

VPTs in Western Rajasthan

941. COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of VPTs planned and installed in Western Rajasthan especially in Barmer, Jaisalmer, and Jalore district;

(b) whether the firms whose telephones have been installed are not coming forward to render necessary maintenance service inspite of agreement to this effort;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No. of VPTs planned and installed in Western Rajasthan especially in Barmer, Jaisalmer and Jalore districts are as under:

Telecom District	Total VPTs existing on 31.01.99	Plan 1998-99	Installed during 1998-99 upto 31st Jan., 1999
Pali	699	80	46
Bikaner	513	45	29
* Jaisalmer	331	46	22
* Barmer	844	94	56
* Jalore	471	40	20
Jodhpur	781	100	27
Nagore	958	80	31

(b) to (d) Suppliers provide help during the warranty period as per contract. After the warranty period, the help is provided by the supplier when Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) is signed.

Indian Telegraph Act, 1885

942. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to repeal Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and enact a new act in place thereof;

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

(c) the time by which the new act is likely to be enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KABINDRA PURKAYASTHA): (a) No, Sir. There is no proposal to repeal the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 and enact a new act in its place thereof.

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

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

Targets of ONGC

943. SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have directed the Oil and Natural Gas Commission to shorten the time horizon of its projected targets to improve oil recovery and provide figures of its plans to achieve the target during the last two to five years;

(b) if so, whether the Government have approved the proposal; and

(c) if so, the extent to which the country is likely to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of oil?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No Sir. However, with a view to ensure most optimum recovery from the fields of ONGC, discussions are held with ONGC.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of the reply (a) above.

Environmental Panel of WB

944. SHRI P.S. GADHAVI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have proposed limiting the scope of environmental panel of the World Bank;