kaichar
6. Temanthani
7. Paranpur
8. Itahar
9. Keshiary
10. Daspur
11. Kharar
12. Goaltore
13. Badarhat
14. Raninagar
15. Swaruppur
16. Poniparul
17. Saktipur
18. Nabagram
19. Pachami.

50-lines small auto exchanges at:

1. Ram Nagar
2. Maligram
3. Farakka NTPC

As regards automatisation, the existing manual exchanges at Chinsurah and Suri are proposed to be converted to automatic during 1982-83.

(c) Following steps are being taken to improve the working of telephone exchanges in West Bengal.

(i) Gas pressurisation of underground primary, secondary and junction cables to facilities early detection of cable faults.

(ii) Laying cables in ducts on important routes.

(iii) Use of jelly filled cables in the distribution network to prevent ingress of moisture.

(iv) Use of insulated drop wires for subscriber connections.

(v) Replacement of aluminium wire by copper wire in subscriber fittings.

(vi) Keeping trained reserve pool of Telephone Operators and short duty telephone operators to combat the absenteeism.

(vii) Modernisation of network by introduction of electronic exchanges.

(viii) Task Forces has also been set up for upgrading the external plant network of Calcutta Telephone System on a time bound programme.

Additional Telegraph Offices in Andhra Pradesh

862. SHRI GHOSH MOHIUDDIN SHEIKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open additional telegraph offices in Andhra Pradesh during the current financial year; and

(b) if so, what is the number of such offices proposed to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is proposed to open about Six hundred Telegraph Offices during the current financial year.

Applications pending for OYT

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863. SHR K. C. SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of applications pending with the Department at present for OYT connections;

(b) what is the total amount of money deposited by customers for OYT connections; and

(c) whether Government propose to pay interest on the deposits by the customers in case the connection is delayed beyond twelve months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) As on 1-4-1982, there were 58,567 applicants under OYT category on the waiting list.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) Yes, Sir. Interest on advance deposit is paid to telephone applicants for the period they are on the waiting list.

Telephone Complaints

864. SHRI K. C. SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the average number of telephone faults reported daily in June, 1982 from Trivandrum, Kottayam, Ernakulam and Kozhikode Telephone Exchange areas;

(b) what is the average time taken for attending to the fault report from the customers; and

(c) whether it is a fact that even some of the public telephone booths are not working properly in these places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Average number of telephone faults reported daily in June, 1982 from Trivandrum, Kottayam, Ernakulam and Kozhikode Telephone Exchange areas are 230, 110, 376, 175 respectively.

(b) Average time taken for attending the faults in above exchanges respectively is 9.9, 5.75, 5.5 and 32.42 hours.

(c) According to available reports Public Telephones are functioning satisfactorily at these places and these are regularly tested.