

Losses to Shipping Corporation of India Due to Gulf Crisis

203. SHRI BALGOPAL MISHRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shipping Corporation of India has suffered losses due to Gulf Crisis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). Due to increase in oil prices consequent upon Gulf crisis and increase in indirect operating costs like insurance etc., the profitability of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. during the current financial year is estimated to come down by Rs. 40 crores.

(c) Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. is closely monitoring the situation. The Government also is keeping a close watch on the financial performance of the S.C.I. and it is being reviewed periodically.

[*Translation*]

Theft of Telephone Cables in South Delhi Area

204. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone cables have been stolen during the last three months in South Delhi area; and

(b) if so, the number of such cases detected and the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Ten thefts occurred during the last three months. In all the cases FIR has been lodged with Police.

New Telephone Exchange at Shahadara

205. SHRI BALESHWAR YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a new telephone exchange, at Shahadara, Delhi;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be commissioned;

(c) the present number of telephone subscribers registered in the trans-yamuna area;

(d) whether telephone facility would be provided to all these subscribers after the proposed exchange starts functioning; and

(e) if not, the action proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PARKASH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The new Shahdara digital electronic remote line (RLU) to Code '229' was commissioned on 26.11.90.

(c) The number of subscribers registered under various categories in the Trans-Yamuna area as on 1.12.90 are as follows:—

Laxmi Nagar Exchanges	35,260
Shahdara Exchanges	16,671

(d) and (e). Initially the capacity of the Shahdara exchange as indicated above will be 6000 lines. This will be expanded to 10,000 lines in 1991-92. In addition, a 4000 lines exchange to Code '222' has also been set up in Laxmi Nagar.

Another 30,000 lines in Trans-Yamuna area are proposed to be added, subject to availability of equipment, during 1992-95. Telephone to the subscribers will be released progressively as per the available capacity.

Development of Tourist Centres in Rajasthan

206. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop new tourist centres in the country to attract more tourists;

(b) if so, whether Rajasthan Government has sent proposals to the Union Government for the development of three new tourist centres and for further development of five existing tourist centres; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI USHA SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The development of tourist centres is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Ministry of Tourism extends financial assistance to States for strengthening their tourist infrastructure, based on specific proposals their merits, availability of funds and inter-se priorities.

(b) and (c). During 1990-91 Rajasthan Government has forwarded 6 proposals for financial assistance to Ministry of Tourism, out of which a wayside facility at Dholpur has already been sanctioned. Decision on the other proposals will be taken shortly.

Scheme for Irrigation Facilities in Jalore and Barmer Districts of Rajasthan

207. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water for irrigating five lakh acres of land has been allocated to Rajasthan as per the award of Narmada Water Dispute Tribunal;

(b) whether any scheme has been submitted by Rajasthan Government to the Union Government for providing irrigation facilities in Jalore and Barmer districts;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to accord approval to the scheme and the time by which it is likely to be approved?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal has allocated 0.5 MAF (616.74 M. cum.) of water to Rajasthan.

(b) to (d). Yes, Sir. Narmada Canal Project envisaging annual irrigation of 74,000 hectares and drinking water supply to 124 villages in Jalore and Barmer districts of Rajasthan and estimated to cost Rs. 498.70 crores has been received recently. The State Government is required to obtain concurrence of Government of Gujarat and to sort out other techno-economic issues.