

companies for providing telephone connections under privatisation programme of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the claims made by these companies are genuine depicted in advertisements published in leading newspapers of Delhi from time to time.

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the charges for providing telephone connections by private companies differ from those being charged by MTNL; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply part (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Such Advertisements are misleading. A public notice clarifying the position of MTNL vis-a-vis the advertisers has been published in the Newspapers.

(e) and (f) : The Government has formulated a scheme for operation of Indialling Group EPABXs by private parties under franchises in Multistorey buildings. The users will be given an extension of indialling EPABX which will be allotted a Directory number. The Charges for such DID extension will be different from DELS provided by MTNL.

Command Area Development Programme

574. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYA SADUL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to channelise the plan allocation under the Command Area Development Programme through the Command Area Development Boards with farmers' association; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An Advisory Committee on the Command Area Development Programme, under the Chairmanship of the Union Minister (Water Resources & Parliamentary Affairs), had advised in its first meeting in June, 1994 that Command Area Development Boards be formed. The Minister (WR & PA) has written to the Chief Ministers of states that in future, plan funds would be given directly to Command Area Development Boards and that action be initiated for

formation of Command Area Development Boards and Farmers' Associations. Response of the states is awaited.

Production of Heavy Oil

575. SHRIMATI DIPIKA H. TOPIWALA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any discussions were held with Canada recently to allow India access to technology and know how in producing heavy oil; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) and (b) Alberta Research Council, Canada governed by State of Alberta has expressed its readiness to provide technical assistance in development of India's heavy oil reserves.

Doordarshan Network in Gujarat

576. SHRI HARIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the areas in Gujarat which are not covered by Doordarshan network;

(b) whether the Government have received any representation for bringing more areas in the State under Doordarshan network; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) Whereas satellite derived service of Doordarshan is available throughout the country, including the entire State of Gujarat, by using an appropriate dish antenna system, terrestrial transmission is also available, wholly or partially, to all districts of Gujarat covering an estimated 69.7% area of the State.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Thirty one TV transmitters of varying powers are presently under implementation/envisaged to be set up in Gujarat. With the commissioning of these projects, the terrestrial TV service is expected to increase to 95.3% area of the State.

[Translation]

Channel for Youth

577. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to start a new Channel of Doordarshan for youths;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the time by which the said channel is likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K.P SINGH DEO): (a) No, Sir. Not at present.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[English]

Irrigation Capacity

578. SHRI DILEEP BHAI SANGHANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the total irrigation capacity generated in Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) whether the Government propose to start some new irrigation projects in State to increase irrigation capacity; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which the irrigation capacity is likely to be increased during the next three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The total anticipated irrigation potential (capacity) generated in Gujarat during 1994-95 is 50,340 hectares.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An increase in irrigation potential (capacity) of approximately 1,37,000 hectares is planned to be created by the Government of Gujarat during the next three years.

Appointments in Delhi Home Guards

579. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA:

SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have banned the appointments in all the ranks of Delhi Home Guards; and

(b) if so, the details and the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Further enrolment in Delhi Home Guards has been stopped with effect from the last week of June, 1995 by the Government of NCT Delhi. This has been done in view of detection of irregularities in the enrolment of Home Guards and because the strength of Home Guards in Delhi is considered to be adequate.

WAKF Properties

580. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the Wakf properties in the hands of the DDA and LDO which were to be transferred to the Delhi Wakf Board as recommended by the Burney Committee;

(b) the reasons for the delay in the transfer;

(c) the legal steps taken by the Government for the repeal of the Stay Order on the transfer, during 1994-95;

(d) the particulars of the other Wakf properties in Delhi which are under unlawful occupation; and

(e) the brief particulars of other Wakf properties in Delhi which are under occupation by the various Government Departments and their attached or subordinate offices?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by the concerned Deptt, the Government has filed a reply to the petition filed by Indraprastha Vishwa Hindu Parishad in the High Court of Judicature, Delhi. The case has not been listed although the Government Counsel has been requested to move the Hon'ble Court for an early hearing.

(d) and (e) Information is being collected.

[Translation]

Complaints against Petrol Retail Outlets and LPG Agencies

581. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received complaints against petrol retail outlet owners and LPG distributors;

(b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the number of complaints on which action has been taken during the above period; and

(d) the corrective steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remove such complaints?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. Some complaints have been received against retail outlet dealers and LPG distributors.

(b) and (c) The time and efforts involved in the