

RAM KRIPAL SINHA): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Electronic Telephone Exchanges

1236. SHRI SUJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of electronic telephone exchanges at present functioning in the country along with their locations; and

(b) the number of such exchanges likely to be opened in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) None so far, Sir.

(b) A 1,000 line Electronic Exchange designed by the Telecommunication Research Centre of the Posts and Telegraphs is under installation at Rajouri Garden, Delhi for trial purposes. The exchange is likely to be commissioned during the first half of 1978.

Provident fund Deposits by the Atlas Cycle Industries, Sonapat

1237. SHRI SUJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Atlas Cycle Industries, Sonapat has deposited Provident Fund contributions during the last two years; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor together with the details of the amount outstanding against the Company on this account?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. RAM KRIPAL SINHA): The Employees Provident Fund Authorities

have intimated as follows: —

(a) Yes. The details of Provident Fund contributions deposited for the period from October, 1975 to September, 1977 are contained in the An-nexure [See Appendix CIII. Anne-xure No. 66].

(b) Does not arise.

Waiting list for Telephones in Sonapat

1238. SHRI SUJAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) what is the number of applications on the waiting list for telephone connections in Sonapat, Haryana; and

(b) by when the applicants are likely to be provided with telephone connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI NARHARI PRASAD SUKHDEO SAI): (a) 43; Sir.

(b) The exchange is being expanded. It is expected to provide connections to all the waiting applicants by early next financial year.

Infiltration of refugees from Bangladesh into Assam

* 1239. SHRI HARSH DEO MALA-VTYA; SHRI HIMMAT SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of refugees from Bangladesh have entered Goalpara district of Assam and are trying to settle in Golakganj, Mancachar, Jaskhal, Bario-gram and other places in the district;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these refugees infiltrate into Assam via Fakiragram railway station;

(c) if so, what is the number of refugees who have so far infiltrated into Assam and what steps Government are taking in this regard?

†Previously Unstarred Question 937, transferred from the 7th December, 1977.