

Fire at MTNL Office, Delhi

298. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN :
SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY :
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the outcome of the enquiry conducted into the sabotage of the devastating fire at Chandralok building in the capital on June 17, 1997 top one and half floor occupied by the MTNL;

(b) the nature of the records destroyed in this fire and the steps taken to reconstruct them;

(c) the preventive measures taken to check the fire in future;

(d) whether papers containing 30 lakh tender scam and being probed by CBI were also destroyed in the fire; and

(e) if so, the disciplinary action taken against the delinquent officials of the MTNL, who had been named by the CBI and what would be the fate of enquiry now?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Sir, the enquiry is not yet completed.

(b) The office records of the Chief Engineer (BW), superintending Engineer Civil (South), Superintending Engineer Civil (Central), Superintending Engineer (Elect.), Senior Architect, Chief Accounts Officer (BW) and Executive Engineer (Elect) Central have been destroyed. Steps are being taken to reconstruct the files and other records by collecting copies from other offices.

(c) Chandralok building is NDMC building, MTNL's departmental buildings have been inspected by Senior Officers and Fire Safety measures are being taken in the building as per the fire protection safety requirements.

(d) No, Sir. The concerned documents required by the CBI had been seized by them and the same are under their charge.

(e) The case is still under investigation.

[Translation]

STD/ISD/PCO in Madhya Pradesh

299. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister

of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCO installed and working properly in Madhya Pradesh, district-wise;

(b) the number of booths not working properly, district-wise;

(c) the number of applications pending in this regard, district-wise;

(d) the time by which these applications are likely to be cleared and the time by which all the village Panchyats are likely to be provided telephone facility;

(e) the number of telephone connections which are out of order in the State and the steps taken by the Government to repair them and the time by which these connections are likely to be repaired; and

(f) the details thereof, district-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) The information is given in the attached Statement.

(b) Nil

(c) The information is given in the attached Statement.

(d) The pending applications are likely to be cleared progressively by March, 98. All the village panchayats are likely to be provided telephone facilities by the year 2000.

(e) and (f) By and large telephone connections are working satisfactorily. As and when any telephone is reported faulty it is repaired at the earliest possible.

Statement		
Telecom District (SSA)	STD PCOs Installed (a)	No. of application pending (c)
1	2	3
1. Bhopal	1189	172
2. Indore	1744	-
3. Jabalpur	1272	106
4. Gwalior	891	11
5. Raipur	816	43