Written Answers

## \*7. SHRI JAGDISH PRASAD MATH JR: SHRI SUNLER SINGH BHANDARI: SHRI LAL C. ADVANI:

Will the Minis er of COMMUNICATIONS be please- to state:

(a) what are the details of precautionary mea; ires taken by the telephone authori ies in metropolitan cities in the process of installation and maintenance of telephone cables, joints, junction ) oxes and exchanges for protection frt m rains specially where the level of sub-soil water is high; and

(b) what is th ; number of phones that went cut of irder in Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calc itta and Kanpur due to rains during tl e last three years?

THE MINISTEI OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Cables and joints are capable of functioning normally in sub-soil water. The fault develops on] r when the external sheath of the cal te is damaged thus permitting water to pass inside the cable. The preca itions taken by the Department for protection of cables and joints against i-ain are listed and placed on the Tal le 0; the House.

(b) The information regarding total number of telephones which became

faulty due to rain in Bombay, Calcutta, Deihi, Madras and Kanpur are not available. However, the maximum number of telephones affected on any day during monsoon in the last three years has been collected to the extent available and is being placed on the Table of the House.

## Statement No. 1

Precautions for providing protection of underground cables and joints against rain

1. Important cable routes are pat rolled to detect any sinking of the route or any visible digging work goi.Tg on in the route.

2. Pressurisation of cables by dry air is being done to prevent ingress of water in case of sheath faults. In small sized distribution cables where gas pressurisation is not possible, jelly filled cables are planned to be used to prevent the entry of water inside the cable.

3. All the joints are plumbed and sealed in lead sheath to make them water tight.

4. Instructions exist for keeping the doors of ail junction boxes closed so that rain drops will not strike the terminals.

5. The exchanges where the sub-soil water level is known to be high, pumps are fitted in the cable chamber to pump out water which seeps in.

6. The water seals in the cable chamber are constantly observed for any damage.

## Statement No. 2

Maximum number of Telephones that want out of order on any day during Monsson in the following towns.

<b>6</b>											1978	1979	1980
1,	Madras	٠	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	1600	2000	Monsoon yet to
۹.	Bombay										11992	19016	siart. 12545
3,	Calcutta	•									7293	12827	19059.
4.	New Delhi					-		•	•		*N.A.	2759	20443
5-	Kanpur	•		•	•		•	٠	•	•	951	935	908

\*N.A. Info mation not available.