

(e) and (f) Telephone exchanges are working satisfactorily in the State.

(g) Yes, Sir.

(h) Projected demand for TDMA equipments for rural areas has been received from various Telecom Circles including Karnataka. As TDMA equipments are under field trial, these will be inducted in the network of DOT after satisfactory field trials.

Statement

The number of persons on the waiting list of telephone connections in Karnataka, district-wise

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Waiting List
1.	Bangalore (Urban)	33,504
2.	Bangalore (Rural)	5,754
3.	Mangalore	22,592
4.	Mysore	8,100
5.	Belgaum	8,438
6.	Hubli	3,526
7.	Kodagu	4,196
8.	Bellary	2,146
9.	Bidar	888
10.	Bijapur	3,768
11.	Gulbarga	2,605
12.	Raichur	2,047
13.	Karwar	4,375
14.	Davangere	3,134
15.	Hassan	5,000
16.	Kolar	5,404
17.	Mandya	3,567
18.	Tumkur	3,983
19.	Chickmagalur	5,540
20.	Shimoga	3,307
Total		1,31,874

M.A.R.R. System

3737. DR. SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether DOT had opted for the inferior multi-access rural radio technology as against the technologically advanced wireless in local loop technology for meeting the VPT target; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

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

(b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

Telecast of Soccer World Cup

3738. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Doordarshan had the sole right to telecast live the Soccer World Cup' 98;

(b) if so, whether the live telecast was discontinued from the second day onwards depriving the soccer lovers the opportunity to see this international event; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Live telecast was not discontinued from the second day. Only on the second day two matches could not be telecast live due to programme exigencies. From third day onwards, all matches scheduled to be telecast live (41 out of 64) were telecast as per schedule.

(c) Does not arise.

Uplinking Facilities to Indian T.V. Channels

3739. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government recently decided to extend uplinking facilities to Private Indian TV Companies; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme and its modus-operandi?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government have approved the following scheme:

(i) Indian Satellite Channels which are presently uplinking from abroad and are taking foreign exchange release for this purpose would be permitted to uplink their programmes from Indian soil through Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. only. Indian Satellite Channels, who hold Indian equity of at least 80% and effectively managed by resident Indians would be considered for this purpose.

(ii) Indian Satellite Channels would be initially permitted to uplink their TV signals to both Indian as well as foreign satellites.