

[English]

Indistinct Route Numbers on Destination Boards of DTC Buses

1585. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether passengers have to face great inconvenience due to indistinct route numbers on the destination boards in a number of Delhi Transport Corporation buses;

(b) if so, whether any study/survey is proposed to be conducted in this regard; and

(c) if not, the effective remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRI SHNAN): (a) to (c). While DTC has a regular system of having well painted destination boards on its buses, sometimes some buses have to be diverted on routes other than the regular routes, to meet the exigencies. In such unforeseen events, route numbers and names of destinations are written in chalk. In order to ensure that there is proper display of destination boards and the numbers and destinations are distinctly and appropriately written, the officers of the Corporation are assigned the task of periodical checking. The survey thus is done on a continuing basis.

Depot authorities have instructions for regular check to ensure that the destination boards are periodically cleaned and re-painted. Further, to increase the visibility of the destination boards during the night time, the Corporation has a phased programme of

replacing bulbs with tube-lights in the destination board compartments.

[Translation]

Telephone Facilities in Post Offices

1586. SHRI GULAB CHAND KATARIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post-offices in Udaipur, district Rajasthan where telephone facilities are available and the number of those post-offices where it is not available;

(b) whether telephone facilities are proposed to be provided in the remaining post-offices by the end of the current financial year; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) The telephone facilities are available in 125 Post Offices and the same are not available in 547 post offices in Udaipur district of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. The existing policy of the Government regarding provision of telecom. facility in rural areas is to provide at least one telecom. facility on fully subsidised basis, within about 5 Kms of every inhabited place. For this purpose country has been divided into hexagons of 5 Kms sides each and a Principal village, preferably a Panchayat Headquarter in it is earmarked for providing telecom. facility. The facility in all such hexagons is to be provided progressively by the end of 8th plan period. This facility can be provided in the village either in the Post Office or at other convenient places like Grocer Shop etc.