[22 August, 2000]

telephone divisions of the State and the number of exchanges connected with OFC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAP AN SIKDAR): (a) 71,065 villages out of 115,249 villages in Uttar Pradesh State have been provided with telecom facility till 31.07.2000. Only 44,184 villages are devoid of telephone facility;

- (a) All the villages in the country, including those in Uttar Pradesh are planned to be provided with telecom facility by March, 2002 progressively.
 - (b) Yes, Sir.

Provision of internet facility in the village

3139. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO: SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have a programme to provide internet facilities to all the villages in the country;
 - (b) if so, how many villages are connected so far; and
 - (c) by when the whole country will be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) There is no such proposal at present for the villages. However, there is a proposal to provide Internet facility in all the block headquarters within this financial year.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Computerisation of post offices

- † 3140. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government are considering to set up the fully computerised post offices in the States capital headquarters and the district headquarters;

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.