

(c) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said plan is likely to be implemented; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) A statement giving the number of landless farmers (cultivating wholly leased in area and/or wholly otherwise operated land) as per Agricultural Census, 1990-91 is enclosed.

(b) to (d) The Government are implementing a number of schemes like IRDP, JRY, EAS, IAY, TRYSEM, DWCRA etc. which are designed to benefit the rural poor including landless agricultural farmers/labourers.

Statement

State-wise number of Landless farmers in the country as per Agricultural Census 1990-91

Sl. No.	State/ UT	Wholly leased in holdings Nos.	Wholly other wise operated holdings Nos.	Landless farmers (Col 3 + Col 4) Nos.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	4	18	22
2.	Assam	67	27	94
3.	Bihar	18	23	41
4.	Gujarat	2	4	6
5.	Haryana	46	6	52
6.	Himachal Pradesh	14	2	16
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	12	149	161
8.	Karnataka	—	Neg.	Neg.
9.	Kerala	2	25	27
10.	Madhya Pradesh	14	160	174
11.	Maharashtra	8	15	23
12.	Manipur	8	Neg.	8
13.	Meghalaya	9	9	18
14.	Nagaland	3	—	3
15.	Orissa	10	22	32

1	2	3	4	5
16.	Punjab	10	—	10
17.	Rajasthan	7	44	51
18.	Sikkim	7	Neg.	7
19.	Tamil Nadu	33	11	44
20.	Tripura	3	64	67
21.	Uttar Pradesh	56	44	100
22.	West Bengal	105	36	141
23.	A & N Islands	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	Neg.	—	Neg.
25.	Chandigarh	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
26.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	—	—	—
27.	Delhi	—	—	—
28.	Goa	23	4	27
29.	Lakshadweep	—	—	—
30.	Mizoram	—	—	—
31.	Pondicherry	3	Neg.	3
32.	Daman & Diu	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.
Total		464	663	1127

Internets

3885. SHRI DEVJIBHAI J. TANDEL : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide internet facility in Daman, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Vapi, Umargaon and Valsad;

(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) to (c) : Internet facility is available at all these stations. The Department of Telecommunications have allowed access to the nearest Internet Node on local call rate progressively with effect from 15.8.1998. All the above

stations have access to nearest DOT Internet Node (Surat) on local call basis.

DOT proposes to be set up Internet Nodes at Valsad, Daman and Silvassa (Dadra Nagar Haveli) during 1999-2000. Even on commissioning of above nodes, Internet facility will continue to be available at Vapi and Umergaon on local call basis.

Bus Service Between India and Pakistan

3886. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to introduce bus and train services between India and Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether all the formalities in this regard are over; and

(c) the expected time of the introduction of bus and train services to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH) : (a) to (c) An agreement and a protocol, providing a framework and operational mechanism for a bus service between Delhi and Lahore, were initiated on 3rd December, 1998 by the leaders of the Indian and Pakistani delegations following discussions held between the two countries in Islamabad from 2 to 3 December, 1998. Follow up action has now to be taken for the signing of the Agreement by the two Governments. The bus service is expected to commence by the middle of January, 1999.

A train service between India and Pakistan has already been operating since 1976. Presently, this train, called Samjhauta Express, runs between Lahore and Attari twice a week.

Concessional Telephone Facility

3887. SHRI SOMJIBHAI DAMOR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have provided concessional telephone facility to the in-service employees as well; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) and (b) No, Sir.

However, serving employees of DOT are registered under Non-OYT General serving employees DOT category for priority provision of Telephones at his/her normal place of residence or for the use of his/her families at some other station if his/her family is staying at that station.

[Translation]

Yamuna Barrage

3888. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any proposal from the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the construction of a barrage across the river of Yamuna at Agra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and since when this proposal is pending with the Union Government;

(c) the reasons for not taking any decisions on that till now; and

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken on the said proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL) : (a) to (d) The Detailed Project Report of Agra Barrage Project across River Yamuna at an estimated cost of Rs. 100.01 crores was received in Central Water Commission in April 1996. Comments of the Central Water Commission and other Central Appraising Agencies have been sent to the State Government. The decision on the project depends on the promptness with which the comments of these Central Appraising Agencies are complied with by the State Government.

[English]

Branch Post Offices

3889. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines fixed recently for according of sanctions to open Branch Post Offices in rural villages especially in Tribal areas of the country;

(b) the total number of Branch Post Offices and Sub Post Offices are likely to be sanctioned in the current year in Orissa, district-wise; and

(c) the manner in which the targets are likely to be achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA) : (a) The norms for opening Branch Post Offices in rural/tribal areas of the country are given in Statement enclosed.

(b) A target of opening of 10(Ten) Extra-Departmental Branch Post Offices and 2 (Two) Departmental Sub Post Offices has been fixed for Orissa Circle for the current annual plan 1998-99, subject to availability of resources.