

Hindi Telephone Directories

1224. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS[^] be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindi telephone directories for various circles for the year 1977 have been published; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) Hindi telephone directories are now being published in U.P., M.P., Rajasthan, Bihar and N. W. Telecom. Circles. 1977 divisional Hindi directories have already been published in U.P., M.P. and N.W. Telecom. Circles. The Hindi directories for Rajasthan and Bihar Circles are expected to be distributed by January, 1978.

(b) The reasons for delay in publication of Hindi Directories in Rajasthan and Bihar are the disputes with and the delays by the printers.

Invitation to Indians to visit China

1225. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the People's Republic of China has recently extended any invitation to any official or unofficial delegation to visit that country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) The Government are not aware of any outstanding invitation from the Government of People's Republic of China for any official or unofficial delegation from India to visit that country,

(b) Does not arise.

Directive to Indian Missions not to Serve Liquor at Official Reception

1226. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA:
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Missions have been directed by the Government of India not to serve alcoholic drinks at the official receptions organised by them; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. KUNDU): (a) and (b) The standing instructions governing the consumption of alcoholic drinks at official receptions at our Missions abroad prohibit the serving of alcoholic drinks on National Day Receptions. These instructions are in the light of India's policy of prohibition of the consumption of intoxicating drinks.

Delhi Telephones

1227. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: DR. V. P. DUTT:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state what specific steps Government have taken to improve the functioning of the Delhi Telephones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): The following specific steps have been taken to improve the functioning of Delhi Telephones:

(i) Subscribers' offices are being gradually inspected to check and repair faulty instruments, faulty wiring and fittings on a phased basis.

(ii) Special maintenance of overhead lines, cabinets pillars and distribution points during the dry season.

(iii) Intensive routine testing of all the internal equipments of the