

S.T.D. working of Delhi, Lucknow and Jaipur

336. SHRI HARSH DEO MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that subscriber trunk dialling system from Delhi to Lucknow and Delhi to Jaipur has not been working satisfactorily and the subscribers often get wrong connections; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The S.T.D. systems from Delhi to Jaipur and Lucknow are working satisfactorily. Periodical test observations are taken to check the quality of service and remedial actions taken wherever necessary. Recent observations indicate percentage of wrong connections is less than 2 per cent.

Hindi Telephone Directory

337. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee was set up to improve the quality of the Hindi Telephone Directory ;

(b) if so, whether the Committee has submitted its report; and

(c) what action Government have taken on the recommendations contained in the report ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Committee is expected to submit its report shortly.

Expansion to STD service

338. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to introduce STD service in some more cities; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?
THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following cities are expected to be added to the STD map of India during 1977-78.

1. Bharatpur
2. Bhatinda
3. Bulandshahr
4. Burdwan
5. Cannanore
6. Hissar
7. Jodhpur
8. Kakinada
9. Kalyan
10. Mohali
11. Moradabad
12. Muzzafarnagar
13. Mysore
14. Patiala
15. Siliguri
16. Sitapur
17. Udhampur
18. Visakhapatnam.

Regional Passport Office, New Delhi

339. SHRI RAGHBIR SINGH GILL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an article which was published in the 'Hindustan Times' of the 30th May, 1977 under the caption "Focus" regarding the working of Regional Passport Office, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to streamline the functioning of the Office ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In view of the sharp increase in workload of all the Regional Passport Offices, which, in 1976, was about 50 per cent more