

5000 Line new Telephone Exchange at Port Blair

4715. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was a proposal for having a 5000-line new telephone exchange for Port Blair ;

(b) if so, when the proposal was mooted ;

(c) the present stage and the time by which this is likely to be completed ;

(d) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration has allotted a site for construction of the same telephone exchange ;

(e) if so, when the allotment was made and what action has been taken for construction of telephone exchange on that land ; and

(f) the target date fixed for giving STD facility from Port Blair and the present position in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) and (b). A crossbar automatic exchange with initial capacity of 1500 lines in replacement of the existing stronger exchange has been planned for commissioning at Port Blair. Equipment for the proposed crossbar exchange was allotted in November, 1983.

(c) Project estimate has been sanctioned. The exchange is expected to be commissioned during early period of 8th Five Year Plan.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The land was allotted on 23.5.83. Action on preliminary steps like sanction of building drawings were completed and estimate is under preparation. Building construction is expected to commence within a year.

(f) Switching equipment for giving STD facility has been installed at Port Blair and STD facility is expected to be commissioned during 1986-87 after the availability of satellite channels.

Postal Advisory Committee meetings for Andaman and Nicobar Islands

4716. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings of the Postal Advisory Committee held for Andaman and Nicobar Islands during the last three years ; and

(b) if no meetings have been conducted, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No meeting could be held during last three years. Last meeting was held in December, 1982.

(b) Term of Committee expired on 31.12.83 and new Committees was constituted on 18.7.85. Meeting scheduled on 13.11.1985 could not be held due to unavoidable reasons. Next meeting is due to be held sometime in April 1986.

Use of Foreign Trade Marks by Companies

4717. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether while granting foreign collaboration, a condition is always placed that no foreign Trade Mark will be used ;

(b) the steps taken to ensure that the condition is adhered to ;

(c) the monitoring system available therefor ; and