

August, 1979 with the principle object of alleviating unemployment among the rural youth. The main thrust of the scheme is on equipping rural youth with necessary skill and technology to enable them to settle in projects of self-employment,

(c) and (d) Since the programme was started only w.e.f. 15th August, 1979-80, the assistance could be given only for the year 1979-80 so far. Two voluntary agencies have been granted assistance as 50 per cent of Central share for strengthening of their infrastructure as under: —

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| 1. Appropriate reconstruction, trailing and information Centre, Seshagiri Rao Street, Maruthi Nagar, Vijayawada—520 024 (Andhra Pradesh). | 3,500 |
| 2. Bhagavatula Charitable Trust, Orugantivari Street, Yella-man-Chili—531005 (Andhra Pradesh). | 37,500 |

(e) About 50,000 rural youth have been trained by the end of the financial year 1979-80 both through Government and non-Government agencies.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) It is proposed to increase the coverage of rural youth from the present level of 40 per block per year to 100 per block per year.

Expansion of Navrangpura Telephone Exchange In Ahmedabad

149. PROF. RAMLAL PARIKH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state—

(a) whether Government propose to expand the capacity of Navrangpura Telephone Exchange in Ahmedabad, if so, by when;

(b) what is the waiting list for telephone connections category-wise; in this Exchange; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to dispose of the list in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI C. M. STEPHEN): (a) Yes Sir, as follows: —

Extent of expansion	From	To	Tentative target proposed
1000 lines	11000	12000 Lines	1981
1000 lines	12000	13000 lines	1982
600 lines	13000	15000 Lines	1983

(b) As on 30-4-1980, the waiting lists were as follows:—

OYT	258
Special	193
General	2,142
TOTAL	2,593

(c) By expansion of exchanges as indicated at (a) above, the applicants who had registered upto 31-3-1979 will be provided connections by 1981 and rest progressively by 1983.

Stoppage of allotment of DDA flats to M.Ps.

150. SHRI ROBIN KAKATI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether DDA has stopped allotment of housing plots to the Members of Parliament;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the total number of housing plots and DDA flats which have been allotted to MPs and ex-M.P.s up to the end of 1979;

(d) what is the number of flats allotted by various housing co-operatives to M.Ps and ex-M.Ps during the same period;