

T. V. CENTRE FOR BANGALORE

318. SHRI H. S. NARASIAH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Mysore have been urging the Central Government to set up a Television centre at Bangalore;

(b) whether Government have decided to extend the television facilities to Bangalore; and

(c) by when the Television Centre will be set up at Bangalore ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI I. K.

GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir. A letter was recently received from the Chief Minister of Mysore regarding the establishment of a TV Station at Bangalore.

(b) and (c) T.V. Stations are proposed to be set up in various centres of the country in accordance with a phased programme which will have to take into account the resources which could be made available for the purpose after meeting the competing demand of other priority requirements. The question of setting up a TV Station at Bangalore will be considered while formulating proposals for the Fifth Plan.

CALL OPERATION OF DELHI TELEPHONE DEPARTMENT

319. SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA MENON:

SHRI SALIL KUMAR GANGULI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the action taken by Government to regularise the services of the test call operators in Class III Grade in the Delhi Telephones Department ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): Under the rules the 'test call operators' are not entitled to absorption in class III Grade. However, as a matter of grace they have been allowed to continue as casual mazdoors until their absorption in Class IV in their turn subject to their willingness.

320. [Transferred to the 8th August, 1972.]

TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS FOR CALCUTTA

321. SHRI SUHRID MULLICK CHOUDHURY:

SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SIN GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of outstanding applications on the waiting list for telephone connections in Calcutta;

(b) since how long the oldest application is pending; and

(c) what steps Government proposes to take to provide telephones to these applicants and by when ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI H. N. BAHUGUNA): (a) the number of waiting applicants as on 31-3-72 is: 40,000.

(b) The oldest application is pending in the case of:—

(a) General category subscriber since 11-9-56.

(b) Special category since 9-5-59.

(c) OYT since 14-1-66.

(c) The Government are taking steps to augment production of switching and transmission equipment, availability of which alone can solve this problem.