

| 1                                  | 2 |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Sanjeli                            |   |
| Shamlaji                           |   |
| Songarh                            |   |
| Surat                              |   |
| Surendranagar                      |   |
| Tñarad                             |   |
| Una                                |   |
| vadodara                           |   |
| Valsad                             |   |
| Veravi                             |   |
| Gandhinagar (DD II)                |   |
| <i>Very Low Power Transmitters</i> |   |
| Kakrapar                           |   |
| Netrang                            |   |
| Sagwara                            |   |

[*Translation*]

#### Sone Canal

2794. SHRI H.P. SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on the maintenance of Dehari-Ara Sone Canal scheme since last decade;

(b) whether the Government propose to modernise this canal; (c) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the modernisation work is likely to be commenced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) There is no scheme by the name "Dehari-Ara Sone Canal Scheme". Planning Commission has however, given investment clearance to Sone Canal Modernisation Project Phase-I in July, 1998.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[*English*]

#### Patriotic Tone on Telephones

2795. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA :  
SHRI RAJBANSHI MAHTO :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Phones acquire patriotic tone, courtesy Sushma" appearing in the Times of India dated August 11, 1998;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to all the offices of telephone Exchanges in the country to change over the patriotic tone on telephone instead of 'Namaskar' presently in use;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Telephone Exchanges will be allowed to use patriotic tone in their regional languages; and

(f) if not, the language to be used by the Regional Telephone Exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Instructions were issued to feed "Vande Mataram" along with the dial tone with effect from 10th August, 1998 till midnight of 15th August, 1998 on occasion of Golden Jubilee celebration of India's Independence, wherever technically feasible.

(c) No, Sir. 'Vande Mataram' was used till 15th August, 1998 as mentioned above.

(d) to (f) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

#### Visit to Rome

2796. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT :  
SHRI D.S. AHIRE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister's special envoy, Mr. Jaswant Singh visited Rome during the month of November, 1998;