

**Navigation Facilities in River Ganga**

5636. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA MALLICK: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any scheme has been formulated to make navigation facilities available in the river Ganga; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the stage at which this scheme stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the schemes are given below:—

- (i) For deepening the shallow portion of the navigational channel, bandalling and maintenance dredging have been taken up on year to year basis from Calcutta to Kaithy.
- (ii) River training scheme in Patna-Samaria sector at an estimated cost of Rs. 99.85 lakhs will commence during current financial year.
- (iii) Floating terminals have been provided and maintained at Patna, Munghyr, Bhagalpur and Karagola besides existing terminals at Haldia, Calcutta, Pakur, Farakka and Kaithy.
- (iv) Scheme for providing 24 hrs. Navigational aids between Calcutta and Farakka has been approved at a cost of Rs. 4.61 crores. Tendering is in process.
- (v) Scheme for construction of permanent terminal at Gaihat (Patna) has been approved at cost of Rs. 14.45 crores. The work has been awarded to CPWD.
- (vi) Scheme for procurement of Water Injection Dredger has been approved and tendering is in process for award of work of construction and supply of dredger through a public sector shipyard.

**MNC's Technology in Local Loop**

5637. SHRI A. GANESHAMURTHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan to include MNC's technologies in the forthcoming tender for providing Wireless in Local Loop (WILL) by the DOT;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) Tender has been invited from Indian Companies registered to manufacture the WLL eqpt. in 800 MHZ spectrum. However, there is no bar for them for getting foreign technology in the manufacture of the eqpt. To be supplied for this tender.

(b) Tender for 56 K lines for 16 cities has been floated.

(c) Not applicable in view of above.

[*Translation*]

**Waiting List of Telephone Connections in U.P.**

5638. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:  
SHRI DAROGA PRASAD SAROJ:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections in Uttar Pradesh as on June 30, 1998, district-wise; and
- (b) the steps taken by the Government to clear the waiting list in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA):

(a) As on 30.6.98 the number of persons on the waiting list for telephone connections, district-wise is given in the Statements I and II.

(b) It is proposed to provide 2.72 lakhs new telephone connections during 1998-99 to clear the waiting list in the State.