

Statement**State-wise Villages Electrification during
1-7-1975 to 30-6-1976**

Sl. No.	States/U.Ts.	Villages electrified from 1-7-1975 to 30-6-76
1.	Andhra Pradesh	942
2.	Assam	61(a)
3.	Bihar	1,939(d)(*)
4.	Gujarat	321
5.	Haryana	(**)
6.	Himachal Pradesh	419
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	254(c)
8.	Karnataka	533
9.	Kerala	20
10.	Madhya Pradesh	561
11.	Maharashtra	662
12.	Manipur	15
13.	Meghalaya	76
14.	Nagaland	10
15.	Orissa	1,422
16.	Punjab	4,183
17.	Rajasthan	806
18.	Sikkim	6
19.	Tamil Nadu	30
20.	Tripura	20(b)
21.	Uttar Pradesh	1,103
22.	West Bengal	795

Union Territories:

1.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	9
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil
3.	Chandigarh	(**)
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4
5.	Delhi	(**)
6.	Goa, Daman & Diu	28
7.	Lakshadweep	Nil
8.	Mizoram	2
9.	Pondicherry	(**)
TOTAL		14,221

(a)—Upto 29-2-1976.

(b)—Upto 31-3-1976.

(c)—Progress provisional and not complete.

Administrative Tribunals**482. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI :
SHRI JAGJIT SINGH ANAND :**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under Government's consideration to set up administrative tribunals to adjudicate on service matters of Central Government employees; if so, what will be their composition;

(b) whether Government have discussed the matter with the representatives of the Central Government employees; and

(c) what are the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

The composition of the tribunal is yet to be decided.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is annexed.

Statement*Details of the Discussion with Representatives of the Staff Side of the National Council of the ICM.*

The following tentative proposals were placed before the Staff Side :

"(1) The administrative Tribunal will be set up to receive representations from Central Government employees on all service matters relating both to disciplinary action as well as other matters like seniority, promotion, pay and allowances etc. It is proposed that certain matters which are enumerated below may be excluded from the purview of the Tribunals :—

(a) Postings and transfers,

(b) Allotment to services,

(c) Premature retirement,

(d)—From 1-4-1975 to 30-6-1976.

(*) Figures under reconciliation.

(**) 100 per cent village electrification has already been achieved.

(d) Dismissal/removed from service under Article 311(2)(a), (b) and (c) of the Constitution.

(2) Grievances relating to pension from individual retired or retiring employees may be allowed to be brought before the Tribunals.

(3) In view of the extended coverage, one Tribunal with headquarters at Delhi and 3 Benches at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, may be established.

(4) It is proposed to allow the option to the employees to seek an administrative review after an appeal is turned down or to approach the Tribunal after they have exhausted an appeal

(5) It is proposed to amend the Constitution so as to oust the jurisdiction of the High Courts under Article 226 and of the Supreme Court under Article 32 of the Constitution, simultaneously with the establishment of the Tribunal.

(6) The findings of the Tribunals would be treated as final and Government will have no powers to reject or modify.

(7) The Tribunals would consist of experienced Administrators serving or retired."

The Staff Side welcomed the setting up of Administrative Tribunals and accepted the detailed proposals except the following in respect of which they sought modifications of the proposals :—

(i) Dismissal/removal of service under Article 311(2)(b) in the opinion of the Staff Side, should be within the purview of the Tribunal. After discussion, this was accepted by the Official Side.

(ii) The Staff Side considered that Benches of the Tribunal should be provided in many more places than contemplated. It was accepted that while the Tribunal would start with Headquarters at Delhi and Benches at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, provision would be made for adding to the Benches as and when required.

(iii) In regard to premature retirement, the Staff Side considered that the right to represent before the Tribunal should be retained. After discussion, the Official Side stated that the point of view of the Staff Side would be placed before Government for decision.

(iv) In regard to the composition of the Tribunal, the Staff Side considered that the Presiding Officer should be a serving or retired High Court Judge. The Official Side agreed to place their point of view before Government.

International Branch of the Samachar

483. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up an international branch of the Samachar on the lines of those of "Reuter", "Associated Press" etc.;

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

(c) whether the formation of the news agencies pool of the non-aligned countries is likely to facilitate the setting up of Samachar's International branches; and

(d) whether any permanent Committee has been formed by the news agencies pool of the non-aligned countries for counter-acting the vicious propaganda of the Western media against the non-aligned countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI DHARAM BIR SINHA) : (a) and (b) It is understood that "Samachar" is expending its foreign section in a phased programme. Samachar correspondents are already functioning in some foreign countries.

(c) News agencies of the non-aligned countries, including 'Samachar', can develop their own, bilateral and multi-lateral arrangements.