

(a) whether Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited is all set to go in for joint ventures with private/multinational companies during 1995-96;

(b) if so, whether any agreements have been reached with private/multinational companies in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the agreements for joint ventures signed during 1995-96 so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH KUMAR SHARMA) : (a) GOI has invited bids from private companies for exploration of oil and gas in 28 blocks under the joint venture exploration programme. Further, ONGC Videsh Ltd. (ONGC-VL), a wholly owned subsidiary of ONGC, is planning to set up a joint venture pursuant to MOU signed with M/s. Ensearch India Inc. Texas USA.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) A contract has been signed between GOI/ONGC and Shell India Production Development B.V. Netherlands for exploration of Oil and Gas in the block RJ-ON-90/1 in Rajasthan.

[Translation]

STD/PCO Booths in Bihar

3135. SHRI MOHAMMAD ALI ASHRAF FATMI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether advertisements were published some time ago for the allotment of STD/ISD booths in various towns of Bihar particularly in Darbhanga district;

(b) whether these booths have not been allotted even after the expiry of more than one year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) the criteria adopted for allotment of such booths; and

(e) the time by which these allotments are likely to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Western Kosi Canal

3136. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) the funds earmarked by the Union Government

for the construction of Western Kosi Canal project including the construction of syphon across river Kamla for 1995-96;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to provide additional funds to the Government of Bihar for timely completion of the project;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the canal is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) to (d) As per present policy irrigation projects are planned, formulated, funded and executed by the State Governments themselves out of their plan resources. Central assistance is given in the form of block loans and grants and is not tied to any particular sector of development. Syphon across river Kamla is a part of Western Kosi Canal Project. In its Draft Annual Plan 1995-96 the State Government of Bihar has earmarked Rs.30.50 crores for this project. The project is scheduled for completion in 1997-98.

[Translation]

Fencing and Flood Lighting

3137. SHRIMATI KRISHNENDRAKAUR (Deepa) :
SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Governments of Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir have requested the Union Government to speed up the work of barbed wire fencing and installation of flood lights on the International border with Pakistan to check the activities of ISI;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the measures being taken by the Union Government in this regard;

(d) the expenditure likely to be incurred on fencing and flood lighting; and

(e) the time by which the work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) *Fencing/Flood Lighting on Rajasthan Border :*

(a) *Ganga Nagar and Bikaner Sectors :*

The work of border fencing/flood lighting in about 334 kms./352 kms. respectively had already been completed in 1992 at a total cost of Rs. 111.89 crores.

(b) *Jaisalmer Sector (Phase-I : 121 Kms.) :*

The work of fencing/flood lighting on a total area of 121 kms. has also been completed in March, 1995 at an estimated cost of Rs.48.63 crores.

(c) *Barmer Sector (Phase-II : 146 Kms.) :*

The work of 146 Kms. of fencing in this sector is scheduled to be completed by 31st December, 1995. Flood lighting work has almost been completed in this area of 146 Kms. The total estimated cost on these works is Rs. 60.04 crores.

(d) *Barmer Sector (PHASE-III : 120 Kms.) :*

The work of further fencing/flood lighting of 120 Kms. in this sector is targetted to be completed by 30th June, 1996 at an estimated cost of Rs. 51.94 crores.

Fencing/Flood Lighting on Jammu & Kashmir Border :

Fencing/flood lighting has been sanctioned for 180 Kms./ 195.8 Kms. respectively of International Border in the Jammu Sector at an estimated cost of Rs. 71.76 crores. The works are scheduled to be completed by 31st March, 1996.

OTHER MEASURES :

The other measures taken by the Government to curb ISI activities includes sensitisation of the concerned agencies, gearing up of intelligence machinery, reducing the distance between BOPs, increasing the number of Patrols/Nakas, erection of OP towers, intensification of border patrolling, supply of various equipments for effective observation during day and night, strengthening of BSF etc.

Telephone Exchanges in M.P.

3138. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of telephone exchange set up in Madhya Pradesh so far;

(b) the place where new telephone exchanges are proposed to be set up during 1995-96; and

(c) the district-wise details of Gram Panchayats where telephone facility has been provided during 1994-95?

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

(a) The percentage of telephone exchanges set up in Madhya Pradesh with respect to those set up in the country is 13.03 as on 30.4.95.

(b) (i) As per the policy of the department, a new telephone exchange is set up at a place when the registered paid demand reaches 10 or more.

(ii) It is planned to set up new telephone exchanges at about 200 places in Madhya Pradesh during 1995-96. Out of these, telephone exchanges at 10 places have already been set up. The list of these places is given in attached Statement-I.

(c) As given in attached Statement-II.

STATEMENT-I

The list of places where new Telephone Exchanges have already been setup during 1995-96 (as on 31.7.95)

S.No.	Name of Places
1.	Dongargarh (Distt. Durg)
2.	Sanawad (Distt.Kharagone)
3.	Parsoli (Distt. Ujjain)
4.	Bhamodi (Distt. Chhindwara)
5.	Singhada — Piparigaon (Distt. Guna)
6.	Nandel (Distt. Dewas)
7.	Ledgaon (Distt. Dhar)
8.	Manbeli (Distt. Jagdalpur)
9.	Akasnagar (Distt. Jagdalpur)
10.	Bhaiyathan (Distt. Ambikaypur)

STATEMENT-II

District wise details of Gram Panchayat where telephone facility has been provided during 1994-95 in Madhya Pradesh Telecom Circle.

S.No.	District	GPT
1	2	3
1.	Balaghat	29
2.	Bastar	6
3.	Betul	45
4.	Bhind	136