

Statement*Steps taken to improve the situation as emergency measures*

1. Maintenance teams worked for long hours and often round the clock immediately after heavy rains and flooding of the city to locate and restore the cable faults with least possible delays.
2. All the resources at the disposal of this district were diverted for restoration of faulty telephone lines. All cable splicers and other staff from installation and planning sections were diverted for fault clearance jobs.
3. Close liaison was maintained with other utilities so that while repairing their own services they do not further damage the telephone cables which were in close proximity to those underground services.

Direct Dialling Facility from NOIDA

1057. SHRI RAM PUJAN PATEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether residents of Bahadurgarh and Faridabad can make direct call to Delhi/New Delhi as these areas are considered as National Capital Region areas;

(b) whether district Ghaziabad is also connected with Delhi/New Delhi in respect of direct dialling;

(c) if so, the reasons why the NOIDA area of district Ghaziabad is not connected with Delhi/New Delhi exchange as in the case of Bahadurgarh/Faridabad/Ghaziabad etc;

(d) whether Government propose to make this facility available to the residents of NOIDA also in the near future;

(e) if so, when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Residents of Faridabad and Bahadurgarh have direct dialling facility with Delhi, being part of the erstwhile Delhi Telephone District and not because of National Capital Region considerations.

(b) Subscribers of Ghaziabad exchanges can only directly dial telephones of Delhi Telephone System.

(c) NOIDA subscribers can also directly dial telephones in Delhi Telephone System.

(d) to (f). Does not arise in view of reply to part (c).

Expansion and Development of Telephone Exchanges in Andhra Pradesh

1058. SHRI KATURI NARAYANA SWAMY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the expansion and development of telephone exchanges in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Expansion of telephone system in Andhra Pradesh by opening new exchanges as well as by extending the capacity of existing exchanges has been planned as follows in the 7th Five Year Plan period :

	Expansions Planned (in number of lines)
(i) Hyderabad	51,700
(ii) Vijayawad	10,900
(iii) Other towns in Andhra Pradesh	74,400
Total	1,37,000