

New telephone exchange at village
Kaman in Maharashtra

2887. SHRI ANOOPCHAND SHAH :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to
start a new telephone exchange at village
Kaman in Vasai Taluk, District Thane of
Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, when ; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

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

(b) During the third quarter of 1987-88.

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

Survey for application of non-
conventional sources of energy

2888. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will
the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to
state :

(a) whether the Department of Non-
conventional Energy Sources has sponsored
any survey in regard in the application of
non-conventional sources of energy for public
and industrial uses;

(b) if so, the result of such survey;
and

(c) the steps proposed to popularise and
publicise the solar, wind and bio-energy
sources ?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI
VASANT SATHE) : (a) and (b). The Depart-
ment of Non-Conventional Energy Sources
has sponsored village energy surveys in vari-
ous States/Union Territories. Surveys of 206
villages located in various Agro Climatic
Regions have so far been completed. In 37
villages Urja Gram projects have already
been completed ; while in other 33 villages

such surveys are in progress. Wind survey
projects are being undertaken in several
States to provide additional and more reli-
able information for planning wind energy
projects. A survey project for use of non-
conventional energy sources for industrial
purposes has also been undertaken.

(c) The Department has taken up a
large programme of demonstration, orga-
nising exhibitions, using the media including
showing films on National Network ; publi-
cation of brochures and booklets in differ-
ent languages etc. to popularise and publicise
the solar, wind and bio-energy sources
throughout the country.

Opening of post offices in Maharashtra

2889. SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :
Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS
be pleased to state ;

(a) the number of post offices opened in
Maharashtra, district-wise, during 1986-87;
and

(b) the number of post offices proposed
to be opened in Maharashtra, district wise,
in 1987-88 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) A
post office was opened in Kalmana Market
Yard, Nagpur during 1986-87. No new
post offices were opened in the other districts
of Maharashtra during the year.

(b) All Postal Circles including Maha-
rashtra have been asked to identify areas,
particularly hilly backward and tribal areas,
where there is a genuine need for opening of
post offices according to the norms prescri-
bed for the purpose. In view of the ban on
creation of posts, the justified proposals are
to be referred to the Ministry of Finance for
concurrence. It is not practicable at this
stage to indicate how many new post offices
are like to be opened in Maharashtra during
1987-88.

Daily-wage packers in P and T
Department

2890. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR
SINGH Will the Minister of COMMUNI-
CATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of daily-wage packers who have been serving in P and T Department in Delhi region for the last three to five years and have still not been regularised ; and

(b) the time by which they will be regularised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) 850,

(b) They will be regularised in their turn on availability of vacancies,

Bulk drug production in small scale sector

2891. SHRI JANAK RAJ GUPTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of Government in regard to the development of bulk drug production in the small scale sector;

(b) the names of bulk drugs that are manufactured by both large scale and small scale sectors in the country vis-a-vis their capital investments; and

(c) the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R.K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) For encouraging bulk drug production in the small scale sector Government have reserved economically viable and technically feasible items for exclusive manufacture in this sector. At present 17 drug items have been reserved.

(b) and (c). About 225 drugs are being manufactured by about 250 companies in the organised sector. The number of companies operating in the small scale sector is even larger. The information asked for is too voluminous. Time and labour involved in collection and compilation of data is not commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Regularisation of Short Duty Telephone Operators

2892. DR. G.S. RAJHANS :
SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the long standing demand of Short Duty Telephone Operators (SDTOs) to absorb them on regular posts has not been met so far;

(b) if so, after the formation of the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, what steps have been taken by the Nigam to regularise them;

(c) whether Government are aware that even after rendering in considerable long service as SDTOs the question of their regularisation is doubtful;

(d) whether Government have made efforts to negotiate with the employees on this question;

(e) whether non-regularisation of SDTOs has caused deterioration in customer service; and

(f) the time by which the services of SDTOs would be regularised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) Yes, Sir. They are called Reserved Trained Pool Staff (RTPS) utilised on Short-duties.

(b) The policy of regularisation of RTP staff is common for the entire Department of Telecom. including Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited.

(c) The pace of regularisation of RTP staff is related to the availability of new vacancies required by the network and the growth in assets.

(d) The Government is making constant efforts in this direction.

(e) No, Sir.