

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):** (a) and (b) No change in Government's prohibition policy has been made so far.

(c) The Government has been continuously making effort to educate people about the evils of drinking through the mass-media including All India Radio, Door-Darshan and documentaries and also by assisting Voluntary organisations through grants for educational publicity.

#### Plantation of trees in Delhi

**255. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:**

**SHRI R. M. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of trees are being planted in Delhi;

(b) what is the total amount that is likely to be spent on this project; and

(c) what purpose is likely to be served by this project?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN):** (a) to (c) The information is being col-

lected from the concerned authorities and the same would be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

#### Import of Cross Bar Exchanges

**256. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:**

**SHRI R. M. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had imported cross bar exchanges for Delhi telephones as also for other places in the country;

(b) if so, what is the number of such exchanges and from which countries these exchanges were imported;

(c) whether these cross bar exchanges were purchased by negotiations or through international tenders; and

(d) if these exchanges were purchased by negotiations, what are the reasons for buying the cross bar exchanges which have not proved suitable in countries of their origin and are most unsuitable in Indian conditions and climate?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. of Exchanges

Capacity

From where imported

Year

(i) 6 local exchanges . . . . .	48,000	Belgium	1964-65
(ii) 4 Trunk automatic exchanges . . . . .	6,500	Belgium	1964-65
(iii) 1 local exchange . . . . .	10,000	Sweden	1974-75
(iv) 14 local exchanges . . . . .	1,40,000	Japan	1976-80

(c) By international tenders.

(d) Question does not arise. However, it may be mentioned that certain deficiencies were found in case of exchanges imported initially during the period 1964-65. These deficiencies have since been made up. The exchanges imported subsequently from 1974-75 onwards have been functioning very satisfactorily.

#### Break-down of Delhi telephones

**257. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA:**

**SHRI R. M. DESAI:**

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a major breakdown of telephone exchanges in Delhi during the recent monsoon;