

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. RAHIM): (a) and (b) The recommendations of the High Powered Expert Committee (Sachar Committee) in regard to amendments of the provisions of the MRTP Act are under active consideration of the Government. Necessary legislative action will be initiated as soon as the decisions are arrived at.

Elections in West Bengal

723. SHRI S. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new list of voters in West Bengal approved by the Election Commission is proposed to be published on 1st of March this year;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether the West Bengal Government has demanded earlier poll in the State than the due date; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of the Election Commission thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI JAGANNATH KAUSHAL): (a) Though the Election Commission originally fixed 1st March, 1982 for final publication of the rolls, the Election Commission by its order dated 26th February, 1982 directed that the said rolls shall not be finally published until further orders.

(b) The rolls in West Bengal were intensively revised during 1981 and finally published on 31st December, 1981. On 1-1-82 these rolls were published in draft for summary revision with reference to 1st January, 1982 as the qualifying date and claims and objections were invited upto 16th January, 1982. After disposal of

these claims and objections, supplements to these rolls bringing out additions, deletions and corrections are to be published making the rolls final.

(c) Yes, Sir. The West Bengal Government has recommended to the Commission that elections to the Legislative Assembly may be held on a date before the 15th of April, 1982.

(d) Under article 324 of the Constitution the responsibility *inter alia* of conduct of elections to Parliament and to the Legislature of any State vests with the Election Commission. The Commission has stated that it will take a decision in this matter at the appropriate time.

STD facilities at Sub-divisional level

724. SHRI PRASENJIT BARMAN:
SHRI SUDHAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide STD facilities to all district and important sub-divisional towns all over the country; and

(b) if so, by when all the five district headquarters of North Bengal and sub-divisional towns like Kurseong, Kalimpong, Alipurduar and Raiganj are likely to be provided with STD facilities from these places to Calcutta and Delhi and vice-versa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) It is proposed to provide STD facilities to most of the district headquarters in the country during the current Plan. Other cities and towns including sub-divisional towns are likely to be provided with STD facilities progressively during the current Plan and the subsequent plans.

(b) All the five district headquarters of North Bengal, Kurseong and Kalimpong are planned to be pro-