- (b) if so, whether it is also a fact that some hurdles are being foreseen in this behalf in the 'mid-term appraisal' of Tenth Plan; and
  - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) Planning Commission has already dissolved wit effect from 1st October 2004 the Consultative Groups set up for the Mid-term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan (2002—07).

(b) and (c) It has been decided to revert to the earlier practice of consulting individuals separately as part of the Mid-Term Appraisal process. The exercise of Mid-Term Appraisal of Tenth Plan (2002—07) is progressing satisfactorily and no hurdles are being experienced in the process of Appraisal of the Plan.

## Non-working of PCOs in far-flung areas

†\*30. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware of the fact that PCOs in far-flung rural areas of the country remain out of order due to prolonged faults in telephone lines and instruments;
- (b) if so, the number of the PCOs that remained out of order for more than three months, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps contemplated by Government for improving the telephone system at the PCO level?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) Sir, PCOs generally do not remain out of order for long duration. However, some Village Public Telephones (VPTs), working on MARR system, WLL system and on long overhead lines have remained out of order for longer duration than normal period for restoration.

(b) PCOs other than VPTs lying faulty for more than 3 months; NIL. State-wise list of VPTs that are lying faulty for more than three months as on 31.10.2004 is given in Statement-I (See below).

<sup>†</sup>Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

# (c) Steps being taken to improve VPTs are given in Statement-II.

### Statement-I

# State-wise details of VPTs lying faulty for more than 3 months

2. Andhra Pradesh       1192         3. Assam       3402         4. Bihar       1573         5. Jharkhand       1213         6. Gujarat including Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli       75         7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       73         12. Maharashtra       1738         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       24         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	SI. No.	State	VPTs faulty for more than 3 months at present
3. Assam       3402         4. Bihar       1573         5. Jharkhand       1213         6. Gujarat including Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli       75         7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       1739         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       24         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       915         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	1.	Andaman & Nicobar	6
4. Bihar       1573         5. Jharkhand       1213         6. Gujarat including Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli       75         7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       33         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       73         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	2.	Andhra Pradesh	1192
5. Jharkhand       1213         6. Gujarat including Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli       75         7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       1739         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       432         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	3.	Assam	3402
6. Gujarat including Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli       75         7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       73         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       0         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	4.	Bihar	1573
Nagar Haveli       75         7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       1739         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	5.	Jharkhand	1213
7. Haryana       115         8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       1739         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	6.	Gujarat including Daman, Diu and Dadra	ı &
8. Himachal Pradesh       333         9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       1739         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48		Nagar Haveli	75
9. Jammu & Kashmir       2247         10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       1739         12. Maharashtra       1739         13. Goa       0         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of         700         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	7.	Haryana	115
10. Karnataka       427         11. Kerala       173         12. Maharashtra       1733         13. Goa       6         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       915         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	8.	Himachal Pradesh	333
11. Kerala       17.3         12. Maharashtra       17.3         13. Goa       0         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       915         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2247
12. Maharashtra       1738         13. Goa       0         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       432         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       322         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48	10.	Karnataka	427
13. Goa       0         14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       432         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       322         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			1
14. Madhya Pradesh       8925         15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of         Pondicherry         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			1739
15. Chhattisgarh       3970         16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			0
16. Meghalaya       710         17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			8925
17. Mizoram       434         18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			3970
18. Tripura       165         19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			710
19. Arunachal Pradesh       324         20. Manipur       116         21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			_
20. Manipur 116 21. Nagaland 277 22. Orissa 6085 23. Punjab including Chandigarh 2 24. Rajasthan 3718 25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry 6 26. Uttar Pradesh 7461 27. Uttaranchal 919 28. West Bengal including Kolkata 8683 29. Sikkim 48			
21. Nagaland       277         22. Orissa       6085         23. Punjab including Chandigarh       2         24. Rajasthan       3718         25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry       0         26. Uttar Pradesh       7461         27. Uttaranchal       919         28. West Bengal including Kolkata       8683         29. Sikkim       48			<del></del> :
22. Orissa 6085 23. Punjab including Chandigarh 2 24. Rajasthan 3718 25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry 6 26. Uttar Pradesh 7461 27. Uttaranchal 919 28. West Bengal including Kolkata 8683 29. Sikkim 48			
23. Punjab including Chandigarh 24. Rajasthan 25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry 26. Uttar Pradesh 27. Uttaranchal 28. West Bengal including Kolkata 29. Sikkim 20. Punjab including Chandigarh 20. U.T. of Pondicherry 21. U.T. of Pondicherry 22. U.T. of Pondicherry 23. U.T. of Pondicherry 24. U.T. of Pondicherry 26. U.T. of Pondicherry 27. U.T. of Pondicherry 28. U.T. of Pondicherry 29. U.T. of Pondicherry 29. U.T. of Pondicherry 29. U.T. of Pondicherry 29. U.T. of Pondicherry 20. U.T. of Pondicherry 21. U.T. of Pondicherry 22. U.T. of Pondicherry 23. U.T. of Pondicherry 24. U.T. of Pondicherry 25. U.T. of Pondicherry 26. U.T. of Pondicherry 27. U.T. of Pondicherry 28. U.T. of Pondicherry 29. U.T. of Pondicherry 29. U.T. of Pondicherry 20. U.T. o		- <b>-</b>	
24. Rajasthan 3718 25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry 7461 27. Uttaranchal 919 28. West Bengal including Kolkata 8683 29. Sikkim 48			
25. Tamil Nadu including Chennai & U.T. of Pondicherry 26. Uttar Pradesh 27. Uttaranchal 28. West Bengal including Kolkata 29. Sikkim 48			2
Pondicherry Co. 26. Uttar Pradesh 7461 27. Uttaranchal 919 28. West Bengal including Kolkata 8683 29. Sikkim 48			3718
26. Uttar Pradesh746127. Uttaranchal91928. West Bengal including Kolkata868329. Sikkim48	25.		
27. Uttaranchal91928. West Bengal including Kolkata868329. Sikkim48			0
28. West Bengal including Kolkata868329. Sikkim48			
29. Sikkim 48			
Total 54314	29.	Sikkim	48
		Total	54314

### Statement-II

### Steps taken to improve VPT services

- \* Replacement of VPTs working on MARR system and long overhead lines by WLL. 1,13,839 MARR VPTs have been replaced by WLL as on 31.10.2004 and balance 81,847 VPTs are planned to be replaced progressively by June, 2006.
- \* Replacement of faulty FWTs.
- \* All exchanges have been converted to digital electronic exchanges.
- \* Use of Jelly filled cables in the outdoor network.
- \* Opening of more telephone exchanges thereby reducing exchange area size.
- \* AMC with vendors who have supplied WLL equipment.

#### National Highways in Karnataka

\*31 DR. VIJAY MALLYA: SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the length of National Highways in Karnataka and the total amount spent on their maintenance during the last three years;
- (b) the proposals pending for upgradation of State Highways into National Highways and by when these would be cleared; and
- (c) the programmes of the present Government in connection of Golden Quadrilateral roads in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND' HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The total length of National Highways in Karnataka is 3843 km. The details of amount spent for maintenance of National Highways in Karnataka during the last three years are as under: