

### Tenders from Private Sector

3616. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA :  
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA :  
SHRI ANANTRAO DESHMUKH :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have invited tenders from private sector for providing basic telecom services;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of bids received from the Private sector alongwith the names of companies;

(d) the terms and conditions specified by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the number of licences issued so far to the private sector companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) National Telecom Policy 1994 was laid on the floor of the House on 13th May 1994. The shortfall in the availability of the fund required to meet the revised target for telecom services for the VIII plan cannot be generated by internal resources of DoT and any other means of Government funding. As such it was decided to invite private sector participation to supplement the efforts of DoT in providing telephone services.

The tender for inviting proposal was floated on 16th January, 1995.

(c) No bid has yet been received.

(d) The proposal have been invited on telecom circle basis. Only companies registered in India are eligible to bid. There will be one company in each telecom circle operating the telephone service in addition to DoT/MTNL.

(e) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

### H.B.J. Gas Pipeline

3617. SHRIMATI BHAVNA CHIKHLIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to increase the quantity of gas being supplied through H.B.J. gas pipelines during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of gas being supplied to Gujarat through this gas pipeline at present and in the event of the flow being doubled;

(d) the quantum of gas which is expected to be supplied to Gujarat; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) and (b). The capacity of the HBJ pipeline is being upgraded from 18.2 MMSCMD to 33.4 MMSCMD.

(c) to (e). 1.94 MMSCMD of gas was supplied through the pipeline to units in Gujarat in 1994-95. The supplies are likely to go upto 4.78 MMSCMD after HBJ upgradation.

### National Commission on Morality and Ethics

3618. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Seminar was organised in Delhi on April 3, 1995 for setting up of a National Commission on morality and ethics in public life;

(b) if so, the suggestions made therein to this effect for consideration of the Government; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED) : (a) No information about such a seminar is available with Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

[Translation]

### Local Radio Stations

3619. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :  
SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH :  
SHRI ANKUSHRAO RAOSAHEB TOPE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start local radio stations through States, district councils or any other local agencies;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed scheme; and

(c) the time by which the final decision is likely to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.