

(c) the reasons taken for such a state of affairs ; and

(d) the steps taken to make these services dependable ?

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

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of reply at (a) and (b) above question does not arise.

(a) To improve Directory Enquiry Service '197' it is proposed to computerise the same. Also daily test calls are made to '197', '198' and '199' services and remedial action is taken wherever any deficiency is found.

[*Translation*]

STD facility for metropolitan cities from Saharsa district in Bihar

234. SHRI CHANDRA KISHORE PATHAK : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the major cities and metropolitan cities for which STD facility is available from Saharsa district in Bihar ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the time by which STD facility is proposed to be provided for those metropolitan cities for which it has not been provided ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA) : (a) At present Saharsa district headquarter in Bihar is not having S.T.D. facilities with major cities and metropolitan cities.

(b) & (c). The provision of STD facilities to a place is dependent upon the completion of following items of work.

(i) Installation of automatic exchange of appropriate type at that station.

(ii) installation of reliable transmission medium required for linking that station to national network.

(iii) Installation of appropriate termination in the trunk automatic exchange to which the station is to be connected.

(iv) Installation of required terminating equipment in the local exchange of that station.

The above items of work in case of Saharsa is likely to be completed during the 7th Plan period and STD facility will be provided thereafter.

[*English*]

Appointment of retired persons in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

235. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the officers who are still working in Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited after completing 58 years of age (or after their retirement) as heads/consultants/advisers etc. giving their age as on 31st December, 1985, designation, qualifications, field of activity salary and perks ; and

(b) Government's policy regarding appointment of such retired persons ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) The names of officers with the requisite details are given in the attached statement.

(b) It is Government's Policy that extension/re-employment of officers beyond the age of their superannuation should be resorted to only in exceptional circumstances.