

**NAM Summit**

527. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received request from South Africa to help them in organising recently concluded NAM Summit;

(b) if so, the details of help sought;

(c) whether the Government have provided the necessary assistance; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) No, Sir. The Government did not receive any specific request from the Government of South Africa for help in organising the recently concluded NAM Summit.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

**M.A.R.R. System**

528. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:

SHRI PRABHASH CHANDRA TIWARI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the MARR (Tower) telephones installed in every State during 1998-99;

(b) if so, whether most of the village PCO's installed on MARR system are not functioning properly in the country particularly in Bihar;

(c) if so, whether the Government are aware that telephone based on MARR system have not been installed as per rules as a number of irregularities have been noticed in installing these telephone in Bhagalpur, Banka and Goda districts of Bihar;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(i) As per status of VPT's report as on 30.9.98, the position is as following

Total MARR VPT + SCVHF	=	1,73,246
VPT's fault in case of above.	=	22,153
% fault	=	12.8%

(ii) In Bihar

MARR installed = 9,858

MARR faulty = 3,148

% fault = 31.9%

(c) MARR (Tower telephones) in Bhagalpur, Banka, Goda Distt. in Bihar are installed as per rule and no irregularities have been noticed yet.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Question does not arise.

**Telegraph Offices Linked with FTC System**

529. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BAINDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telegraph offices in the country linked with Formatted Terminal Concentrator (FTC) system;

(b) the number of telegraph office out of them which can transmit or receive messages only in English as well as in English and Hindi both;

(c) the time by which arrangements are likely to be made to transmit and receive telegrams in Hindi through FTC system from the telegraph offices at the places where this system is not available at present; and

(d) the time bound plan formulated for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) 169 telegraph offices are linked with Formatted Terminal Concentrators.

(b) All 169 telegraph offices can transmit and receive telegrams in English only.

(c) Transmission and reception of telegrams is already in vogue through other means like bilingual teleprinters, Electronic Key Boards, etc. Formatted Terminal Concentrators are also being made transparent to Hindi through additional interfaces.

(d) Since provision of equipment like FTC is part of modernisation projecting telegraph service, it is an ongoing process and no time frames have been fixed.

[English]

**Food Parks**

530. SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

SHRI MULLAPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food parks that have been set up in the country, State-wise;

(b) whether any food park has been/is being or is proposed to be set up in the State of Kerala, Maharashtra and