

Mines Limited include the implementation of a revised pricing formula for gold produced by Bharat Gold Mines Limited with effect from 1-10-1976; developmental mining in and around Kolar Gold Fields and diversification of its activities.

Teleprinter service in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands

*377. SHRI MULKA GOVINDA REDDY:

SHRI R. D. JAGTAP
AVERGOANKAR:

SHRI SYED NIZAM-UD-DIN:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA:
SHRI NAGESHWAR
PRASAD SHAHI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no teleprinter service in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands;

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

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to start teleprinter service in the Islands; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No, Sir. Port Blair, the State Capital of Andaman and Nicobar Islands is connected to C.T.O. Calcutta and C.T.O. Madras by Radio Teleprinter service.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Micro-wave line between Shillong and Calcutta

*378. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to investigate into the working of the micro-wave line between Shillong and Calcutta; and

(b) if so, by when and what steps Government propose to take to make the micro-wave line function effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The Microwave system between Calcutta and Shillong is working efficiently and no special steps are needed in this direction.

Pin Code system

*379. SHRI GURUDEV GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pin code system has not achieved its objective of expediting mail except in the metropolitan cities;

(b) what is the percentage of population which is using this system; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to popularise the system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) No, Sir; the system is being progressively adopted by the general public.

(b) It is not possible to relate the number of pin-coded letters with the population.

(c) Various publicity measures have been adopted to popularise pin-code. Advertisements have been given from time to time in leading newspapers; slides about use of pin-code are shown in picture houses. The media of All India Radio is utilised for popularising pincode. Big Mailers are contacted to include pin-code in their mailing lists. Pincode Directories have been printed and put on sale. All Central and State Government offices have been requested to use pincode in their correspondence. Provision has been made for