

*C A.G. Report for the year ended March 2003 (No 5 of 2004)
for MTNL*

Sl No	Para No	Details	Amount	Level at which decision was taken to purchase	Remarks
1	7 17 1	Due to improper planning and introduction of WLL technology, 46 duct routes were not utilized after being constructed at a cost of Rs. 49.84 crore	Rs 49 84cr	ED Mumbai/ Delhi	As per the Audit report only 4 of the 46 routes were fully utilized Ducts are planned on a longer horizon and their unutilization is a long drawn process As cable plans need periodical review in the light of change of technology & demands, their utilization also can't match projection However under utilization of cables has resulted because of use of other better, faster and cheaper mode of technology which became available
2	7 17 2	No detail of route diagram or record of A/T are available in respect of a duct route in Bandra constructed as per record at a cost of Rs 1 44 cr	Rs 1 44 cr	ED Mumbai	The first duct was constructed below the Railway crossing in 1996 A second route on highway was constructed in 2001 Both the ducts are available and records may be verified
3	7 17 3	Mumbai unit spend Rs 1 99 cr Mumbai construction of duct routes in 2002-03 where ducts already existed	Rs 1 99 cr	ED Mumbai	This is not duplicate expenditure as different routes were required to provide for different cables in accordance with system of SDH ring formation so that alternate cables are available in event of one cable failure

Call girls from Central Asian countries coming to India on tourist visas

***346. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that call girls from Central Asian countries are coming to India with tourist visa;

(b) if so, the volume of such traffic;

(c) what deterrent steps are being taken by the visa granting authorities in these countries to check the antecedents of the potential call girls;

(d) whether there is any functional coordination mechanism and information sharing arrangement between Ministry of External Affairs and Ministry of Home Affairs to control the menace; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Indian Missions abroad exercise due caution while issuing visas for various categories of visitors. Out of total arrival of foreigners in India i.e. 2.8 million in 2003, the number of persons coming from Central Asian countries constitute only 0.18%.

(c) to (e) The Ministries and Departments concerned in Government of India have regular consultations on issues relating to grant of visas.

Grant to States for project implementation

*347. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 2003-04 the Planning Commission granted Rs. 33,000 crore to the States for Plan Projects implementation, but States incurred a debt of Rs. 85,000 crore to fund the balance of plan expenditure;

(b) if so, what percentage of Rs. 85,000 crore constitutes the expenditure incurred by the States on account of their share; and

(c) if not, the actual availability of funds required by States for implementation of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (c) 1. Total resources for Plan projects of States in 2003-2004, as per Revised Estimates were Rs 79,839.73 crores. The contribution of the Central Government to financing the Plan was as follows: